



AAHSD Regular Board Meeting Minutes
October 16, 2023

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

Members Present: Richard Landry (Vermilion Parish); Yasmin Welch (Lafayette Parish); Carla JeanBatiste, Secretary (St. Martin Parish); Carol Broussard (Iberia Parish); Bambi Polotzola, (St. Landry Parish); Elizabeth West, Chair (Governor Appointee/Evangeline Parish); and Quinta Thompson, Vice-Chair (Governor Appointee/Lafayette Parish) - arrived at 3:30 pm.

Members Absent: John Stefanski (Acadia Parish); Darce` Byrd (Governor Appointee/Lafayette Parish), and Sydia Robin (Evangeline Parish).

AAHSD Staff in Attendance: Brad Farmer, Executive Director; Daniel Leger, CFO; Tynese Breaux, Practice Manager/Project Director, CCBHC; and Gretchen Sudwischer, Administrative Assistant.

- A quorum was present and Board Chair, Elizabeth West, called the meeting to order at 3:23 pm.
- The Pledge of Allegiance is led by Board Chair, Elizabeth West, and is recited by attendees.
- Roll call performed by Carla JeanBatiste, Board Secretary.
- Recognition of Members of the Public / Public Comments:
 - No members of the public were present.
- Public Notices and Agendas were posted at the AAHSD clinics and on the website. Open meeting laws are available.
- Consent Agenda Items:
 - Minutes – September 18, 2023 – Regular Board meeting.
 - Program reports:
 - Yasmin Welch questioned the Behavioral Health numbers of persons served for September 2023. Discussion held.
 - A motion is made by Carol Broussard and seconded by Yasmin Welch to approve and accept the Consent Agenda items. Motion carried unanimously.
- Comments from the Chair:
 - Board Advocacy Reports:
 - Bambi Polotzola shared she attended the Resource Workshop for St. Landry Abilities in conjunction with the St. Landry Parish Special

Education Advisory Council on October 7, 2023 at the St. Landry Parish School Board Resource Center.

- Carla JeanBatiste shared she joined the NAUW – St. Martin Parish Chapter and one of their projects involves Mental Health awareness.
- Bambi Polotzola also shared about the upcoming Governor’s Office of Disability Affairs Gold Awards as well as the Inclusive Art Contest themed “Nothing About Us Without Us” scheduled for 11/13/2023 at the old State Capital building.

○ **Agenda calendar item:**

- **Executive limits Pol 1.4: Financial Planning and Budgeting (pg. 7)**
 - ❖ **Comments: Elizabeth West, Board Chair inquired as to the possibility of refresher training/modified orientation with Kay Irby, Board Trainer/Liaison in early 2024. Discussion held. It is suggested that this refresher training/orientation be held after a regular Board meeting sometime in January, February, or March 2024. ED will inquire as to Ms. Irby’s availability and will report to the Board of the options.**
 - ❖ **Board vote – accept or not accept Executive Director Report.**
 - ♦ **A motion is made by Quinta Thompson and seconded by Carol Broussard to accept the Executive Director report. Motion carried unanimously.**
- **Board Business – Chair to appoint Nominating Committee**
 - ❖ **Elizabeth West, Board Chair appoints Richard Landry, Carol Broussard, and Quinta Thompson as the Nominating Committee.**
 - ♦ **The nominating committee will meet on November 20, 2023 at 3:00 pm before the regular meeting to nominate the officers; vote at the December 18, 2023 meeting; and those appointed will take office January 2024.**

● **Comments from the Executive Director:**

- **CCBHC update: Updates given by the ED. Ended the first year of a four-year project. Completed the self-attestation. Explained the self-attestation and the standards that need to be met. ED will provide a copy of the self-attestation and standards to the Board after final review by SAMHSA. ED informed the Board of a pilot project with CARF reviewing CCBHCs. CARF will be conducting a survey with AAHSD on October 31, 2023 – November 2, 2023.**
- **Same Day Access update: ED gave updates and explanations of the Same Day access model - the intake process is being reviewed, and we will be implementing policy changes for same day access and service engagement. The tentative start date is right after the first of the year. If the Board receives any inquiries regarding the changes, they may refer inquiries to the ED for explanation. Members of the Board inquired as to notifications to the area referring agencies. ED informed the Board he will notify referring entities and/or agencies of the policy changes once finalized.**
- **Crisis services update: ED informed the Board the crisis service provider, The Ness Center, is no longer in business in our area. Discussions held. The ED will share any updates with the Board as received.**

- **November HSIC presentation:** Elizabeth West, Board Chair will be attending the HSIC presentation on Thursday, November 9, 2023 from 9 am – 1 pm at the Bienville Building in Baton Rouge, and is open to any Board member interested in attending.
- **Budget overview presentation:** A copy of the FY24 Budget is shared with the Board. Daniel Leger, CFO, explained the budget breakdown. Discussions held.
- **Additional handouts:** A copy of the OCDD Roadshows schedule is shared with the Board.
- **The next Board meetings are scheduled for Monday, November 20, 2023 and December 18, 2023 at 3:15 pm. Meeting notices will be sent out and posted.**
- **The nominating committee will meet on Monday, November 20, 2023 at 3:00 pm before the regular Board meeting.**
- **Motion to adjourn is made by Carol Broussard, and seconded by Carla JeanBatiste. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 4:52 pm.**

Submitted by:  _____

Carla JeanBatiste, AAHSD Board Secretary