

**MINUTES**  
**STATEWIDE HEALTH COORDINATING COUNCIL**  
**December 9, 2025**

The Statewide Health Coordinating Council (SHCC) held its quarterly meeting on Tuesday, December 9, 2025, in the Department of Veterans Affairs Conference Room in Suite 826 at the RSA Union building at 100 North Union Street in Montgomery, Alabama.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chairman Elaine Beech  
Mr. Ralph Clark  
Mr. James Clements  
Ms. Terri Connell  
Mayor Harold Crouch  
Ms. Barbara Estep  
Mr. Keith Granger  
Mr. Dean Griffin  
Ms. Marcilla Gross  
Mr. Bert Guy (1:44 pm)  
Honorable Stephanie Kemmer  
Mr. Carey McRae  
Ms. Dare Underwood Meeks  
Mr. Don Owens  
Mr. Simeon Penton  
Dr. Carol Ratcliffe  
Mr. J. Tuerk Schlesinger (1:34 pm)  
Mr. Mark Traylor (1:40 pm)  
Dr. Mickey Trimm  
Mr. Hodges Washington

**SHPDA STAFF PRESENT**

Ms. Emily T. Marsal, Executive Director  
Ms. Toni Ferguson  
Ms. Jelena Magallon  
Ms. Kristin F. Norman  
Ms. Melissa Trehern  
Mr. Bradford L. Williams

**COUNCIL MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

Mr. Frank Brown  
Ms. Brenda Carlisle  
Mr. Mark Edwards  
Representative Jeremy Gray  
Mr. David Hunt  
Senator Tim Melson  
Mr. Danny Rickert  
Mr. Wilburn Smith  
Mr. Gregg Waycaster  
Dr. Scott Harris

**LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE**

Mr. Mark Wilkerson, Esq.

**COURT REPORTER PRESENT**

Hannah Love

A copy of the register of attendees is on file in the office of the State Health Planning and Development Agency.

Chairman Elaine Beech called the meeting to order at 1:31 pm. Mrs. Emily T. Marsal, Executive Director of the State Health Planning and Development Agency, performed a roll call and confirmed a quorum. Chairman Beech requested a motion to adopt the agenda. Ms. Terri Connell motioned to adopt the agenda, seconded by Mr. Keith Granger. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Beech requested a motion to adopt the minutes from the September 11, 2025, meeting. Ms. Dare Underwood Meeks motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Mayor Harold Crouch. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Chair's Report**

Chairman Beech welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Statewide Health Coordinating Council.

### **New Business**

Executive Director Emily T. Marsal updated the Council on SHPDA's completed task from the Governor's Office in writing the State Plan and Application regarding the Rural Health Transformation Program. CMS anticipates that funding will be announced by December 31, 2025.

After comments and questions were addressed, Executive Director Marsal encouraged the Council to review the final plan by visiting the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs website.

**PA2026-001, Amedisys Home Health, a Lawrence Medical Center Partner, LLC d/b/a Amedisys Home Health, a Lawrence Medical Center Partner (Lawrence Medical Center)**, proposes to adjust the Home Health section of the 2024-2027 Alabama State Health Plan, Ala. Admin. Code r. §410-2-4-.07, to maintain services already aligned with the determination of need by continuing the operation of a third home health agency as Lawrence Medical Center ceases operation. Mr. Stephen Angelette spoke on behalf of the Plan Adjustment. **Opposition: NONE.**

**Speaker for the Applicant:** Mr. Stephen Angelette, Esq.

After all questions and comments were addressed, Chairman Elaine Beech called for a motion regarding the plan adjustment. Ms. Terri Connell made a motion to APPROVE the proposed adjustment, seconded by Mr. Hodges Washington. The motion to APPROVE the plan adjustment passed unanimously.

**Suggested Rule Change for Public Comment, Ala. Admin Code r 410-2-4-.02, Acute Care (Hospitals)**, addition of language to include Rural Emergency Hospital transfer requirements.

Mr. Bradford Williams, Health Planning Administrator of Alabama's State Health Planning and Development Agency, explained the proposed language to include criteria and processes in Rural Emergency Hospital transfers.

After all questions and comments were addressed, Chairman Beech called for a motion regarding the proposed rule change being considered for public comments. Dr. Mickey Trimm made a motion to TABLE the proposed rules change and send the language to the SHCC Hospital Committee for additional consideration, seconded by Mr. Keith Granger. The motion to TABLE the proposed rule change and send the language to the SHCC Hospital Committee passed unanimously.

Mr. Hodges Washington, Chair of the SHCC Hospital Committee, announced that the committee would meet in January 2026.

Chairman Elaine Beech announced that the next meeting of the Statewide Health Coordinating Council will be held on March 10, 2026.

There being no further business, Chairman Beech called for a motion to adjourn. Dr. Mickey Trimm motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Keith Granger. The meeting adjourned at 2:11 pm.

PREPARED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Toni Ferguson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman Elaine Beech

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date