



ACADIANA AREA HUMAN SERVICES DISTRICT

Serving Acadiana with Quality Compassionate Care

AAHSD Board Meeting Minutes April 17, 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 JeanBatiste, Secretary (St. Martin Parish); Quinta Thompson, Vice-Chair (Governor Appointee/Lafayette Parish); Carol Broussard (Iberia Parish); and Darce` Byrd (Governor Appointee/Lafayette Parish).

Members Absent: John Stefanski (Acadia 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 at 3:25 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 Meetings Law was available.**
- **Consent Agenda Items**
 - **Minutes – March 20, 2023**
 - **Program reports –** Carol Broussard suggested the use of different colors on the BH chart for persons served to make all program type graphs easier to see. A discussion is held regarding the numbers of persons served, more particularly, the Child/Adolescent Outpatient numbers.
 - A motion was made by Richard Landry 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 a women's group donating \$500.00 to Meredith's Place. The ED informed the Board of a recent large collection of clothes, shoes, books, etc. donated by various staff, was brought to Meredith's Place. Carla JeanBatiste shared with the Board that St. Martin Parish President, Chester Cedars, who is also on the St. Martin Parish Opiate Task Force Board, informed Carla that St. Martin Parish will be receiving a portion of opiate settlement

money to help fight opiates in the area and reported that she will be sitting on a sub-committee within the St. Martin Parish Opiate Task Force Board, as a representative of Acadiana Health Service and noted if anyone has any ideas to treat the opiate addiction in St. Martin Parish, to share with the board. Darce' Byrd informed the Board the 15th JDC met with Acadiana Treatment Center in Sunset, LA and noted the center is now only female adolescent based. Carol Broussard mentioned the new contracts, discussions were held with the ED sharing information regarding Beacon Community Connections' Peer Navigator Program in the ER and SWLAHEC's Community Outreach Program.

- **Agenda calendar item: Executive Limit: Ends Focus of Grants or Contracts (policy 1.10), Board vote – accept or not accept Executive Director report -**
 - A motion was made by Quinta Thompson and seconded by Carol Broussard to approve and accept the Executive Director report. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Comments from the Executive Director:**
 - The ED shared Acadiana Developmental Disabilities Annual Easter Basket project was a great success, noting their office distributed over 1,000 Easter baskets within the community.

 - **CCBHC update** – Updates given by the ED. Progress is going well and is on schedule. Completed the Disparity Impact Statement, a listing of key personnel, working on the continued application packet, the sampling and methodology plan was approved, conducted a community needs assessment and a mid-year program progress report, started collecting data on the NOMs (National Outcomes Measures) for some of our clients. CCBHC meeting frequency has changed with the approval of the federal monitor/GPO (Grant Project Officer) and the consulting group. Continue to review job description details and will be posting for those additional staff members. Updates will remain a standing item on the meeting agenda due to the size of the project.
 - **Legislative session:** The Legislative sessions has started and the ED commented on bills related to telehealth services, open meetings laws and Senate Finance & House Appropriations funding.
 - **Addiction project CEA update:** The ED discussed the decision to submit the RFP rather than a CEA. ED will review the RFP for this project again and have it reviewed by AAHSD's attorney and notify LDH of the intention of submitting the RFP rather than a CEA.
 - Quinta Thompson comments on concerns of fentanyl test strips not being reliable.

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

- **Motion to adjourn by Carol Broussard and seconded by Quinta Thompson. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm.**

Submitted by: 

Carla Jean Batiste, AAHSD Board Secretary