



ACADIANA AREA HUMAN SERVICES DISTRICT

Serving Acadiana with Quality Compassionate Care

Board Meeting Minutes December 19, 2022

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

Members Present: **Elizabeth West (Chair)** (Governor Appointment/Evangeline Parish); **Carol Broussard** (Iberia Parish); **Yasmin Welch** (Lafayette Parish); **Carla Jean Batiste** (St. Martin Parish); **John Stefanski** (Acadia Parish); **Micah Moscovis** (St. Landry Parish); and **Darce` Byrd** (Governor Appointment/Lafayette Parish).

Members Absent: **Quinta Thompson (Secretary)** (Governor Appointment/Lafayette Parish); **Vacant (Vice-Chair - Vermilion 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 3:17 pm by Board Chair, Elizabeth West.**
- **The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board Chair, Elizabeth West, and recited by attendees.**
- **Roll call performed.**
- **No members of the public were present.**
- **Notice of the meeting was posted and copy of Open Meeting Law was available.**
- **A motion was made by Micah Moscovis and seconded by Carol Broussard to approve and accept the Consent Agenda items. Motion carried.**
- **Comments from the Chair:**
 - **Board Advocacy Reports:** Discussion - Micah Moscovis reached out to the Vermilion Parish Policy Jury regarding the vacant seat in that parish. ED noted he followed up with a perspective nominee as well as a representative from the Vermilion Parish Police Jury, was advised the matter for consideration of appointment will be added to the VPPJ meeting agenda scheduled for December 21, 2022. Discussions made as to the Evangeline Parish vacancy, suggestions to reach out to various entities (DA's office, court system, DCFS, Probation Officers, school personnel, pediatricians, etc.) for possible nominees. Comments and discussions by the Board are noted regarding ADOS (Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule) issues in AAHSD and will be added as an agenda item to upcoming meeting agendas for further discussion and updates.

- **Agenda Calendar Item: Executive Limit: Executive Director Succession (Policy 1.6); Board Vote – accept or not accept Executive Director Report.**
 - After discussion and review, a motion was made by Micah Moscovis and seconded by Carla JeanBatiste to accept the Executive Director report as a reasonable interpretation as presented. Motion carried.
- **Board Business: Board officers -**
 - **Present slate of officer nominees:** John Stefanski on behalf of the Board Nominating Committee re-visited the recommendations to the Board to name Elizabeth West as Chair, Quinta Thompson as Vice-Chair, and Carla JeanBatiste as Secretary.
 - ❖ **Board vote to accept nominations** – Recommendations by Mr. Stefanski and the nominating committee are accepted by the Board.
 - **Nominations from the floor:** None
 - ❖ **Board vote to accept nominations** - There are no other nominations from the floor to consider.
 - **Board vote for Officers (Chair, Vice-chair, Secretary):**
 - ❖ After discussion, a motion was made by Micah Moscovis and seconded by Carol Broussard to accept the nomination of offices as such: Elizabeth West - Chair, Quinta Thompson - Vice-Chair and Carla JeanBatiste - Secretary. Motion carried. It is noted that it is an “enthusiastic acceptance”!!!!
- **Comments from the Executive Director:**
 - **CCBHC update:** Updates will be a standing item on the meeting agenda due to the size of the project. The project is moving ahead and on time, having submitted several documents and information to SAMHSA. In contact with the GPO once per month regarding updates and progress, as well as weekly calls with a consulting group, and finalizing a contract with them. Finalizing a contract with the Picard Center at UL as an external project evaluator. Team members of the consulting firm will attend a site visit on January 19 – 20, 2023 to perform a community needs assessment and invites the board members to attend if available. It can also be arranged if any board member would like to participate via Zoom prior to the site visit for a one-on-one conversation. Visited the 15th JDC last week to make announcements, to speak about the grant itself and an overview of information. With the implementation of the CCBHC, will have expanded hours, and potentially after hours and weekend accessibility. It is noted the project is in the planning stage. The Disparity Impact Statement has been submitted, revisions are to be made and resubmitted on January 9, 2023. Community needs assessment is due March 30, 2023. Received approval from Civil Service for LPN positions for AAHSD.
 - **Coordinated System of Care update:** LDH & OBH project (Emergency system, outreach, mobile crisis group) Ness Center – housed in Region 9, planning to be launched by early 2023. Updates will be on upcoming meeting agendas.
 - **New programs update:**
 - Recently toured Meredith Place and met with various parties;
 - Met with LDH regarding new funding program for the Substance Abuse program, drafted an RFP to be reviewed by the team and will give feedback by this week; will make the appropriate revisions, to be submitted to AAHSD attorney for review and will be further reviewed in early January, 2023.

Upon completion, a final report will be submitted to LDH & OBH for technical assistance. Anticipating being posted by mid-February, 2023, awaiting response by LDH & OBH. Revisions will be on an as needed basis.

- **Developmental Disabilities community Christmas event:** The event was held at the Comeaux Recreation Center in Lafayette, LA on December 3, 2022, counted 573 signed in attendees (noting some family members did not sign in), and was a great event and huge success.
- **Bylaws committee - Recommended revisions to the Bylaws will be voted on at the January 9, 2023 meeting.**
- **Next meeting to be conducted on Monday, January 9, 2023 at 3:15 pm. Meeting notices will be sent out and posted.**
- **Motion to adjourn by Micah Moscovis and seconded by Carol Broussard. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 4:15 pm.**

Submitted by: 

Quinta Thompson, AAHSD Board Secretary