



Meeting Minutes



Meeting Title:	Child Care Advisory Council Meeting	
Meeting Location:	Via ZOOM	
Meeting Date:	February 20, 2026	
Time:	1:00P.M.	
Called to Order	1:05 P.M.	
Next Meeting Date/Time/Location:	May 15, 2026, 1:00P.M. in Face to Face at 143B LeFleurs Square, Jackson, MS 39211 and by Zoom	
Meeting Adjourned:	2:25 P.M.	
	<u>Council Members Present</u> Matthew Williams-MLICCI Regina Harvey Michele Rittenhouse Jami Ferrell Dr. Gene Puckett Jamila Taylor Tonya Jones	<u>Council Members Absent</u> Vincent Burke Cynthia Lewis Dr. Rhemalyn Lewis Marneshia Cathy Shertia Dobbins
Attendees:	<u>MSDH Staff Present</u> Cassie Hillhouse Marlinda Beck-Lee Tera German Mary Hampton Azelda Ellis Ramona Bowden Miranda Moorman Sandra Smith Lekesha Sandifer Kimberly Clark Latonya Reed Glenn Wood Jemeria Davis James Brice Joycelyn Woods Tyronica Neapollioun Tonya Broger Christopher Derrick Trenise Dee	<u>MS Department of Human Services Staff</u> Chad Allgood Lakisha Bland Chriscella Clay

Minutes Submitted by:



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	Old Business	NOTES
1.	Welcome and Call to Order	Matthew Williams called the meeting to order at 1:10P.M. The quorum was not met at first. Then other members came later to the meeting. Matthew established that a quorum (at least 7 members) was met.
2.	Quorum	A quorum was established with 7 council members present.
3.	Approval of November 21, 2025, Minutes	The minutes were approved by the council members and signed by Vincent Burke on January 6, 2026, and are on the website.
4.	Proposed Regulations	The council voted to approve except for the definition of Pre-Service in the last meeting.
5.	New Business	We did not have a quorum at the time when meeting back in person. But later, we had a quorum and it was voted on having a meeting face to face with a Zoom for others that could not meet by in person.

Minutes Submitted by:

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	New Business	NOTES
1.	Proposed Regulations Update	An update with the proposed regulations was given by Tera German. The revised regulations were approved on January 14, and the final filing was on January 27. The regulations are expected to be posted to the Mississippi Secretary of the State website 30 days following the final filing, which is February 27th.
2.	Questions and Comments	Tera German let everyone know that the revised regulations were all the federal mandated that were added and that preservice is not included in the new revised regulations. Also, the department will be doing a rewrite of the regulations and then we will be in contact with the council. She did not have a timeline for this.
3.	Child Care Licensure Advisory Council Bylaws	The council wanted to know about the bylaw changes and what that would look like. Tera German informed the council that we are currently revising the bylaws to incorporate the changes presented by the council and the board will receive a copy of those proposed revisions by Monday, February 23 rd before 5:00PM. A question regarding rollovers was raised, and Tera German indicated that answers would be communicated through Vincent and Matt once available. Someone suggested that the current regulation should be withdrawn from the Secretary of State.
4.	Senate Bill 2371	The Senate Bill 2371 would have moved Child Care Licensure under MS Department of Human Servies. And they would move the Advisory Council from the MS Health Department to the MS Department of Human Services. The bill died in the legislative process.
5.	Formal request from the MS Health Department for email, phone number, contact information for all licensed childcare owners and directors.	Council members aim to enhance communication between themselves and local childcare centers. They emphasize the dual role of representing both the statewide childcare industry and individual districts. The proposal includes collaborating with the MS State Health Department to obtain childcare center contact information, potentially through a Public Records Request, enabling district representatives to effectively communicate important information to providers.



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	New Business	NOTES
6.	Comments	<p>There was a motion to vote to recommend to the State Department of Health to provide the updated licensure regulations to all licensed childcare providers as soon as possible. The Council voted on providers having updated licensure regulations.</p>



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	New Business	NOTES
	<p>Public Comments</p>	<p>During a meeting, participants discussed the need to withdraw proposed regulations due to a lack of prior notification. Concerns were raised about conflicting information regarding meeting times, with a proposal made to schedule the next meeting for May 15th, which was accepted by vote. The necessity for notice and as well as adhering to the Council’s policies and procedures, leading to an agreement to recommend withdrawing licensing regulations from the Secretary of State. Additionally, the option for hybrid meetings was introduced and a motion to adjourn was made.</p>



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	New Business	NOTES

Matt Williams

Council Vice Chairperson

German, Tera

MSDH Interim Director of Childcare Licensure

6/12/2026 | 9:40 AM CDT

Date



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Instructions for Form 1075, Meeting Notes

Revision Date, 1/22/18

Purpose: The MSDH Meeting Minutes is optional and not mandated for use; however, it is strongly recommended to meet adequate documentation standards as a PHAB accredited agency. The form serves as strong documentation that a meeting took place and what was discussed. This documentation is very important for continuing accreditation.

Instructions: Prior to the meeting, prepare the agenda with topics to be discussed and times for discussion. Meeting Title, Location, Date and Time should match what is listed on the Meeting Agenda (Form 1074). Agenda topics should also be listed in the table provided, and corresponding discussion and/or decisions made should be entered into the notes section of the table. The Action Items table should be completed to list actions to be taken after the meeting, as well as who is responsible for their completion and any relevant deadlines associated. There is space in the footer for the name of the person who compiled the minutes and submitted them to the group for review and approval.

Office Mechanics and Filing: To be determined by meeting purpose and topics discussed.

Retention Period: To be determined by meeting purpose and topics discussed.