



State of Louisiana
Louisiana Department of Health
Office of Public Health

LOUISIANA SICKLE CELL COMMISSION

Date: Thursday, February 5, 2026

Zoom: ldhophbfhgenetics.zoom.us/j/93229238926

Time: 02:00 PM – 03:30 PM

Location: 1450 Poydras Street, Room 2024
New Orleans, LA 70112

MEETING MINUTES

- I) Call to Order** – Donna Thaxton called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm.
- II) Roll Call** – Quorum present. (*virtual, +proxy).
- A. Present: Erin Fulbright, Jacqueline Cummings*, Ernest DeJean, Twarnette Hardison, Cheryl Harris, Majed Jeroudi, Dana LeBlanc, Shannon Robertson* (Jackson), Rosalind Spain* (Freeze-Bell), & Donna Thaxton.
- B. Absent: Regina Barrow, Simone Martin, & Tammy Phelps.
- III) Approval of Minutes**
- A. Jeroudi motioned to approve the minutes from the July 2025 meeting, DeJean seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.
- B. Hardison motioned to approve the minutes from the October 2025 meeting, DeJean seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.
- IV) Mandate Review**
- A. The BFH facilitator reviewed Revised Statute 40:1125.1 (agenda attachment).
- B. Vacancy Announcements – The following positions are currently vacant: one parent of a person diagnosed with SCD; one person diagnosed with SCD; one medical professional caring for persons diagnosed with SCD; and one representative from Southwest Louisiana Sickle Cell Anemia, Inc. The Facilitator asked members to share these vacancies within their networks and to have interested candidates email LSCC@LA.Gov. He also informed members of the application process and requirements established by the Governor's office.
- V) Old Business**
- A. Report | SCD Registry: Rebecca Majdorch shared the number of babies diagnosed with SCD identified through newborn screening from January to November 2025. The data was also broken down to show the number of babies born in each region (based on the mother's residence at birth).
- B. Report | School Nurse Training: Ernest DeJean allowed members to view one module from the training. The final version will be shared once a learning management system is identified.

VI) New Business

- A. 2026 - 2027 Chair & Vice Chair Selection: Hardison nominated Donna Thaxton for Chair, DeJean seconded, and Thaxton accepted the nomination. Thaxton was elected to serve as 2026 – 2027 Chair by a unanimous vote and no abstentions. Thaxton nominated Ernest DeJean for Vice Chair, Hardison seconded, and DeJean accepted the nomination. DeJean was elected to serve as 2026 – 2027 Vice Chair by a unanimous vote and no abstentions.
- B. New Subcommittee Assignments: DeJean announced the reformation of subcommittees and shared the which members are assigned to each subcommittee. DeJean also shared a tentative agenda for the statewide SCD symposium. Members also discussed rescheduling the symposium to May 15-16, 2026. Subcommittee assignments are as follows:
- i. Data & Surveillance: Phelps (c), DeJean, Harris, & LeBlanc.
 - ii. Education & Advocacy: Jeroudi (c), Fulbright, Martin, & Cummings
 - iii. Medical Services: LeBlanc (c), Jeroudi, Barrow, & DeJean
 - iv. Patient Navigation: Thaxton (c), Hardison, Robertson, & Spain.

VII) Public Comments

Members were informed that BFH is looking into the hydroxyurea issue and will continue to work for a viable solution. In the meantime, foundations are encouraged to assist clients with enrolling in the patient assistance program until a more permanent solution is named.

VIII) Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 3:31 pm.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, April 2, 2026 at 2:00 PM

Bienville Building | 628 N. Fourth St. | Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821

Note: The order of the agenda may not be followed exactly, to accommodate presenter schedules. Presenters, members, and guests may submit requests for accessibility and accommodations prior to a scheduled meeting. Please submit a request to LSCC@LA.GOV at least 2 weeks prior to the meeting with details of the required accommodations.

In lieu of verbal public comment, individuals may submit a prepared statement in accordance with Senate Rule 13.79. Statements should be emailed to LSCC@LA.GOV and must be received at least 24 hours prior to the meeting to be included in the record for the meeting.