



ACADIANA AREA HUMAN SERVICES DISTRICT

Serving Acadiana with Quality Compassionate Care

AAHSD Board Meeting Minutes September 18, 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); Quinta Thompson, Vice-Chair (Governor Appointee/Lafayette Parish); Carol Broussard (Iberia Parish); John Stefanski (Acadia Parish); Bambi Polotzola, (St. Landry Parish); and Darce` Byrd (Governor Appointee/Lafayette Parish).

Members Absent: Elizabeth West, Chair (Governor Appointee/Evangeline Parish); and Sydia Robin (Evangeline Parish).

AAHSD Staff in Attendance: Brad Farmer, Executive Director; Kathy Thomas, Waiver Supervisor; Marci Pere, Adult Services Supervisor; April Jacobs, Tyler Behavioral Health Clinic Manager; Jennifer Stelly, Human Resources Director; Troy Abshire, Director of Developmental Disabilities; Tammara Smith, Chief Compliance Officer; and Gretchen Sudwischer, Administrative Assistant. Edliyah Conner, Intern.

- A quorum was present and Board Secretary, Carla JeanBatiste, called the meeting to order at 3:27 pm.
- The Pledge of Allegiance is led by Board Secretary, Carla JeanBatiste, and recited by attendees.
- Roll call performed by Carla JeanBatiste, Secretary.
 - Introduction of new Board member Bambi Polotzola, St. Landry Parish.
- 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 – August 21, 2023 – Regular Board meeting.
 - Program reports:
 - A motion is made by Yasmin Welch and seconded by Darce` Byrd to approve and accept the Consent Agenda items. Motion carried unanimously.

- Comments from the Chair:
 - Board Advocacy Reports:
 - Richard Landry reported he recently attended a local 988 System presentation by OBH and received comments by the ED.
 - Carla JeanBatiste – Discussion of school suspension policy related to 504 students and mental health awareness issues.
 - Bambi Polotzola shared the St. Landry Abilities in conjunction with the St. Landry Parish Special Education Advisory Council is holding a Resource Workshop scheduled for October 7, 2023 at the St. Landry Parish School Board Resource Center.
 - Agenda calendar item:
 - Quinta Thompson (Governor Appointed/Lafayette Parish), Vice-Chair, now resumes with the Agenda.
 - Executive limits Pol 1.3: Treatment of Staff (pg. 6)
 - Comments made by Yasmin Welch as to the Employee Orientation Program Checklist provided by HR.
 - ❖ Board vote – accept or not accept Executive Director Report.
 - ♦ A motion is made by Carla JeanBatiste and seconded by Richard Landry to accept the Executive Director report. Motion carried unanimously.
 - Governance Process – Pol. 2.3: Board Job Description (pg. 16) – No comments.
- Comments from the Executive Director:
 - CCBHC update: Updates given by the ED. Regular meetings are being held. The current status of the project is near the end of year one. Self-attestation is due by end of September 2023. Discussed the progress at reaching out specifically to the Veteran population. Ongoing process of hiring staff for CCBHC. Discussed plans to expand/extend clinic hours. Progress is going well.
 - Same Day Access update: Program planning is going well, regular meetings are being held, reviewing and revising policies as necessary. Discussion held regarding the proposed plans for the program.
 - Upcoming community events:
 - Provided handouts with the Board members and guests in attendance.
 - LDH Contract update: Had been put off for a year on an extended extension. All LGEs have received their draft contract, noted a few changes, working on finalization, and is due by the end of September 2023.
 - Crisis Services: Discussions held as to the concerns with our service area's current crisis provider.

- Comments/Discussions from Board members:
 - Carol Broussard: Inquired as to the open meetings law revisions (ADA Criteria) discussed at last month's meeting, discussions held. Inquired as to receipt of the new budget, was informed by the ED the final budget will be shared with the Board members once received by AAHSD, requested the CFO, Daniel Leger be present at the next meeting to discuss the budget once received.
- The next Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 16, 2023 at 3:15 pm. Meeting notices will be sent out and posted.
- Motion to adjourn is made by Bambi Polotzola, and seconded by Carol Broussard. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 4:46 pm.

Submitted by:  _____

Carla JeanBatiste, AAHSD Board Secretary