Louisiana Sexual Assault Oversight Commission Minutes

July 16, 2019

1:30pm

Louisiana Department of Justice

Office of Attorney General Jeff Landry

1885 N. Third St. – Livingston Building

First Floor – Clermont Conference Room

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

**Board Members/Designees:**

PRESENT- John Sinquefield, Pat Wajtkiewicz, Olivia Jones, Tammy Vincent, Morgan Lamandre, Treva Parolli-Barnes, Myles Robichaux, Sundée Winder, Heidi Martin, Jerrod King, Rafael De Castro, and Bob Wertz. Other members or their designees were absent.

**Other Attendees:**

Monica Taylor, Lauryn Sudduth, David Jeddie Smith, Brittany Hunt, Richard Mohr, Shannon Dirmann, Melanie Caughmen, Mary Ann Dan, Rebecca Wheelis, Candace Square, and Judith Dodd.

* **Call to Order**
* Commission Chairman John Sinquefield called the meeting to order at 1:35p.m. Opening remarks by Chairman John Sinquefield
* **Approval of the Minutes**
  + Minutes for the April 16, 2019 meeting were unanimously adopted.
* **Presentations**
* House Concurrent Resolution No. 81
  + Members discussed HCR 81 of the 2019 Regular Session and the implications it has on the Commission.
  + The best ways to address the new recommendations for consent thresholds needed for incapacitated adulted and victims under the age a majority were debated.
  + LDH, in collaboration with the LSAOC, is tasked with submitting a report to the House Committee on Health and Welfare 60 days prior to the start of the 2020 Regular Legislative Session.
  + Discussions began on the other aspects of HCR 81 and will continue during future meetings.
* **Topics of Discussion**
* Funding of Sexual Assault Kits
  + Members were updated on the funding for the Sexual Assault Kits. Both the adult and juvenile kits need to be adopted by the commission before that conversation can move forward.
* Future Amendments to the Committee Statute
  + Members addressed the need to amend the statute in the 2020 Legislative Session to better represent our goals through viable processes.
* Implementation of Rules by the Attorney General
  + Members discussed that the rules promulgation as required by the statute should be removed from the Office of the Attorney General and possibly placed with the Legislature.
* Written Protocols for Forensic Medical Examiners
  + The Commission was updated on the status of the policies and protocols. They are currently being reviewed and will be presented to the Commission when they are in a more final form.
* Juvenile Kit Contents and Dimensions
  + The Commission discussed the need to decide on the contents, labeling, and dimensions of a juvenile kit. This matter is to be placed back on the calendar for the following meeting to discuss further.
* **Public Comment**
  + Interns from STAR were in attendance and introduced themselves to the Commission.
  + MaryAnn Dankert from the Coroner’s office in Jefferson Parish presented to the Commission the new kits that were recently ordered based on the newly adopted contents and labeling recommendations.
* **Any Necessary Votes**
  + There were no votes taken.
* **Assign Tasks and Schedule Next Meeting**
  + Continue discussion on HCR 81.
  + Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 15, 2019, 1:30 at the Louisiana Department of Justice.
* **Adjournment**
* Chairman John Sinquefield adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:40p.m.