

AFS BOARD OF DIRECTORS – GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, April 14, 2026
12:15 pm
Microsoft Teams – Virtual



ATTENDANCE

AFS Board of Directors: ☒ Wes Lavergne (Chair) ☒ William Johnson ☒ Megan Bernard
☒ James Agnew

AFS Staff: ☒ Brenda Clarke, Director, Community Services & Strategic Initiatives ☒ Obianuju Fadijo, Executive Assistant

Youth Representatives:

Regrets: Ali Juma

MINUTES

1.0 Quorum

Quorum established.

2.0 Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 12:17 pm.

3.0 Review of Agenda

The committee reviews the agenda as presented.

MOTION

BIRT, the committee approves the April 14 2026, agenda as presented.

Moved by:

Megan Bernard

Seconded by:

James Agnew

All in favour.

CARRIED.

4.0 Approval of Previous Minutes

The committee reviews the minutes as presented.

MOTION BIRT, the committee approves the February 18, 2026, minutes as presented.

Moved by: James Agnew
Seconded by: Megan Bernard All in favour. CARRIED.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Operational Plan

Deferred

5.2 Integrated Risk Management Plan

Deferred

6.0 Ongoing Business

a. Accreditation Update

- Brenda mentioned that she met with Holly, the CCA accreditation lead.
- The deadline to meet complete the remaining outstanding standards is mid-September.
- Brenda will meet biweekly with Holly to track progress. Evidence is required to show that the Risk Management Plan and Operational Plan are actively being discussed in meetings (Senior Leadership Team, board, Subcommittees) and not just documented.
- A 2026-2027 operational plan should be presented in September.
- A few board policies may need minor adjustments or additions regarding risk and quality reporting.
- Brenda is creating a work plan and will distribute it to the committee members.
- It was agreed that the subgroup of Wes, Bill, and Rick would review the necessary policy tweaks.

b. Recruitment for Board Vacancy

- Bill and Ali met with a board candidate, Jeff Hermann, for the finance position. The candidate has a finance background, board experience with addiction-related organizations, and lived experience.
- Bill and Ali to recommend him to the board. His resume and cover letter will be provided to the board members as part of the April board meeting package.
- Once the finance position is filled, the committee will focus on filling Megan's upcoming vacancy.

c. Indigenous Training Update

- Brenda mentioned that there is a planned walk activity at Algoma University for staff and suggested something similar for the Board.
- Bill suggested leveraging the Indigenous Elder and Indigenous Outreach Worker for guidance. To consider having the Indigenous Elder attend board meetings either two or three times a year.

- Bill will follow up with Ali to arrange for the Indigenous Elder and Indigenous Outreach Worker to connect with the board and propose a training plan.

7.0 Standing Items

a. 2026 Upcoming Tasks – Board Work Plan

The Committee reviewed the Work Plan and identified the following:

- CEO Evaluation: An “X” was added for May to ensure that it is tracked for March, April and May periods. Bill will remind Ali to work on his self-evaluation.
- Operational Plan: A review was scheduled for November in addition to the approval in May.
- Slate of Directors: The Committee will review directors with expiring terms at the May Governance Committee meeting as per the bylaws.

b. Youth Advisory

- The Youth Advisory is planning activities for Children’s Mental Health Week, including a paint night at the old stone house.
- Construction will restart at the facility, limiting access to one floor for most of the summer.

c. Board Succession

To be reviewed in May.

d. Presentation

No update

e. Training

No update

8.0 Other Business

9.0 Next Meeting

May 20, 2026

10.0 Adjournment

MOTION

BIRT, the committee moves to adjourn the meeting at 12:46 pm.

Moved by: Megan Bernard

Seconded by: James Agnew

All in favour. CARRIED.

Submitted by: Obianuju Fadijo, Executive Assistant