Board of Trustees

Mental Health Advocacy Service

January 6, 2014

Children’s Hospital, Board Room B

200 Henry Clay Avenue

New Orleans, LA

7:00 pm

Present: Kevin Robshaw (Executive Director, non-voting); George Daul, Martin Drell, Dudley Flanders, Robert Garda, David Katner, Hector Linares, Paul Race, Steve Scheckman

Meeting commenced at 7:00 pm

1. **Ongoing Structure of CAP:** The Board of Trustees discussed the potential changes to the funding structure for the Children’s Advocacy Program being examined by the Taskforce on Legal Representation in Child Protection Cases. One proposed funding structure would be to replace the current direct legislative appropriation with a contract with the Louisiana Bar Foundation, which would in turn receive the funding from the Louisiana Supreme Court. With regard to this proposed funding structure the Board of Trustees passed the following resolutions:
	1. The Board of Trustees has grave concerns that a state agency such as MHAS contracting with a private non-profit to fulfill core agency functions would create problems relating to the legality and constitutionality of such funding, the complexity of the funding stream, and employment issues related to civil service employees in light of the revocable nature of such a contract being used to pay their salaries. This resolution was moved by Robert Garda, seconded by Paul Race and unanimously approved.
	2. The Boart of Trustees would not be able to approve the contract with the Louisiana Bar Foundation in its current form due to the existing language authorizing the Foundation to terminate the contract at any time without cause. This resolution was moved by Steve Scheckman, seconded by Paul Race and unanimously approved.

1. **Old Businsess:** None.
2. **New Business:** None.

Next meeting to be decided.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.