



ACADIANA AREA
HUMAN SERVICES DISTRICT
Serving Acadiana with Quality Compassionate Care

AAHSD Regular Board Meeting Minutes
November 20, 2023

Meeting held at 302 Dulles Dr. Lafayette, LA.70506 in Auditorium #4.

Members Present: Richard Landry (Vermilion Parish); Yasmin Welch (Lafayette Parish); Carol Broussard (Iberia Parish); Bambi Polotzola, (St. Landry Parish); Elizabeth West, Chair (Governor Appointee/Evangeline Parish); John Stefanski (Acadia Parish); Darce` Byrd (Governor Appointee/Lafayette Parish), and Sydia Robin (Evangeline Parish) - arrived at 3:31 pm.

Members Absent: Carla JeanBatiste, Secretary (St. Martin Parish); Quinta Thompson, Vice-Chair (Governor Appointee/Lafayette Parish).

AAHSD Staff in Attendance: Brad Farmer, Executive Director; and Gretchen Sudwischer, Administrative Assistant.

Public Notices and Agendas were posted at the AAHSD clinics and on the website. Open meeting laws are available.

1. Call to order at 3:17 pm.
 - a. Meeting Objective(s):
 - Conduct business per approved agenda calendar
 - Address any new business as needed
2. The Pledge of Allegiance led by Board Chair, Elizabeth West, and recited by attendees.
3. Roll call performed by Elizabeth West, Board Chair, noting a quorum was present.
4. Recognition of Members of the Public / Public Comments - No members of the public were present.
5. Consent Agenda Items
 - a. Minutes – October Regular Board meeting
 - b. Program reports - In connection with the questions and discussion held at last month's meeting as to the Behavioral Health numbers of persons served for September 2023, the ED informed the Board there was a glitch in the resetting of the query, noting that issue has been resolved and/or corrected.
 - A motion is made by Carol Broussard, and seconded by Yasmin Welch to approve and accept the Consent Agenda items. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Comments from the Chair

a. Board Advocacy Reports:

- Elizabeth West reported she attended the HSIC presentation on November 9, 2023 in Baton Rouge and shared her thoughts of the presentation and noted Tynese Breaux, AAHSD Practice Manager/Project Director, CCBHC, Quinta Thompson, Board Vice-Chair, and Bambi Polotzola, Board member, also attended.
- Elizabeth West, Board Chair shared information of an article on All Terrain Track Chairs available at the Louisiana State parks.
- Darce` Byrd inquired as to the wait list at the AAHSD clinics. The ED responded that he would gather that information for the Board.
- Bambi Polotzola shared she attended the Governor's Outstanding Leadership in Disabilities (GOLD) Awards last week, noting various families from the Acadiana area were recognized in several categories.

b. Agenda Calendar items:

i. Executive Limits Pol 1.5: Financial Condition and Activities (pg 8)

1. Board vote – accept or not accept Executive Director report

- A motion is made by Yasmin Welch, and seconded by Darce` Byrd to accept the Executive Director report. Motion carried unanimously.

ii. Governance Process Pol 2.5: Chairperson's Role (pg 18)

c. Nominating committee: Presentation of slate of officers for December election

- Carol Broussard presented the nominations:
 - Quinta Thompson as Chair; Carla JeanBatiste, Vice-Chair; and Elizabeth West as Secretary.
 - There were no other nominations from the Board.
 - The Board will vote on the nominations at the December meeting and officers will take office in January 2024.

7. Comments from the Executive Director:

a. CCBHC update:

- The process is going well. The self-attestation was submitted and reviewed by SAMHSA. SAMHSA requested more details and/or specifics and will be submitted to SAMHSA.
- Continuing to hire staff for the CCBHC pilot project.
- Waiting on the CARF pilot project survey report from their visit on October 31, 2023 – November 2, 2023.
- ED attended a meeting and was informed AAHSD has received funding from an OBH grant/allocation in connection with AAHSD's contract with National Council for consultations. OBH has put together a learning collaborative with all of the CCBHC groups in the state.

b. Same Day Access update:

- The project is going well.
- The target go live date is January 8, 2024.
- Tynese Breaux, Practice Manager/Project Director, CCBHC is providing training to support staff and clinicians at all AAHSD clinics.
- All staff training (clinical staff & intake staff) scheduled for December 4, 2023.
- New postings and policy changes will be implemented for AAHSD clients.

c. Crisis services update:

- ED is scheduled to meet next week with various groups that may consider applying as Crisis Services providers and will keep the Board updated.
- ED signed a letter of support for a group in the Acadiana area that will be applying/pursuing that system of care for the Child and Adolescent population.

d. Board refresher training:

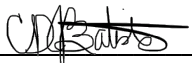
- Planning training for the first quarter of 2024 with Kay Irby, AAHSD Board Liaison.
- ED will inquire if the training will be in person or via Zoom.

8. Next meeting:

- Scheduled for Monday, December 18, 2023 at 3:15 pm.
- Meeting notices will be sent out and posted.

9. Adjournment:

- Motion to adjourn is made by Carol Broussard, and seconded by Bambi Polotzola. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 4:02 pm.

Submitted by: 

Carla Jean Batiste, AAHSD Board Secretary