



ACADIANA AREA HUMAN SERVICES DISTRICT

Serving Acadiana with Quality Compassionate Care

AAHSD Board Meeting Minutes March 20, 2023

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

Members Present: Elizabeth West (Chair) (Governor Appointee/Evangeline Parish); Yasmin Welch (Lafayette Parish); Micah Moscovis (St. Landry Parish); Richard Landry (Vermilion Parish); Carla Jean Batiste (Secretary) (St. Martin Parish); John Stefanski (Acadia Parish); – Quinta Thompson (Vice Chair) (Governor Appointee/Lafayette Parish).

Members Absent: Carol Broussard (Iberia Parish); Darce` Byrd (Governor Appointee/Lafayette Parish); and Vacant (Evangeline Parish).

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

A quorum was present and the meeting was called to order 3:19 pm by Board Chair, Elizabeth West.

- **The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board Chair, Elizabeth West, and recited by attendees.**
- **Roll call performed**
- **Recognition of Members of the Public / Public Comments**
 - No members of the public are present.
- **Notice of the meeting was posted and a copy of the Open Meeting Law was available.**
- **Consent Agenda Items**
 - **Minutes – February 13, 2023**
 - **Program reports**
 - **Agenda Calendar item: Governance Process: Cost of Governance (policy 2.8)**
 - A motion was made by Quinta Thompson and seconded by Yasmin Welch to approve and accept the Consent Agenda items. Motion carried unanimously.
- **Comments from the Chair:**
 - **Board Advocacy Reports:**
 - Yasmin Welch informed the Board of her attending a training sponsored by AAHSD in collaboration with the Women’s Foundation.
 - **Agenda calendar item: Executive Limit: Communication with and Support to the Board (policy 1.9), Board vote – accept or not accept Executive Director report -**
 - A motion was made by Micah Moscovis and seconded by Quinta Thompson to approve and accept the Executive Director report. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Appointment of the Bylaws Committee:**
 - The Chair appoints Quinta Thompson (Vice-chair), Yasmin Welch and John Stefanski as the Bylaws Committee. The Bylaws Committee will meet immediately following the April Board meeting.

- **Comments from the Executive Director:**
 - **Coordinated Crisis System update** - Updates given by the ED. AAHSD will host a meeting for the Ness Center at the AAHSD Lafayette location, on Wednesday, March 22, 2023.

 - **CCBHC update** – Updates given by the ED. Progress is going well. The ED and Tynese Breaux, Practice Manager/Project Director, attended the Joint Legislative Committee this past Friday, submitted a BA7, and received confirmation of approval. Completed several tasks and remain on time with those tasks. Completed the Disparity Impact Statement program goals, random sampling plan and working on the community needs assessment. Continuing recruiting for available expanded positions. Contracts have been finalized for UL – Picard Center as the official Project Evaluator and the Tri-West Group as the consulting firm. Recruiting for Licensed Mental Health Professionals and LPNs as job appointments. Updates will remain a standing item on the meeting agenda due to the size of the project.


 - **Addiction project CEA update:** Still on go. Sent a report to LDH today as an update. ED and Tammara Smith, CCO, had a zoom meeting with the proposed/tentative vendor, received a proposal last week and is being reviewed. Moving forward with some delays. Discussed a similar project in conjunction with the 15th Judicial District.

 - **Legislative session:** ED will attend the Senate Finance Committee meeting next week and the following week with the House Appropriations Committee.

 - **Additional comments by the Executive Director and discussions by the Board** – Acadia-Vermilion Hospital is having an Open House on March 31, 2023, and is starting a Child and Adolescent Intensive Outpatient Program; HSIC meeting updates; OBH will have a big push this year for Child and Adolescent services. Cest` Bon survey team (peer supporters) were recently at AAHSD – Lafayette. ED presented a letter to the Board Chair from NAMI thanking AAHSD for its participation for this year’s walk. Brief update on Meredith’s Place program and other programs being considered. Possible Zoom procedures discussed. Noted Rep. Stefanski drafted legislation for greatly increased penalties for Fentanyl distribution. Brief Narcan distribution update.

- **Next Board meeting to be conducted on Monday, April 17, 2023 at 3:15 pm. Meeting notices will be sent out and posted. The Bylaws Committee will meet after the regular Board meeting on April 17, 2023.**

- **Motion to adjourn by Yasmin Welch and seconded by John Stefanski. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 4:07 pm.**

Submitted by: 

Carla Jean Batiste, AAHSD Board Secretary