

**NORTHEAST DELTA HUMAN SERVICES AUTHORITY (NEDHSA)**  
**Board Meeting MINUTES**  
**May 14, 2024**  
**Northeast Delta Human Services Authority, Video Conference Room,**  
**2513 Ferrand Street, Monroe, LA. 71202**

**5:30PM**

**Call to Order** Meeting called to order by Yvonne Lewis and prayer was led by Yvonne Lewis and a quorum was met.

**Adopt Agenda:** A Motion was made by Andy Bryan and seconded by Thelma Merrells to approve /accept the Agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

**Adopt Minutes of April 9, 2024:** A Motion was made by Andy Bryan and Tasha Washington to approve / accept the Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

**Board Members Present:** Thelma Merrells, Andy Bryan, Tasha Washington and Yvonne Lewis

**Board Members Absent:** Randy Williams, Dr. Tiffany Bates and Dr. Tony Young

**Northeast Delta HSA staff present:** Dr. Monteic Sizer and Delores R. Harris

**OWNERSHIP LINKAGE**

- Recognition of Guests -None

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

**GOVERNANCE PROCESS/EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS for DECISIONS**

**Upcoming Events/Community Action –**

NEDHSA's mini music festival was a resounding success. The event was held downtown Monroe and featured four regional artists. The mini fest will be aired as part our NEDHSA's from New Orleans to Northeast Louisiana Art as Medicine initiative in the coming weeks.

NEDHSA recently signed MOUs with the Northeast Louisiana Arts Council and NELA Music Awards. The goal is to reach historically forgotten populations with treatment and drive regional economic development. To further these

partnerships, NEDHSA is sponsoring the upcoming NELA Music Awards ceremony and the Arts Council's event. NEDHSA will be sharing agency resources at the event and presenting an award.

NEDHSA's HR department has provided Civil Service all audit information. We expect to obtain near perfect audit. The report will be made available to NEDHSA's Board upon completion.

NEDHSA is still prepping for its CARF re-accreditation. CARF accreditation is one of the highest organizational standards in the world. We were awarded a three-year accreditation back in 2021. We also expect to be awarded another three-year accreditation. The accreditation report will be made available upon completion.

NEDHSA is still on pace to open the state's largest inpatient facility for addicted pregnant women with dependent children. The twenty-four hour facility has more than ten thousand square feet and fifteen bedrooms. Each bedroom will be able to house up to three individuals each (mother, infant, and up to two dependents). All furnishings have been procured. Signage is up. Policies and operational procedures are near final. NEDHSA is awaiting a few internal and external adjustments before building inspections and permitting can be completed.

NEDHSA will be hosting its annual Opioid Summit June 13, 2024. It will be held at ULM's Bayou Pointe. Invitation was sent to Governor Landry. LDH Secretary Dr. Ralph Abraham will be one of the featured speakers along with Dr. Monteic A. Sizer. Louisiana Attorney General will also be extended an invitation. The final agenda and public relations will start soon.

NEDHSA's FY25 budget will largely be unchanged from the current fiscal year. We will be able to operate all NEDHSA programs and services without any problems beginning July 1, 2024.

Dr. Monteic A. Sizer, Dr. Avius Carroll, and Kara Etienne will be presenting NEDHSA's innovative, award winning integrated healthcare model at LAHEC's higher education summit in Baton Rouge on May 22, 2024.

NEDHSA hosted a Nurses Appreciation Day as part of Nurses Appreciation Week. Pictures are on NEDHSA's social media platforms.

## **Executive Director –**

- Executive Director Report
- Monthly Fiscal Report
- Emergency Executive Succession with Organizational Chart (Page 12)

The Executive Director Report and Monthly Fiscal Report was presented by Dr. Monteic A. Sizer. A Motion was made by Andy Bryan and seconded by Thelma Merrells to approve\accept reports as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.

A Motion was made by Andy Bryan and seconded by Tasha Washington to approve\accept chart for Emergency Executive Succession with the organizational chart attached as submitted by Dr. Sizer. Motion passed unanimously.

**Financial Planning & Budgeting/Financial Condition and Activities** – *With respect to the actual, ongoing financial condition and activities, the ED shall not cause or allow the Development of fiscal jeopardy or a material deviation of actual expenditures from board priorities established in Ends policies.*

NEDHSA's FY24 appropriated budget is \$17,036,591. Total excluding SGR= \$16,228,692. Our IAT = \$5,085,087. Self-generated = \$807,899.

## **Board –**

- Chairperson's Role (page 8)

A Motion was made by Thelma Merrells and seconded by Tasha Washington to accept the above item as written in the Governance manual with no changes. Motion passed unanimously.

## **BOARD MANAGEMENT – Ongoing**

- Board Self Evaluation Forms Tabled
- Board Members Terms/ Renewal of Appointments
- Travel Forms due 7/01/2024 to be processed before Fiscal year end closing.

## **ADJOURN**

Next Meeting – **June 11, 2024 - 5:30 pm**

Northeast Delta Human Services Authority, Conference Room, 2513 Ferrand Street, Monroe, LA 71201