



ACADIANA AREA HUMAN SERVICES DISTRICT

Serving Acadiana with Quality Compassionate Care

Board Meeting Minutes January 9, 2023

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

Members Present: **Elizabeth West (Chair)** (Governor Appointee/Evangeline Parish); **Carol Broussard** (Iberia Parish); **Yasmin Welch** (Lafayette Parish); **Carla Jean Batiste (Secretary)** (St. Martin Parish); **Micah Moscovis** (St. Landry Parish); and **Darce` Byrd** (Governor Appointee/Lafayette Parish); **Quinta Thompson (Vice Chair)** (Governor Appointee/Lafayette Parish); and **Richard Landry** - Vermilion Parish).


Members Absent: **John Stefanski** (Acadia Parish); **Vacant** (Evangeline Parish).

Others in Attendance: Brad Farmer, Executive Director; Gretchen Sudwischer, Administrative Assistant, and Troy Abshire, Director of Developmental Disabilities.

- **A quorum was present and the meeting was called to order 3:18 pm by Board Chair, Elizabeth West.**
- **The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board Chair, Elizabeth West, and recited by attendees.**
- **Roll call performed**
 - The Board recognizes and introduces Mr. Richard Landry, newly appointed member filling the vacancy representing Vermilion Parish, as well as the Board members and attendees introduce themselves to Mr. Landry.
- **Recognition of Members of the Public / Public Comments**
 - Troy Abshire, AAHSD Director of Developmental Disabilities.
- **Notice of the meeting was posted and a copy of the Open Meeting Law was available.**
- **Consent Agenda Items**
 - **Minutes**
 - Nominating Committee meeting minutes (November 2022) are approved with revisions, indicating the correct parish for Elizabeth West to reflect Evangeline Parish;
 - December regular Board meeting minutes are approved with revisions by adding the meaning of ADOS (Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule);
 - Bylaws committee minutes and recommendations (October 2022) are approved as written.

- **Program reports**
- **Agenda Calendar item: Governance Process: Agenda Planning (policy 2.4)**
 - A motion was made by Micah Moscovis and seconded by Carol Broussard to approve and accept the Consent Agenda items with revisions/corrections regarding the Minutes. Motion carried.
- **Comments from the Chair:**
 - **Board Advocacy Reports:**
 - Discussion by Micah Moscovis in connection with a meeting with St. Landry Abilities regarding their concerns about the turnover and lack of ongoing communication of support coordinators; parents asked for more public awareness to parents through the IEP transition planning and available life skills training; and parents want to have more options for appointments in the community for services offered in the residential options waiver, not just day programs offered through the supports waiver.
 - Announcement by Brad Farmer – AAHSD received notice from the Attorney General’s office of a training opportunity for board members, staff and board attorneys, with training to include the topics of Open Meetings, Public Records, Dual Office Holding, Attorney General Opinions, and Louisiana Government Ethics.
 - **Agenda Calendar item: Executive Limit: Asset Protection (policy 1.7), Board vote – accept or not accept Executive Director Report.**
 - A motion was made by Micah Moscovis and seconded by Darce` Byrd to approve and accept the Executive Director Report. Motion carried.
 - **Board Business: 2023 meeting schedule (no vote required),** reviewed and accepted as written.
- **Comments from the Executive Director:**
 - **New programs update –**
 - ED informs the board of the progress of Meredith’s Place; OBH and staff members from AAHSD will be at Meredith’s Place on Wednesday of this week to do special training related to TANF,
 - ED informs the board the RFP has been drafted and will also draft a score-card, and will be submitted for finalization.
 - ED informs the board there is potentially some legislation to be discussed in an upcoming session in regards to proposed changes to the open meetings law regarding possible revisions of Zoom options.
 - **Autism screenings and service access:**
 - ❖ Troy Abshire, Director of Developmental Disabilities gave a presentation to the board related to its services and answered questions from the board.
 - **CCBHC update – January site visit:** Team members of the consulting firm will attend a site visit on January 19 – 20, 2023. A Zoom meeting or phone meeting can be arranged for any interested board member. Updates will remain a standing item on the meeting agenda due to the size of the project.
 - **Coordinated System of Care update:** Nothing to report. Updates will remain a standing item on the meeting agenda.
 - **CARF conference – registration and travel:**

- ED informs the Board, the CARF conference is scheduled for April 22 & 23, 2023 in Tucson, AZ and has plans to attend.
- **Next meeting to be conducted on Monday, February 13, 2023 at 3:15 pm. Meeting notices will be sent out and posted.**
- **Motion to adjourn by Yasmin Welch and seconded by Carol Broussard. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 4:33 pm.**

Submitted by:  _____

Carla Jean Batiste, AAHSD Board Secretary