**Governance Board Meeting Minutes**

**Northwest Louisiana Human Services District**

**April 18, 2022**

1310 N. Hearne Avenue – Shreveport Behavioral Health Clinic – Shreveport, LA

Called to Order: By Matthew Linn at 5:35pm

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Matthew Linn

Roll Call: George Sewell, David Hoey, Tray Murray, Carolyn Carter, and Matthew Linn were present. Kristie Copeland, Bridgette Salsberry, Gary Conlay and Mary Brocato were excused. Bienville, Governor Appointee #2 and Governor Appointee #3 have no board representative at this time. A quorum of 5 out of 9 board members confirmed by Matthew Linn, Board Chair. Doug Efferson, Executive Director was present.

Welcome/Special Guest/Introductions: None.

Approval of Agenda: Moved by George Swell to accept the agenda as presented, seconded by David Hoey, and unanimously approved.

Approval of the Minutes for March 21, 2022: Moved by David Hoey to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Tray Murray, and unanimously approved.

Guest and Public Comments: None.

Executive Limitations: Doug Efferson gave a summary of his written report on Financial Conditions & Activities, Communication and Support to the Board, and Compensation and Benefits. Of note was the request by LDH to pass startup funds through our district to Merakey to offset the low volume they experienced the first month of service. Doug Efferson reported that he had rejected the proposal since the District does not have any agreement with Merakey and recommended that LDH or the five Medicaid plans would need to identify a funding mechanism to bridge the volume gap. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the current status of the Louisiana Crisis Response System and concerns were expressed regarding the viability of the services both short-term and long-term. Matthew Linn proposed authorizing Doug Efferson to request an in-person local meeting with LDH, the Board, and concerned stakeholders to address the Mobile Crisis Service rollout issues and the LDH plans to assure viability of the services. Tray Murray moved to support the proposal, seconded by David Hoey, and unanimously approved. Also, Doug Efferson reported the success of the Many Behavioral Health Clinic one-year Open House event with a number of local dignitaries and clinicians attending. George Sewell moved to accept the report, seconded by Tray Murray, and unanimously approved without any policy changes.

Board Business: Matthew Linn led a review of the Board Committee Principles policy. Matthew Linn tabled the Executive Session for Executive Director Evaluation/Pay until next month to allow more time for the Evaluation Committee to meet and develop a recommendation. Matthew Linn appointed David Hoey, Tray Murray and Carolyn Carter to serve on the Nominating Committee and bring back a slate of officers to consider at the May board meeting. The March Board Compliance Monitoring Summary Report was reviewed and accepted. The April Board Compliance Monitoring Tool was completed and given to Doug Efferson for summary. The next meeting date was agreed to be on Monday, May 16, 2022 at 5:30pm.

Announcements/Acknowledgements: None.

Adjournment: George Sewell moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:12pm, seconded by Tray Murray, and unanimously approved.

Minutes Prepared by Matthew Linn, Board Chair