



SANDHILLS CENTER

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes September 13, 2016

Members Present:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ross Streater | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Priscilla Little |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kay Cashion, Vice-Chairperson | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gart Evans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Frank Cleary | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Costella Donnell |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Barbara McKoy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tonya Gray |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Harry Southerland | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shirley Hart |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kirk Smith | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Walter Ferguson |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anthony Copeland | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carol Whitaker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Otis Ritter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Matthew Rothbeind |
| <input type="checkbox"/> David Allen | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mazie Fleetwood |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leann Henkel | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thad Ussery, Chairperson | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michele Weatherly, Secretary |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jan Herring | <input type="checkbox"/> Bill Larrison |

Staff Present:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Victoria Whitt | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sherry Bynum |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Anthony Carraway | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anthony Ward |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evelyn Savage | <input type="checkbox"/> Susan Campbell |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rob Scott | <input type="checkbox"/> Martha Rogers |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leonard Covington | |

Guest: Dennis Wicker, Governmental Relations Advisor

Call to Order

The Sandhills Center Board of Directors met on Tuesday, September 13, 2016, at the Administrative Office in West End, NC. Chairperson Commissioner Thad Ussery called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Invocation

Commissioner Ussery gave the invocation.

Oath of Office for New Board Member

Harnett County representative, Tonya Gray was welcomed and administered the Oath of Office.

Board Member Conflict of Interest

Chairperson Ussery asked if any Board member has a conflict of interest concerning agenda items the Board will address during the meeting. None were stated.

Certification of Quorum

Secretary Michele Weatherly certified a quorum.

Absent Board Members Justifications

Commissioner Kay Cashion – Health issues – excused. *A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk Smith and seconded by Michele Weatherly to “excuse the absence”. The motion passed unanimously.*

Frank Cleary – Health issues – excused. *A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk Smith and seconded by Michele Weatherly to “excuse the absence”. The motion passed unanimously.*

Barbara McKoy – Not feeling well – excused. *A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk Smith and seconded by Michele Weatherly to “excuse the absence”. The motion passed unanimously.*

Commissioner Otis Ritter – Attending another meeting – excused. *A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk Smith and seconded by Michele Weatherly to “excuse the absence”. The motion passed unanimously.*

Commissioner David Allen – Vacation – excused. *A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk Smith and seconded by Michele Weatherly to “excuse the absence”. The motion passed unanimously.*

Leann Henkel – Vacation – excused. A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk Smith and seconded by Michele Weatherly to “excuse the absence”. The motion passed unanimously.

Bill Larrison – not in attendance due to the closed session.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the August 9, 2016 Board of Directors meeting were reviewed for approval.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anthony Copeland and seconded by Michele Weatherly to “approve the August 9, 2016 minutes as presented”. The motion passed unanimously.

Amendments to Agenda

None

Public Comments

Commissioner Ussery welcomed Dennis Wicker, Former NC Lieutenant Governor.

Commissioner Ussery took the opportunity to read a thank you note from the family of Neil Jones on the donation in memory of Mr. Jones to the Anson Substance Abuse/Council on Alcoholism, and a note from Frank Cleary regarding his retiring from the Board.

Closed Session

Chairperson Ussery announced that the Board needed to go into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing confidential information in accordance to N.C. General Statute § 143-318.11(a)(1).

A motion was made by Mazie Fleetwood and seconded by Gart Evans to “go into Closed Session”. The motion passed unanimously.

The Closed Session began at 7:10 p.m. Sandhills Center staff in attendance included CEO Victoria Whitt, General Counsel Evelyn Savage, Deputy Director/Chief Operating Officer Anthony Ward, and Clerk to the Board/Administrative Assistant Sherry Bynum.

A motion was made by Mazie Fleetwood and seconded by Michele Weatherly to “come out of Closed Session”. The motion passed unanimously. Closed Session ended at 8:05 p.m.

A motion was made by Mazie Fleetwood and seconded by Commissioner Anthony Copeland to “authorize CEO Victoria Whitt to respond to Secretary Brajer’s September 30th request regarding consolidation based on the points discussed during the closed session”. The motion passed unanimously.

Chief Executive Officer’s Report

Mrs. Whitt, Chief Executive Officer, welcomed everyone and provided the following information:

- **Policy Revisions**

Mrs. Whitt presented to the Board of Directors, for review and approval, two revised policies. A motion was made by Commissioner Anthony Copeland and seconded by Walter Ferguson to “approve the two revised policies as presented”. The motion passed unanimously.

- **New Office Building – Owner/Contractor Contract**

Mrs. Whitt gave an update on the new office building noting that the preconstruction conference with the builder was held last week. The contractor, Hamlett Associates, Inc., stated that once the contract is approved they could begin work by September 19th with a 300 day process; should have the building dried in by mid-January; do not feel any problems with getting supplies.

Mrs. Whitt noted that this was discussed in the Finance Committee and they are in agreement. After discussion, a recommendation was made by Commissioner Kirk Smith and seconded by Commissioner Harry Southerland to “approve the contract submitted by Hamlett Associations, Inc.”. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Facility Based Crisis (FBC) Services**

Mrs. Whitt announced that Daymark Recovery has been selected to open a new 16 bed facility-based crisis (FBC) center within the nine-county catchment area. FBC is an alternative to hospitalization for adults experiencing behavioral health crises, and services are provided 24/7, in a non-medical secured facility. The services often include four to seven days of crisis stabilizations, assessment and evaluation of mental health needs, medication management and engagement of family or others to support the person.

Mrs. Whitt explained that Sandhills is working with Daymark to develop the clinical model that they currently have in other parts of the state, where you pair the 24/7 facility with the walk-in crisis center and a number of "Observation Beds". This model provides routine, urgent and emergent assessments as well as involuntary commitment evaluations. If a person is unable to return home or be referred to another level of care, they may be observed up to 23 hours. During this observation period the person will be treated for their illness and their level of care will be reassessed during the observation period. For persons unable to go home, they may be placed in the facility based crisis center, transferred to a higher level of care or remain in the observation unit until a more appropriate level of care is found. The facility would have security which allows law enforcement to turn custody of a person over to the facility avoiding wait time for the officer.

Mrs. Whitt stated that this facility will serve all nine counties and based on catchment area geographical centrality, past experiences with these types of facilities, and existing community and advocacy support, Randolph County would be a good location for this new service. She has had several conversations with Mazie Fleetwood, Commissioner David Allen, and the County Manager and they are all receptive to this. They have requested that she attend the October 3rd County commissioners meeting to discuss this to see if Randolph would be interested in having the facility in their county and what would be the possibility to work out an arrangement with the County to purchase the current building where the crisis walk-in center is. Mrs. Whitt will provide an update and maybe potential recommendations at the October Board of Directors meeting.

Mrs. Whitt noted the operating budget for the new program and that Medicaid does not cover the entire cost. Sandhills will work with Daymark and use savings to fund the program. Funding estimates total \$3,896,910, which do not include facility rental/lease/purchase/renovations costs.

Mrs. Whitt commented that depending on the success, that there is the possibility of locating another facility in the catchment area for children.

A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk Smith and seconded by Commissioner Anthony Copeland to "authorize Mrs. Whitt, CEO, to move forward with the Crisis Center". The motion passed unanimously.

- **DHHS Semi-Annual Certification of Compliance of the LME/MCOs**

Mrs. Whitt noted that Sandhills Center has received its six-month certification of compliance from the Secretary of DHHS. Mrs. Whitt reviewed the summary of the report of findings for the three audit types: fiscal solvency, clean claims payment, and HIPAA compliance, noting that Sandhills Center continues to meet all the benchmarks.

Mrs. Whitt called attention to the last two paragraphs of the letter from Dave Richard to Secretary Brajer noting that it has been determined that all LME/MCOs have made adequate provisions against the risk of insolvency based on the quarterly financial reports that are submitted to DHHS. He goes on to state that though each of the LME/MCOs are compliant with Session Law 2013-85, it is important to revisit the purpose of the law and recommend suggested changes to the General Assembly. When the law was originally passed, there was concern that the LME/MCO system was fragile and questions over the ability for the system to meet solvency standards. Over the past two years, there has been clear evidence that each of the LME/MCOs have significant resources to meet the financial requirements of managed care organizations.

- **FY 16 – 17 Single Stream Reduction**

Mrs. Whitt reviewed the proposed reductions to single stream funding for FY 16 – 17. The estimated share of the single stream allocation reduction for Sandhills for FY 16 – 17, is 18.46%, \$25,211,309. (Last FY, the reduction was \$20,000,000.) It is anticipated that requirements will be the same as last year where fund balance will be used to cover all the current services. Once the final allocation is received, a revision will be made to the budget and presented to the Board.

- **Mrs. Whitt also reviewed the following:**

- Community Stakeholder's Breakfast Meetings Agenda
- Personnel Report
- Newspaper Articles

Clinical Services & Operations Report

Anthony Ward, Deputy Director/Chief Operating Officer reviewed the following:

- Operations Report for August 2016 – all benchmarks continue to be met.
- 2016 – 2019 LME/MCO Local Business Plan – the PowerPoint presentation outlined an update to the current 2013 – 2016 Local Business Plan which include new goals or tasks. *A motion was made by Mazie Fleetwood and seconded by Commissioner Kirk Smith to "approve the 2016 – 2019 LME/MCO Local Business Plan". The motion passed unanimously.*

Committee Reports

- **Finance Committee Report** – Chairperson Ussery reported that the Finance Committee met prior to tonight's Board of Directors meeting and reviewed the Finance Report in detail. Mrs. Whitt presented and reviewed the

Finance Report with the Board of Directors. A summary of the Consolidated Balance Sheet and Income Statement was reviewed and reflects services through August 31, 2016.

Mrs. Whitt called attention to an agreement that is the result of the continued meetings she has been having with the county representatives:

- Funding allocated for Daymark Recovery to provide a licensed clinician to Lee County Public Health Clinic for the purpose of integrating physical and behavioral health services including evaluation and assessment of mental health needs and referrals.

A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk Smith and seconded by Michele Weatherly to "approve the Finance Report as presented". The motion passed unanimously.

- **Program Planning and Operations (PPO) Committee Report** – Chairperson Shirley Hart gave the report.
- **Client Rights Committee Report** – Did not meet.
- **Personnel Committee Report** – Chairperson Mazie Fleetwood provided an update to the following:
 - **VOYA Plan Termination** – terminates effective September 30th. Staff have options to roll over their current VOYA account into the State Plan or another plan; or convert their current VOYA account into a VOYA annuity account; or take a lump sum distribution. Staff, who have been with VOYA for less than 10 years, may be charged a fee to move to another plan or take the lump sum distribution. Chairperson Fleetwood stated that VOYA has not been very cooperative during this process. Staff continue to hear conflicting information and the HR staff are working to get clarification.

New Business

After much discussion regarding the November Board meeting, a motion was made by Commissioner Harry Southerland and seconded by Commissioner Kirk Smith that "since the November Board meeting falls on Election Day, to move the meeting to Thursday, November 10th regular time. The committees would also meet that night at their regular time." The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

None

Comments

None

Adjournment

A motion was made by Michele Weatherly and seconded by Mazie Fleetwood to "adjourn the meeting". The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.



Commissioner Thad Ussery
Chairperson, Board of Directors

10-11-16

Date

Documents referred to in these minutes may be obtained by contacting Sherry Bynum at sherryb@sandhillscenter.org or 910-673-9111.

Submitted by: Sherry Bynum, Clerk to the Board/Administrative Assistant