



# ACADIANA AREA HUMAN SERVICES DISTRICT

Serving Acadiana with Quality Compassionate Care

## Board Meeting Minutes October 17, 2022

**Meeting held at 302 Dulles Dr. Lafayette, LA. 70506. Auditorium #4**

**Members Present:** Elizabeth West (Governor Appointment/Evangeline Parish); Janise Hardy (Vermilion Parish); Quinta Thompson (Governor Appointment/Lafayette Parish); David Merrill (Governor Appointment/Iberia Parish); Yasmin Welch (Lafayette Parish); Carol Broussard (Iberia Parish); Carla Jean Batiste (St. Martin Parish); and John Stefanski (Acadia Parish).

**Members Absent:** Micah Moscovis (St. Landry Parish); \*Vacancy\* (Evangeline Parish).

**Others in Attendance:** Brad Farmer, Executive Director; Gretchen Sudwischer, Administrative Assistant; Member of the public: Kristie Curtis, LaCAN Advocate.

A quorum was present and the meeting was called to order 3:26 pm by Elizabeth West.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board Chair, Elizabeth West, and recited by attendees.

- Notice of the meeting was posted and copy of Open Meeting Law was available.
- One (1) member of the public present.
- A motion was made by Carol Broussard and seconded by Janise Hardy to accept the Consent Agenda. Motion passed unanimously.
- Recognition of Members of the Public – Brad Farmer introduced Kristie Curtis, LaCAN Advocate and Gretchen Sudwischer as the new Administrative Assistant 5 for AAHSD.

- Public Comments/Input:
  - Kristie Curtis discussed her role as a LaCAN Advocate and expressed her interest in attending today's meeting and future meetings.
  
- Comments from Chair:
  - Board advocacy reports
    - Quinta Thompson attended the Acadiana NAMI Walk on Saturday, October 8, 2022 and found it to be a huge success.
  
  - Board business – Chair to appoint Nominating Committee:
    - Chair appointed John Stefanski, Carol Broussard and Quinta Thompson, and Elizabeth West will serve as Ex-Officio.
  
  - Agenda Calendar item:
    - Executive Limit: Treatment of Staff (policy 1.3)
    - Executive Limit: Financial Planning and Budgeting (policy 1.4)
      - Board vote – accept or not accept Executive Director Report – After review, a motion was made by Yasmin Welch and seconded by Carl Jean Batiste to accept the Executive Director Report. Motion passed unanimously.
  
  - Review agenda calendar – Governance Process review timeframes – Will be voted on at next meeting.
  
- Comment from Janise Hardy, announcing to the Board Members this will be her last Board meeting, as this is the end of her 3rd term.
  
- Comments from Executive Director:
  - Legislative Audit update
    - Discussion as to the contents of the final audit, noting the corrections and improvements made.
    - Discussion as to the services performed in a timely manner and average billing period.
    - Discussion as to a recent Public Records Request regarding federally funded contracts, AAHSD has not been contacted by the requestor since the initial request.
  
  - LDH – AP review
    - Accountability and Clinic review scores were discussed for all five (5) AAHSD clinics. The AP Review report will be submitted at next month's meeting.
    - Act 73 draft report has been received, final report will be sent to the Board when finalized. Discussion as to the number of persons served, currently recognized as the largest provider in the state, with Children and Adolescent Service cases increasing by 55% during the last two (2) years. AAHSD has good clinic outcomes and good effectiveness of the clients served.

- New Programs Update
  - Announced AAHSD has signed two (2) new contracts: Beacon Community Connections (Peer Navigator program) and SWLAHEC (Harm reduction program, a community outreach program).
  - The State (OPH) received a grant for a statewide Suicide Prevention program and invited Brad Farmer to its upcoming first planning meeting to incorporate some Behavioral Health components.
  - AAHSD recently received additional funding through State General Funds this year that is one-time money for services for a 70 bed residential Addiction Disorder treatment facility to be located in the Lafayette area.
- Community education/training update: Recently participated in a Behavioral Health Symposium, a local health fair, Acadiana NAMI Walk, sponsored a Behavioral Health 911 town hall meeting and received information on the 988 system.
- AAHSD will be hosting the HSIC meeting next Thursday, October 20, 2022.
- Announced AAHSD was awarded the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) grant effective October 1, 2022 and clarified its core services that will be provided, to include expanding Certified Peer Support services.
- Next meeting to be conducted on **Monday, November 14, 2022**. Meeting notices will be sent out and posted.
- Motion to adjourn by Janise Hardy and seconded by Carol Broussard. Meeting adjourned 4:51 pm.

Submitted by: Quinta L. Thompson

Quinta Thompson,  
AAHSD Board Secretary