



Imperial Calcasieu
HUMAN SERVICES AUTHORITY
Building Strength in Our Community

Governance Board Meeting
4105 Kirkman Street
Lake Charles, Louisiana 70607
March 10, 2022
Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER

Linda Storer called the meeting to order at 12:00pm noting a quorum was present. The meeting was held via Zoom due to the federal declarations set in place for Southwest Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

- a. Betty Cunningham, appointed by Governor Edwards
- b. William Sommers, appointed by Governor Edwards
- c. Melanie Sarro, appointed by Governor Edwards
- d. Linda Storer, appointed by Beauregard Parish
- e. Aaron LeBoeuf, appointed by Calcasieu Parish
- f. Angela Jouett, appointed by Cameron Parish

Absent:

- g. Kristen Cassidy, appointed by Jefferson Davis Parish

NOTE: Allen Parish seat is vacant.

EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT

- a. Tanya McGee, Executive Director
- b. Jenny Mills, Deputy Director
- c. Debbie Bass, Developmental Disabilities Administrative Coordinator

III. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Guests in attendance included prospective board members Mari Harris and Penny Champion. Traci Hedrick, Sulphur Clinic Manager, ImCal's Behavioral Health Division.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board members received February minutes prior to the meeting. Linda Storer requested a motion to approve the February minutes. Angela Jouett motioned and Betty Cunningham seconded. February minutes unanimously approved.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Linda Storer requested a motion to approve the agenda. Aaron LeBoeuf motioned and Melanie Sarro seconded.

VI. BOARD MONITORING

A. Retreat for Board Development

Tanya McGee explained that since the inception of ImCal the board serves as a policy governance board meaning they govern through policy directed with the Executive Director. ImCal previously hired a consultant to conduct a training with the board in regards to Board Governance. Every three years the board is scheduled to have a retreat for board development. Tanya reminded the board the last retreat was not conducted due to COVID and the Hurricanes. However, with federal declarations pending to be lifted, this will need to be conducted. Tanya asked for the board member input on this and after a brief discussion the board decided hire a consultant familiar with board governance to provide a training. The training will be conducted on a day suitable for all board members. Kristen Arville will coordinate with all members to insure the training is scheduled with advanced notice.

B. Governor Appointee Applicant – Mari Harris

Tanya McGee informed the board Ms. Betty Cunningham's governor appointee appointment on the board expired as of March 2022. Ms. Cunningham served as an advocate for addictive disorders. Tanya reminded the board on how parish and governmental appointments work. Normally an applicant is found and if the board agrees a recommendation is made. Tanya introduced Ms. Mari Harris, a potential applicant interested in serving on the ImCal Board of Directors. Ms. Harris gave a brief overview of her experience. She has a wealth of experience in the Behavioral Health setting in private practice and state service. She is currently working in outpatient, private-practice setting for adults and children. She explained to the board she has a heart for people who struggle with addictive disorders and serves as an advocate to help reduce the stigma surrounding this disorder. Ms. Harris also works with the Louisiana Horseman's Benevolent and Protective Association with Delta Downs. Linda Storer called for a motion to recommend Mari Harris to replace Betty Cunningham as governor appointee. Betty Cunningham motioned and William Sommers seconded. Tanya will send a recommendation letter on behalf of the board to the governor's office recommending Ms. Harris to replace Ms. Cunningham. Ms. Harris can continue to attend the meetings as a guest until the official appointment.

C. Cameron Parish Applicant – Penny Champion

Tanya McGee informed the board Ms. Angela Jouett's appointment on the board will be expiring in June, she's currently the Cameron Parish representative. Ms. Jouett served in the role of a professional in the public health setting. Tanya introduced Penny Champion, a potential applicant interested in serving on the ImCal Board of

Directors. Ms. Champion has worked in Education field since 1997. She has a degree in special education, and her certification for educational diagnostician. She currently works with the Cameron Parish School Board as an Appraisal Coordinator/Educational Diagnostician. She evaluates special education needs for school aged children in the parish. She also contracts with Lake Charles Charter Academy. Linda Storer called for a motion to recommend Penny Champion to replace Angela Jouett as the Cameron Parish representative. Melanie Sarro motioned and Betty Cunningham seconded. Tanya will send a recommendation letter on behalf of the board to the Cameron Parish Police Jury. Tanya informed Ms. Champion can continue to attend the meetings as a guest until the official appointment or Ms. Jouett's term ends whichever comes first.

D. Financial Disclosures

Tanya McGee informed the board that their financial disclosures will be due at the May meeting. Kristen Arville will be sending out the Financial Disclosure to the board and due by the May meeting. All disclosures will be collected and ImCal will sent to Louisiana Boards and Commissions office on behalf of all ImCal Board of Directors.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

A. Beauregard Parish Primary Care Services

Dr. Lacey Cavanaugh was approached by the Beauregard Parish Police Jury of the need for primary care services. The parish wants to use funding to start this service at the Beauregard Public Health unit. Dr. Cavanaugh approached Tanya in regards to this after seeing the success of ImCal's ImHealthy clinic in Calcasieu Parish. Funding will provide two full time nurses and one full time nurse practitioner to the health unit. The plan is to model ImCal's ImHealthy program and work with ImCal to provide and bill for services. Primary care services would be provided in the local public health unit, at ImCal's Beauregard clinic and the Beauregard parish jail system. Tanya added that due to the jail in repairs logistics have not be made yet. ImCal and the Office of Public Health (OPH) is working with a legal team to develop a Qualified Organizational Service Agreement between ImCal and OPH to have the nurse practitioner provide primary care services under the scope of the ImHealthy program. Betty Cunningham asked if the nurse practitioner would be paid for by parish or state funds? Tanya informed this would be paid for by parish funds.

B. Collaboration with OPH on SWLA Health Assessment

Prior to COVID and the hurricanes, OPH had funding and formed partnership for a Healthier Southwest Louisiana, a committee that looked at overall health care across the five-parish area. Due to recent events the funding is no longer available and the partnership disbanded. OPH currently has a PHD level Epidemiologist on staff. She is trained in collecting data, analyzing data, and doing evaluations of programs etc. Tanya and Dr. Cavanaugh have had conversations about working with ImCal in order

to help collect and analyze data to develop a five-parish area health assessment to see what programs are needed in the parishes ImCal and OPH serves. This will help target outreach, especially when ImCal's mobile street outreach unit arrives.

C. Emergency Room Peer/Case Manager Program – Jennings American Legion Hospital

Tanya reminded the board ImCal received Opioid funding to place Emergency Room Peer/Case Manager Positions in local hospitals. This helps incoming patients who have overdosed get connected to services. Tanya was happy to inform this program is flourishing and so successful hospital emergency departments from other parishes are reaching out to expand the program to their facility. The program started in Calcasieu Parish at Lake Charles Memorial Hospital, then expanded to West Calcasieu Cameron Hospital and currently services are now being expanded into Jefferson Davis Parish at Jennings American Legion Hospital. Tanya told the board she is hopeful this program will eventually be in all parishes.

D. Law Enforcement Opioid Meeting

ImCal along with OPH had a meeting with Law Enforcement in regards to the Opioid Epidemic. Tanya explained all five parishes were represented and participated in discussion at the meeting. The meeting was very productive and all agencies realized they need to work together. It was discussed to form a collaborative to work with all five parishes to help the communities in combating the opioid epidemic.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS -

William Sommers asked for an update in regards to suicide prevention. Tanya explained ImCal has many suicide prevention services in progress. ImCal funds a suicide prevention coordinator contracted through the Kay Dore counseling center with McNeese. The coordinator works with schools and educates teachers and students in suicide preventions evidence-based practices. ImCal also provides an Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) trainings to the community. This program helps individuals in the community recognize signs and symptoms, and how to appropriately examine and make referrals. ImCal also has a media campaign on Instagram, Snapchat and TickTok. ImCal always reaches out to the schools to see if they need help in regards to counseling services especially if a suicide happens. Jenny Mills also gave a synopsis of CART and the services it provides. She informed CART is back up and running and ImCal is doing a big marketing push to inform the community.

IX. NEXT MEETING - **4/7/2022**

Tanya will be getting with ImCal's attorney about open meetings law and what is required in regards to in person meetings and report back to the board. This will

determine if the board meets in person or via Zoom with the Federal Declarations being lifted in April.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Linda Storer requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Betty Cunningham motioned and Aaron LeBoeuf seconded. Meeting adjourned at 1:07pm.