Northwest Louisiana Human Service District (NLHSD) – Region 7

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Monday, June 18, 2012 @ 5:30 p.m.

1525 Fairfield Avenue; 5th Floor Conference Room – Shreveport, LA

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the NLHSD was held on **Monday, June 18, 2012 at 5:30 pm**. The meeting was called to order by Fred Jones at 5:37 p.m. Invocation was offered by Mr. Jones. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Dee Fowler.

**Roll Call In Attendance**: Fred Jones, Njeri Camara, Margaret Lowery, Jennifer Partain, Dee Fowler, Chris Nolen and Roland Pippin. Absent: Marcelle Slaughter and Ora Rice. Pending Governor Appointee Board Member, Barbara Marshall was in attendance. DHH Staff present: Russell Semon, Wendy Goad, Dr. Hogue, and Sharon Doyle. Public: Reece Middleton of the LA Assoc. on Compulsive Gambling

**Additions/Deletions to the agenda** – Moved by Nolen, 2nd by Fowler to amend the agenda to add Report from DHH Liaison under Agenda Item #7, “Guest and Public Comments.” Unanimously approved.

**Adoption of the Agenda** – Moved by Camara, 2nd by Fowler to adopt the agenda as amended. Unanimously approved.

**Guest and Public Comments –** Russell Semon reported he learned the Readiness Assessment Team had completed their report and a letter was on its way to Secretary Greenstein. The report indicated the Board passed 22 of 27 points reviewed; two of the points related to the Executive Director and were not applicable; so the Board passed 22 of 25 points. One concern was the bylaws need to be amended to reflect language that the Board speaks with one voice; the other concern was the single Governor Appointee that had not been completed, as stated the Board representation is a significant point; lastly, there was a concern to ensure that the Board has representation from all groups. Self-declared areas of experience and representation

* Jennifer Partain represents Geriatric Psychiatric Treatment.
* Chris Nolen represents parent advocate for addictions.
* Dee Fowler represents mental health, family member of addictions and mental health, a area council on aging
* Fred Jones represents public health and Council on Aging
* Roland Pippin represents family member of addictions, board member of a transitional home for ex-felons with drug and alcoholism addictions, and serves on the area agency for the aging.
* Margaret Lowery represents family member with addictive disorders, as well as financial background
* Barbara Marshall represents family member with developmental disability, as well as behavioral health challenges for children and youth.
* Njeri Camara represents as advocate for behavioral health, a family member with mental health disorders, parent facilitator for families of children/youth with behavioral health challenges.
* Ora Rice represents Elderly Home Healthcare and child welfare.

**Public Comments** - Reece Middleton reported that Morgan Johnson has been selected to serve as the Bossier representative; the appointment is pending. His area of experience is as a board member of the Louisiana Association on Compulsive Gambling and past work with the Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse.

Wendy Goad reported that the Office of Behavioral Health will host its **annual public forum** mandated by the Federal Government for receipt of federal block grant dollars, **to be held Thursday, June 21, 2012 from 12 noon to 2:00 pm at Brentwood Hospital on Highland Avenue**.

**Approval of the Minutes of May 21, 2012** as presented. Moved by Nolen, seconded by Lowery to approve the Minutes of May 21, 2012. **Unanimously approved**.

**Agenda Items for Discussion:**

1. **Election of Officers** – The Slate of Officers presented by the Nominating Committee at the meeting of May 21, 2012 are: Chair – Leland Marcelle Slaughter; Vice Chair – Fred Jones; Secretary – Njeri Camara; and Treasurer – Margaret Lowery. The floor was opened for nominations with no nominations from the floor. Moved by Nolen, 2nd by Pippin that the report of the Nominating Committee be approved by acclimation. Ayes: Partain, Nolen, Fowler, Jones, Pippin, Lowery and Camara. Nayes: None. The Slate of Officers unanimously approved.
2. **Amendment of Bylaws –** in response to a concern by the Readiness Assessment Team the bylaws must contain specific wording that the Board does not act by single individuals. Moved by Camara, seconded by Nolen that the Bylaws be amended under Article II Purpose, the second sentence on the first line shall read as follows***: “The Board, as a body and not through any individual member as stipulated in the Act, shall…”*** Unanimously approved. The amendment shall take effect 30 days after the date official bylaws change notice is sent to the Board.
3. **Correcting the adopted Minutes of September 19, 2011** – Moved by Camara, seconded by Nolen to amend the adopted Minutes of the September 19, 2011 meeting to correctly reflect that Board Member Pippin was present at the meeting and not absent. Unanimously approved.
4. **Review of Chairperson’s Role –** Moved by Fowler, 2nd by Pippin to accept the review of the Chairperson’s Role with no changes. Unanimously approved.
5. **Review of Board Members’ Code of Conduct –** Moved by Camara, 2nd by Lowery to accept the review of the Board Members’ Code of Conduct with no changes. Unanimously approved.
6. **Agenda Planning –** Moved by Pippin, 2nd by Camara to accept the review of the Agenda Planning with an amendment on Page 15 of 43 under “Agenda Planning 2b” to change the word “futurists” to “professionals.” Unanimously approved.
7. **Cost of Governance** – Moved by Fowler, 2nd by Nolen to accept the review of Cost of Governance with no changes. Unanimously approved.
8. **Board Members’ Self-Evaluation** – completed by all Board Members present and submitted to the Secretary as custodian of record.
9. **State Update on Strategic Plan** – Regional updates on 2011-2012 FY Budget presented by Wendy Goad, OBH Regional Manager, and Sharon Doyle, OCDD Regional Manager. The process of the State is the Departments are aware of the allocation to the Department; however, it is usually around September or October before the program offices receive notice of what their individual allocations will be.

**Unfinished Business** – Moved by Nolen, 2nd by Camara to postpone discussion on the Executive Director position.

**New Business –** The next agenda will include discussion of the Executive Director position, Orientation for new Board Members; and Strategic Planning according to the Policy Manual.

**Comments/Observations –** Board members took the opportunity to thank Russell Semon for his tireless work assisting the Board and Wendy Goad and Sharon Doyle for their program reports.

Camara encouraged board members to attend the **Northwest Louisiana Behavioral Health Regional Advisory Council meeting on Wednesday, June 20, 2012 @ 1:00 p.m.** Compressed video/video conferencing is available at the satellite OBH Clinics in Minden, Coushatta, Mansfield, Natchitoches, and Many.

**Next Meeting Date** – Moved by Nolen, 2nd Lowery that the next meeting will be **Monday, July 16, 2012, @ 5:30 p.m** at the same place. Unanimously approved. Dee Fowler will be unavailable to attend.

No other business to be conducted, Moved by Camara, 2nd by Nolen for adjournment. Unanimously approved. **The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted, Njeri Camara, Secretary