**Governance Board Meeting Minutes**

**Northwest Louisiana Human Services District**

**Tuesday, January 19, 2021**

**Zoom Conference Call Number (888) 788-0099, Meeting ID: 254 060 0349**

Called to Order: By George Sewell at 5:33pm

Roll Call: George Sewell, Njeri Camara, Kristi Copeland, Fletcher Carter, Gary Conlay, and Ora Rice were present. Mary Brocato was excused. Wanda Brock was absent. Bienville, Governor Appointee #2 and Governor Appointee #3 have no board representative at this time. A quorum of 6 out of 9 board members confirmed by George Sewell, Board Chair. Doug Efferson, Executive Director, was present. Matthew Linn called in at 5:45pm.

Welcome/Special Guest/Introductions: Rhonda Watts and Janet Miller with LACG was welcomed.

Approval of Agenda: Moved by Gary Conlay to accept the agenda, seconded by Njeri Camara, and unanimously approved.

Approval of the Minutes for November 16, 2020 and December 21, 2020: Moved by Njeri Camara to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Kristi Copeland, and unanimously approved.

Guest and Public Comments: None.

Executive Limitations: Doug Efferson gave a summary of his written report on Financial Conditions & Activities, Communication and Support to the Board, Asset Protection, and Treatment of Consumers. The Board was informed that the Many Clinic will open in April contingent on improvement in the pandemic and the ability to hire the needed staff. Also highlighted was the 2020 Accountability Plan results showing significant compliance with expectations for both Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability services. Doug Efferson informed the Board that employees and contracted staff will receive the Covid-19 vaccine from Genoa, a contracted pharmacy providing the service to all districts and authorities, as soon as inventory is available. Njeri Camara moved to accept the report, seconded by Ora Rice, and unanimously approved without any policy changes.

Board Business: George Sewell led a review of the Monitoring Executive Director Performance policy. Matthew Linn moved to accept the policy, seconded by Ora Rice, and unanimously approved without any policy change. The board reviewed the following draft proclamation for March Problem Gambling Awareness Month:

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Association on Compulsive Gambling provides a number of unique services to the state of Louisiana including the operation of the Louisiana Problem Gamblers Helpline 1-877-770-STOP, the management of Center for Recovery-CORE, the only state residential treatment facility for compulsive gambling, and the provision of free outpatient counseling services to compulsive and problem gamblers who are residents of Louisiana;

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Louisiana has proclaimed March, 2021 as Problem Gambling Awareness Month;

WHEREAS, the Northwest Louisiana Human Services District Board of Directors would like to recognize the important work done by the Louisiana Association on Compulsive Gambling and the need to raise community awareness regarding the resources available to those needing treatment for gambling addiction;

BE IT RESOLVED, that on this 19th day of January, 2021, the Northwest Louisiana Human Services District Board of Directors hereby proclaims support for Louisiana Association on Compulsive Gambling services and the month of March being used to promote awareness of Problem Gambling.

Ora Rice moved to accept the proclamation language, seconded by Gary Conlay, and unanimously approved without any changes. Njeri Camara moved to accept the attached Stakeholder Survey Form for 2021, seconded by Matthew Linn, and unanimously approved. Doug Efferson stated he would send the approved form to District stakeholders, parish representatives, and state legislators for northwest Louisiana. Board members were asked to solicit at least two stakeholder surveys from their stakeholders. George Sewell asked Board members to complete their ED Performance Comment forms by email and send to him for summary. The November Board Compliance Monitoring Summary Report was reviewed and accepted. The January Board Compliance Monitoring Tool was to be completed by email and sent to Doug Efferson for summary. The next meeting date was agreed to be on Monday, February 15th, 2020 at 5:30pm by Zoom conference call.

Announcements/Acknowledgements: None.

Adjournment: Kristi Copeland moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:20pm, seconded by Njeri Camara, and unanimously approved.

Minutes Prepared by Matthew Linn, Board Secretary