

ACADIANA AREA HUMAN SERVICES DISTRICT

Serving Acadiana with Quality Compassionate Care

AAHSD Board Meeting Minutes February 13, 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); Darce` Byrd (Governor Appointee/Lafayette Parish); Micah Moscovis (St. Landry Parish); Richard Landry (Vermilion Parish); Carla Jean Batiste (Secretary) (St. Martin Parish) – arrived at 3:23 pm; and Quinta Thompson (Vice Chair) (Governor Appointee/Lafayette Parish) arrived at 3:44 pm.


Members Absent: John Stefanski (Acadia Parish); 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 3:16 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 – January 9, 2023**
 - **Program reports**
 - **Agenda Calendar item: Governance Process: Chairperson’s Role (policy 2.5)**
 - A motion was made by Micah Moscovis and seconded by Yasmin Welch to approve and accept the Consent Agenda items. Motion carried.
- **Comments from the Chair:**
 - **Board Advocacy Reports:**
 - Discussion by Micah Moscovis regarding past concerns with DD referrals and that he recently received assistance from staff in DD with the referral process of a CASA case.

- Discussions by Darce` Byrd and Carol Broussard in connection with the wait time for Children and Adolescent MH Services for clients up to age 17, followed by comments from the Executive Director, Brad Farmer regarding staffing issues in the district and ED will provide the current standard wait time in our clinics once obtained. Comments made regarding staffing issues in the AAHSD clinics, discussed Civil Service Rule 6.5 g (Hiring Rate: Extraordinary Qualifications/Credentials), and the Employee Benefits graphic.
 - Darce` Byrd shared her experience of her recent visit to Meredith`s Place, meeting some of the staff, a participant/resident and learning of the upcoming plans for the facility and property. Also noted is the need for specific items. A list will be made available to the Board and AAHSD staff.
 - Micah Moscovis posed a question as to the Evangeline Parish member vacancy and feedback was given from some of the Board members and the Chair recommended reaching out to Evangeline Parish personnel.
 - Elizabeth West, Chair, verified the revisions in the Bylaws were included in the most recent Board Governance Manual update.
- **Agenda Calendar item: Executive Limit: Compensation and Benefits (policy 1.8), Board vote – accept or not accept Executive Director Report.**
 - A motion was made by Micah Moscovis and seconded by Yasmin Welch to approve and accept the Executive Director Report. Motion carried.
 - **Comments from the Executive Director:**
 - **Coordinated Crisis System update:** Updates given by the ED. AAHSD has offered to host a meeting for the Ness Center at the Lafayette location, meeting details pending. Updates will be on upcoming meeting agendas.
 - **CCBHC update –** Updates given by the ED regarding the Focus Groups who attended the recent meetings held at AAHSD – Lafayette location. The Disparity Impact Statement has been submitted and approved. Updates will remain a standing item on the meeting agenda due to the size of the project.
 - **Addiction project RFP update:** Discussion by the ED per guidance from LDH as to the necessity to transition from an RFP (Request for Proposal) to a CEA (Cooperative Endeavor Agreement) for this project and process of a CEA.
- **Next meeting to be conducted on Monday, March 20, 2023 at 3:15 pm. Meeting notices will be sent out and posted.**
 - **Motion to adjourn by Carol Broussard and seconded by Darce` Byrd. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned - 4:15 pm.**

Submitted by: 

Carla Jean Batiste, AAHSD Board Secretary