

**METROPOLITAN HUMAN SERVICES DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
November 21, 2014  
MINUTES**

A meeting of the Board of Directors of Metropolitan Human Services District was held on Friday, November 21, 2014 at the District office. The meeting was called to order at 12:32 pm.

Board members in attendance were: Polly Campbell, Dr. Joe Constans, Dr. Petrice Sams-Abiodun, Charlotte Parent, Gary Mendoza, Sylvie Tran and Dr. Jeffrey Rouse. Board members not in attendance were: Dr. Emily Clark and Dr. Sarintha Stricklin.

Staff members present were: Yolanda Webb, Christy Ross, Dr. Charlotte Cunliffe, David Timoll, Eric Odom, Dr. Michael Smith, Kanna Page, Meghan Ferris, Melanie Williams, Paulanner Mack, Traci Brown, Olivia Mills and Sally Hays.

**Approval of Minutes:** Dr. Constans moved approval of the October 23, 2014 minutes. Mr. Mendoza seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.

**Chair's Report:** Ms. Campbell requested that the three new Board members representing Orleans parish, Dr. Jeffrey Rouse, Sylvie Tran and Gary Mendoza introduce themselves to other Board members and staff. Ms. Campbell then formally presented three resolutions to the Board for review to be voted on at the next meeting. The resolutions provide authorization to Ms. Webb to seek opinions from the Attorney General related to MHSD joining the chamber of commerce, accepting donations, and sponsorships. Ms. Campbell shared that she recently attended a workshop related to supported employment for parents at St. Michael's, a school for students with special needs. She also mentioned that the December Board meeting would include some site visits/facility tours for Board members.

**Executive Director's Report:** Ms. Webb reported that a proposal is moving forward for MHSD's New Orleans East Behavioral Health Center to co-locate in the new Daughters of Charity location in New Orleans East. She also shared that she had a phone conference with OBH related to how individuals are released from prison via the 648B process. In addition, she met with the Recovery School District to communicate information about MHSD children's services, met with LSU to discuss a tobacco cessation project, and met with the Dept. of Corrections and Public Safety to discuss a grant related to pre and post release services. Ms. Webb also mentioned that the St. Bernard building project is moving forward. Ms. Webb stated that the state managed care organization for behavioral health services will be integrated into the state's Medicaid managed care health plans by 2016.

Christy Ross, Chief Executive Officer, made a presentation on MHSD's single point of entry system and process.

Paulanner Mack, Director of Operations, provided an operations department update.

**CFO's Report:** Dr. Cunliffe presented information to the Board about the state's recent expenditure freeze. She also provided an update on the status of MHSD taking over the management of its payroll and current information for fiscal year 2015. Dr. Cunliffe requested Board approval of an increase of \$100,000 for a previously approved Bridge House contract for women's residential services with an amount over \$300,000. Ms. Webb affirmed that due diligence was performed for this contract. Ms. Parent moved approval of the amendment to the contract as presented, Dr. Sams-Abiodun seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.

**Parish Reports:** Dr. Constans mentioned that the new VA building is expected to be completed in the near future.

**Other Business:** In accordance with the Board’s monitoring calendar reports related to asset protection were shared with Board members.

**Invitation for Public Comment:** Brenda Valteau, president of the Mental Health Regional Advisory Committee (RAC), provided an overview of RAC. Mr. Tony Crawford spoke to the Board and staff about MHSD’s transportation needs.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 pm.