

**METROPOLITAN HUMAN SERVICES DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
October 28, 2016
MINUTES**

A meeting of the Board of Directors of Metropolitan Human Services District was held on Friday October 28, 2016 at the District Office, located at 3100 General de Gaulle Drive, New Orleans, La. 70114. The meeting was called to order at 12:36 pm. Roll was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present.

Board members in attendance were: Dr. Joe Constans, Cathy Lazarus, Charlotte Parent, Michael Pechon, and Sarintha Stricklin. Absent members were: Gary Mendoza and Sylvie Tran. Sarintha Stricklin was the ranking member or the Board and ran the meeting.

Other individuals present were: MHSD, Rochelle Head-Dunham, MD Executive Director/Medical Director, Steven J. Farber, Deputy Director of Administration and Compliance Attorney, David Timoll, Chief Operating Officer, Traci Brown Interim Chief Financial Officer, and Kimberly Bourque Executive Assistant to Dr. Dunham. Plaquemines Care: Julie Olsen.

Call to Order by Board Secretary Sarintha Strickland and Introductions

Meeting is called to order at 12:36pm. No new members were present, no introductions needed.

Motion to approve the August 26, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Minutes were approved with correction of spelling. Dr. Joe Constans' name is spelled incorrectly on the second page of the minutes. Motion to approve amended minutes, by Sarintha Strickland, seconded by Charlotte Parent, all approved by vote.

Chair's Report

a. Defer to November Meeting

The Board Chair Gary Mendoza was not present, deferred his report to the November Meeting.

b. Update Discussion of Judge Calvin Johnson's request regarding past retirement agreement- By unanimous vote of all present, deferred to November 18, 2016 meeting

Chair and Vice Chair were not present for this month, will defer to the November meeting.

Budget

Traci Brown reviewed the budget and shared the report with the Board. The advertising budget will be added to the budget once the new Information Director starts at MHSD. There are additional repairs needed at the Algiers' Clinic. Traci Brown shared that MHSD have received the first request from the Division of Administration for budget cuts, currently they are requesting 7%. Dr. Dunham spoke briefly regarding MHSD preparing for these cuts. Medicaid expansion will be helping during the cuts.

Executive Director's Report

a. Update on MHSD Activities

Dr. Dunham stated that MHSD have begun tracking Medicaid expansion in its clinics. MHSD was awarded a 3 year CARF accreditation. The surveyors were very impressed with MHSD's use of peers. Dr. Dunham is looking into doing a Mock survey of MHSD's I/DD Program. MHSD was also awarded the MAT-PDOA grant, which we will be partnering with OBH. MHSD's Executive Team will begin meeting with the Legislators for Orleans, Plaquemines and St. Bernard Parishes. Dr. Lazarus asked Dr. Dunham to talk to the legislators about I/DD and employment.

Parish Updates

a. Orleans

Ms. Charlotte Parent shared an update on the building of the Low Barrier Shelter. Community meetings regarding the shelter are being held. MHSD is also in need of additional board members for Orleans Parish.

b. **St. Bernard**

MHSD will be expanding our services in St. Bernard.

c. **Plaquemines**

Plaquemines Care Center hosted a celebrity Waiter fundraiser. Their goals were met, raising a total of \$25,000.00 in one night. This fundraiser received good publicity. MHSD will meet with the Parish President once a new one is elected to establish a working relationship with the leadership in Plaquemines Parish.

Other Business

Dr. Constans asked about having a proxy/stand-in for meetings. Steven Farber will research the legality. Dr. Dunham also suggested the idea of possibly adding 1 additional board member for St. Bernard and Plaquemines.

Public Comment

Julie from Plaquemines Care, shared that she has met with Dr. Mamon in preparation to start planning services for children in Plaquemines Parish.

Date of Next meeting: Proposed Friday, November 18, 2016.

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn the meeting by Cathy Lazarus. Seconded by Dr. Constans, all approved by vote. Meeting adjourned at 1:39pm.