

**NORTHEAST DELTA HUMAN SERVICES AUTHORITY (NEDHSA)**  
**Board Meeting MINUTES**  
**November 14, 2023**  
**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 Latanya Whiteside and a quorum was met.

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

**Adopt Minutes of August 8, 2023:** A Motion was made by Rev Shawn Hornsby and seconded by Latanya Whiteside to approve / accept the Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

**Board Members Present:** Thelma Merrells, Rev. Shawn Hornsby, Cynthia Mathes. Latanya Whiteside, Yvonne Lewis, Andy Bryan, and Tasha Washington

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

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

**GOVERNANCE PROCESS/EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS for DECISIONS**

**Upcoming Events/Community Action –**

Since August of 2023, NEDHSA continues to be involved in many innovative regional activities. See below:

Andy Bryan and Thelma Merrells represented Yvonne Lewis and Northeast Delta HSA very well during a recent gathering of LGE board members, executive directors, and LDH officials. Delores Harris mailed you a copy of the PowerPoint used. Delores Harris also emailed you NEDHSA's full FY23 annual report. The FY23 report is loaded with interesting regional patient data among other notable facts.

NEDHSA hosted its arts exhibition in Lincoln Parish at the Ruston Artisans Museum. NEDHSA also hosted a regional psychodrama in downtown Monroe entitled Under Construction. Both were well attended and received. Additionally, NEDHSA will be sponsoring Art on 45s which will be located at the Creatives Art Gallery in Lincoln Parish. NEDHSA will also be sponsoring the Biedenharn Museum and Gardens' Scripture through Many Eyes work. This is part of NEDHSA's Faith Partnership and Art as Medicine initiatives. With these sponsorships, NEDHSA continues to help artists and the faith community better understand mental illness, addiction, and reduce stigma associated with treatment.

NEDHSA hosted its annual 5k walk/run in Tallulah, held its traditional Take Back Day to remove old and unused drugs off the streets, and conducted its usual anti-drug campaigns within regional school systems. NEDHSA will hold its Youth Summit this Wednesday at North Baptist Church of Monroe. Eight schools representing three parishes will be participating. About a thousand youth will be in attendance for this innovative prevention event.

NEDHSA signed an MOU with Pelican Credit Union to help with its Financial Literacy Initiative. NEDHSA will also be conducting its Health Literacy Initiative with regional patients and the general population as well. These NEDHSA efforts are designed to help improve patient knowledge and overall treatment outcomes. NEDHSA also launched a wellness effort with the Monroe Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) after Dr. Sizer's keynote address to veterans and their families this past Saturday.

NEDHSA is currently ramping up its Fentanyl is Forever, Digital Therapeutics, vaping, and Catch My Breath, an anti-marijuana messaging campaign on regional television, radio stations, billboards, social media, and newspapers. NEDHSA will soon sign an MOU with a major CBD provider and start distributing fentanyl testing strips to patients and the general public.

## **GOVERNANCE PROCESS/EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS for DECISIONS**

Executive Director –

- Executive Director Report
- Monthly Fiscal Report

The Executive Director Report and the Monthly Fiscal Report was presented. A Motion was made by Andy Bryan and seconded by Latanya Whiteside to approve\accept reports as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.

Treatment of Staff – An email signed by Janice Rogers, Director of Integrated Care and dated on 09/5/2023 to the fact that no complaints has been reported. A Motion was made by Andy Bryan and seconded by Latanya Whiteside to approve\accept as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.

Global Executive Constraints (Policy Manual Page 12) No changes were made by the board at this time.

A Motion was made by Andy Bryan and seconded by Latanya Whiteside to approve\accept as submitted. 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 –**

- Global Linkage (Policy Manual Page 10)
- Unity of Control (Policy Manual Page 10)
- Accountability of the Executive Director (Policy Manual Page 10)
- Delegation to the Executive Director (Policy Manual Page 10)

All items on page 10 no changes.

A Motion was made by Andy Bryan and seconded by Latanya Whiteside to approve\accept as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.

- Select nominating committee for 2023 Officers or elect new Officers
- Chairperson
- Vice Chairperson
- Secretary
- Treasurer

This item was tabled and will be addressed at the December 12, 2023 Northeast Delta Human Services Authority Board Meeting.

A Motion was made by Cynthia Mathes and seconded by Thelma Merrells to approve\accept to table the New Board Executive Committee Nominations of officers. Motion passed unanimously.

- Executive Limits: Communication with and Support of the Board (Policy Manual page 12-13) No changes were made to this policy.

A Motion was made by Andy Bryan and seconded by Latanya Whiteside to approve\accept as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.

- Board member status - two members will be resigning waiting on resignation letter to be mailed in or emailed
- **Board MANAGEMENT** – Ongoing
- Board Development/ Parish Outreach

**ADJOURN** - A Motion was made by Cynthia Mathes and seconded by Thelma Merrells to Adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.

**Next Meeting – December 12, 2023 - 5:30 pm**

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