**Louisiana Commission on Addictive Disorders**

**May 2013 Minutes**

May 14, 2013

1:05 p.m.

**COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:**

* Freddie Landry
* Tom Lief
* Lloyd Hernandez
* Anthony Wick

**COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT:**

* Lana Bel**l**
* Kathleen Leary
* Jon Lance Nickelson
* Damon Marcella
* Shelly Mockler

**OBH/ HQ STAFF ATTENDING:**

* Dr. Anthony Speier, OBH Assistant Secretary
* Kenneth Saucier, OBH Director of Regional Services
* Dr. Rochelle Head-Dunham, OBH Medical Director
* Charlene Gradney, OBH Program Manager 4
* Carol Foret, Program Manager 1-A/DHH

**GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE:**

* Marolon Mangham, LASACT
* LaMiesa Bonton, LA-ARDA

**I. SERENITY PRAYER & ROLL CALL**

Freddie Landry called the meeting to order and led the Commission members in the Serenity Prayer. Carol Foret conducted roll call.

**II. APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 2013 MINUTES**

Committee members were provided a draft copy of the minutes for the April 2013 meeting of the Louisiana Commission on Addictive Disorders. Ms. Landry called for a motion to approve the April 2013 minutes. Dr. Tom Lief made a motion to approve the minutes. Dr. Tony Wick seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion passed to approve the April 2013 meeting minutes.

**III OLD BUSINESS**

**A. STATUS OF HOUSE BILL 156** - Pending Senate’s final passage and waiting for third reading and final passage.

May 14, 1023: Reported without Legislative Bureau amendments. Read by title and passed to third reading and final passage.

May 13, 2013: Committee amendments read and adopted. Read by title and referred to the Legislative Bureau.

Provides for the abolition of certain boards, commissions, authorities, and like entities; in some cases also abolishes the functions and responsibilities of the entity; in other cases provides that a different entity is responsible for the functions and responsibilities of the abolished entity; relative to provisions of law that require certain information regarding boards, commissions, and like entities to be filed with the commissioner of administration, provides for the content of such information and for annual deadlines; provides for the evaluation of boards, commissions, and like entities that fail to comply with such deadlines.

Proposed law abolishes the following 13 entities & their functions: Academic Advisory Council, Commission on Men’s Health & Welfare, Emergency Medical Services for Children Advisory Council, Funding Review Panel, LA Information Technology Advisory Board & Technology Advisory Group, LA Sustainable Local Food Policy Council, Methadone Maintenance Program Needs Assessment Task Force, Mullet Task Force, Post Employment Benefits Trust Fund & its Board of Trustees, Reptile & Amphibian Task Force, and the Uniform Grading Scale Task Force. Proposed law abolishes the following additional entities, but transfers their functions to another entity for continuation: Ambulance Standards Committee with only certification functions transferred to the Dept. of Health & Hospitals; & the LA Bio-Fuel Panel with all functions transferred to the Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry.

This bill was amended and the Louisiana Commission for Addictive Disorders was removed from the list of certain boards, commissions, authorities, and like entities that were being abolished.

**B. 2012 GOVERNOR’S ANNUAL COMMISSION REPORT**

Members of the Commission were provided with the final version of the 2012 Governor’s Annual Report. Ms. Landry thanked everyone in OBH who helped in preparing the Governor’s Annual Report.

**C. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DAY – THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2013, 10:30 A.M. – 2:00 P.M., CAPITOL STEPS**

Ms. Freddie Landry reminded the Commission members Behavioral Health Day is Thursday, May 16, 2013 at 10:30 A.M. on the Capitol steps and she encouraged everyone to attend. Ms. Landry went on to inform the Commission members that lunch will be provided at the Barracks across the street from the State Capitol after the activities are finished.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. REPORT FROM THE OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (OBH) – DR. ANTHONY SPEIER, OBH ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND DR. ROCHELLE DUNHAM, OBH MEDICAL DIRECTOR**

The Commission members were updated on OBH by Dr. Anthony Speier and Dr. Rochelle Dunham.

Dr. Speier shared the following:

* House Bill 281 is the only bill sponsored by DHH/OBH. It’s relative to behavioral health services providers; to provide for definitions; to provide for applicability; to establish a behavioral health services providers license; to provide rulemaking authority; to provide for license issuance and renewal; to require a licensing fee; to prohibit operating without a license; to provide for penalties and remedies; to provide for opioid treatment programs; to provide for right of inspection; to provide for drug-free zones; to repeal provisions relative to the licensing of mental health clinics; to repeal provisions relative to the licensing of substance abuse/addiction treatment facilities; to provide for effective dates; and to provide for related matters.

This bill is scheduled for a vote on the House floor Wednesday, May 15, 2013.

* There are various bills scheduled to be heard in the Legislature OBH is tracking:
* The Affordable Care Act Bills and
* House Bill 1
* The House made major changes in the Governor’s Budget Bill
* Dr. Rochelle Dunham updated the Commission Members on the following:
* OBH is currently working on two projects
* ***Substance Abuse Treatment Initiative, SATI***
* SAMHSA funded initiative
* Louisiana is one out of ten pilot states to initiate this program and is one of the three current initiating states with Arkansas and Massachusetts next in line to pilot this project.
* Louisiana has the highest rate of illicit drug use in the Army National Guard (ANG) in the United States with a rate of 3.8%.
* This initiative is intended to work with the ANG 18 to 24 year old population.
* The purpose of this project is to retain the guardsmen and women in that unit and to provide them the assistance and guidance as needed.
* This branch of the military, ANG, has the highest rate of suicide.

- safeTALK Training (suicide alertness for everyone) will be provided to all guardsmen and women by OBH’s Prevention Section on weekends in the various units throughout the state.

* Funding is already in the ANG's budget and the ANG will pay the providers for services rendered.
* ***Policy Academy for the Homelessness Sponsored by SAMHSA***
* Louisiana is one of the six top states with the highest rate of homelessness.
* SAMHSA is providing technical assistance on how to address the needs of this population.
* OBH is the State's Lead Office and has formed a 13 Member Stakeholder Board
* June 13, 2013 SAMHSA will conduct its first site visit. They will conduct a swat analysis on the homeless situation in Louisiana and then a logic model will be developed by the staff of SAMHAS and OBH working on this project.
* The ultimate goal of the Policy Academy for the Homelessness is to develop a Strategic Statewide 10-Year Plan to address homelessness in the State of Louisiana with the local continuums from around the State along with the assistance of SAMHSA providing guidance and technical assistance.
* The chronically homeless is the targeted population.

- The New Orleans area has 90% of the chronically homeless population in the state. Even though this percentage has decreased slightly over the past couple years, new Orleans’ homeless population is still the highest of all the other large metropolitan areas around the country.

**B. REPORT FROM QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE LOUISIANA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL (LBHAC)**

Freddie Landry provided the members of the Commission with a summary of LBHAC’s quarterly meeting she attended that was held on Monday, May 6, 2013. Below are the two main topics discussed?

1. Various bills that effect the Office of Behavioral Health

2. Funding allocated to assist with the Integration of Substance Abuse and Mental Health by targeting LBHAC's Regional Advisory Councils (RAC).

**C. ADRA/LASACT MONTHLY REPORT (OPTIONAL)**

LaMiesa Bonton provided the Commission members with the following update on ARDA:

* ARDA is working on the rule change for the Counselor-in-Training.
	+ Rule changes were published in the Louisiana State Register and are now in the Public Comment period.
	+ ARDA started a Lunch and Learn Program
	+ Informational sessions for counselors or people interested in becoming counselors
	+ Invitations to these informational sessions are emailed to various groups in the regions and districts.
	+ The first Lunch and Learn Program Sessions will be held Wednesday, May 15, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.
	+ Due to budget constraints these informational sessions will only be held in Baton Rouge.
	+ Dr. Rochelle Dunham recommended conducting the Lunch and Learn Sessions by webinar to allow for a larger audience to participate without ARDA occurring additional expenses.
	+ A new medical doctor has been appointed to the ARDA Board effective July 1, 2013, Dr. Ronald Taravella (non-voting member, voted in by the Medical Society) replacing Dr. Louis Cataldie, who retired in December 2012.

**D. COMMISSION MEMBERS REPORT**

Mr. Lloyd Hernandez shared an article he found in the U.S. Today Newspaper entitled “*Law extends treatment for addictions*” with a subtitle “*Health act opens way to getting help”* by Carla K. Johnson

There were several statements from this article Mr. Hernandez shared and then asked for comments from the other Commission members and/or guests. These statements were:

1. There is only one cent of every health care dollar in the United States that goes toward addiction, and few alcoholics and drug addicts receive treatment because it is not covered by insurance.

2. According to the article, Obama Care will cover treatment for addiction. It’s supposed to be an essential health benefit. This will mean a lot of people will now be covered by insurance for treatment of their addiction. The article also points out that there may be a shortage of treatment facilities once this new law is enacted.

Dr. Durham shared that OBH is only meeting about ten percent of the need for the existing population of people in Louisiana who do not have insurance. Magellan of Louisiana, Inc. expands the capacity to serve people in Louisiana as the private sector is being brought into the number of possible providers. Prior to Magellan of Louisiana, Inc. the largest provider of addiction services was the State System.

With the expectation of insurance coverage, there will be many more people who are eligible and want to receive treatment. Roughly 13 percent of the general population has needs that require a professional intervention, but only ten percent of that 13 percent will receive treatment. If true and even though there are more people who are eligible, a large percentage of them will not receive treatment, but it will be more than what OBH now serves.

Freddie Landry also reported that she continues to work on the Prevention Subcommittee of the Greater New Orleans Drug Demand Reduction Coalition. Ms. Landry will be attending a State Epidemical Work Group Wednesday, May 15, 2013 for the Drug Policy Board in the Prevention System’s Committee.

**E. NEW COMMISSION MEMBER NOMINEE**

Freddie Landry reported receiving an email from the Secretary of the Department of Corrections, Mr. James M. Leblanc, and read it to the Commission members. Mr. Leblanc recommended to the members of the Commission Dr. Susan Tucker for an appointment to the Governor’s Commission on Addictive Disorders. Ms. Landry informed the members of the Commission that a copy of Dr. Tuckers resume was provided in the packet of information distributed at the beginning of the meeting. Freddie Landry also agreed that the inmate reentry into the community is the key to making an impact in the substance abuse issues that we have in our state.

Ms. Landry called for a motion to approve the recommendation to nominate Dr. Susan Tucker to the Louisiana Commission on Addictive Disorders. Dr. Tom Lief made a motion to approve the nomination of Dr. Susan Tucker to the Louisiana Commission on Addictive Disorders. Dr. Tony Wick seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion passed to approve the nomination of Dr. Susan Tucker to the Louisiana Commission on Addictive Disorders.

Ms. Landry volunteered to compose a letter to Governor Bobby Jindal and to solicit Mr. Leblanc’s help in securing Dr. Susan Tucker’s appointment to this Commission.

The Commission members were also informed that the representative who amended House Bill 156 also has someone that he would like to recommend to the Louisiana Commission on Addictive Disorders. The representative is trying to combine the representation from the Opioid replacement group seat in with this Commission.

**V. NEXT COMMISSION MEETING**

The next meeting of the Louisiana Commission on Addictive Disorders was discussed, and the date, time, and location were set. The next meeting will take place in Baton Rouge, at OBH Headquarters, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 11, 2013.

**VI**. **ADJOURNMENT**

Freddie Landry called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Lloyd Hernandez made the motion to adjourn, and Tony Wick seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion passed to adjourn the meeting at 2:24 p.m.