



SANDHILLS CENTER

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

November 10, 2020

Via WebEx

Members Present:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ross Streater | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Priscilla Little, Secretary |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alan Perdue | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gart Evans |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Walter Salinger | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Alvin Keyes |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Johnson | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tonya Gray |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Harry Southerland, Vice-Chairperson | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stephany Bonds |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kirk Smith | <input type="checkbox"/> Walter Ferguson |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carol Whitaker | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Matthew Rothbeind |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Allen | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mazie Fleetwood |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leann Henkel | <input type="checkbox"/> Thad Ussery, Chairperson |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jerry Earnhardt | |

Staff Present:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Victoria Whitt | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sherry Bynum |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anthony Ward | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evelyn Quick |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leonard Covington | |

Guest: Lisa Jackson, DMH, LME Technical Assistance Liaison
Jessica Simmons, partner, Cherry Bekaert
Eddie Burke, Partner, Cherry Bekaert

The Sandhills Center Board of Directors convened for a regular meeting at 6:00 p.m., on Tuesday, November 10, 2020. The meeting was held remotely and at the Sandhills Center Office Building, 185 Grant Street, West End, NC. A WebEx and conference call line was opened for remote Board member's participation and discussion, also allowing for public participation.

Call to Order and Invocation

Vice-Chairperson Harry Southerland called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. and reported that Chairperson Thad Ussery is absent tonight due a death in his family. Vice-Chairperson Southerland asked for a moment of silence and to keep Chairperson Ussery in their thoughts and prayers. Commissioner David Allen gave the invocation.

Oath of Office for New Board Member

Harnett County representative, Commissioner Mark Johnson, and Hoke County representative, Stephany Bonds, were welcomed and administered the Oath of Office.

Board Member Roll Call

A roll call of attendance was taken. A total of 16 Board members were present: 15 voting and one (1) non-voting.

Conflict of Interest

Vice-Chairperson Southerland read the Conflict of Interest statement and asked if any Board member had a conflict of interest concerning agenda items the Board would address in the meeting that would require recusal. No conflicts were stated.

Certification of Quorum

Priscilla Little, Secretary, certified a quorum.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Commissioner David Allen and seconded by Gart Evans to "approve the Agenda". The motion was approved by general consent and without objection. Voting yes – Priscilla Little, Commissioner Alan Perdue, Gart Evans, Dr. Walter Salinger, Dr. Alvin Keyes, Commissioner Mark Johnson, Tonya Gray, Commissioner Harry Southerland, Stephany Bonds, Commissioner Kirk Smith, Carol Whitaker, Matthew Rothbeind, Commissioner David Allen, Mazie Fleetwood, and Leann Henkel.

Absent Board Members Justifications

Justifications for Board member absences:

- Commissioner Ross Streater – County Commissioners meeting
- Walter Ferguson – Emergency at work
- Thad Ussery – Death in family

A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk Smith and seconded by Carol Whitaker to “excuse the absence as presented”. The motion was approved by general consent and without objection. Voting yes – Priscilla Little, Commissioner Alan Perdue, Gart Evans, Dr. Walter Salinger, Dr. Alvin Keyes, Commissioner Mark Johnson, Tonya Gray, Commissioner Harry Southerland, Stephany Bonds, Commissioner Kirk Smith, Carol Whitaker, Matthew Rothbeind, Commissioner David Allen, Mazie Fleetwood, and Leann Henkel.

Public Comments

None

Approval of Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Commissioner David Allen and seconded by Gart Evans to “approve the Consent Agenda”. The motion was approved by general consent and without objection. Voting yes – Priscilla Little, Commissioner Alan Perdue, Gart Evans, Dr. Walter Salinger, Dr. Alvin Keyes, Commissioner Mark Johnson, Tonya Gray, Commissioner Harry Southerland, Stephany Bonds, Commissioner Kirk Smith, Carol Whitaker, Matthew Rothbeind, Commissioner David Allen, Mazie Fleetwood, and Leann Henkel. The following were approved:

- October 13, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
- Policy Revisions

Auditor’s Report: FY 19 – 20 Annual Audit

Mrs. Whitt introduced Jessica Simmons and Eddie Burke of Cherry Bekaert. Ms. Simmons reviewed the FY 19 – 20 Annual Audit. She expressed her appreciation to the staff on their cooperation, and noted that the audit went well. A review of the audit, Ms. Simmons reported that there were no significant deficiencies or material weaknesses identified; good internal controls; no adjusting journal entries; a clean audit according to the governmental auditing standards.

On behalf of the Finance Committee, a motion was made by Finance Committee Chairperson Gart Evans and seconded by Commissioner David Allen to “accept the FY 19 – 20 Annual Audit as presented”. Voting yes – Priscilla Little, Commissioner Alan Perdue, Gart Evans, Dr. Walter Salinger, Dr. Alvin Keyes, Commissioner Mark Johnson, Tonya Gray, Commissioner Harry Southerland, Stephany Bonds, Commissioner Kirk Smith, Carol Whitaker, Matthew Rothbeind, Commissioner David Allen, Mazie Fleetwood, and Leann Henkel. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

➤ Chief Executive Officer’s Report – Victoria Whitt, Chief Executive Officer

Mrs. Whitt welcomed everyone and provided the following:

A. FY 20 – 21 Budget Amendments

Mrs. Whitt reviewed in detail to the Board of Directors, for their review and approval, a set of budget amendments to the FY 20 – 21 Operating Budget.

On behalf of the Finance Committee, a motion was made by Finance Committee Chairperson Gart Evans and seconded by Commissioner David Allen to “approve the FY 20 – 21 Budget Amendments as presented”. Voting yes – Priscilla Little, Commissioner Alan Perdue, Gart Evans, Dr. Walter Salinger, Dr. Alvin Keyes, Commissioner Mark Johnson, Tonya Gray, Commissioner Harry Southerland, Stephany Bonds, Commissioner Kirk Smith, Carol Whitaker, Matthew Rothbeind, Commissioner David Allen, Mazie Fleetwood, and Leann Henkel. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Sandhills Center Response to COVID-19 Pandemic

📌 **Employee Work Status** – Mrs. Whitt took the opportunity to update the Board members on the current work status for all employees. Sandhills is operating under Governor Cooper’s Executive order, Phase 3, and remote work options is still available to employees.

📌 **Employee COVID-19 Testing** – Mrs. Whitt shared the current statistics of employees COVID-19 testing and the process that Sandhills has in place.

- **Access and Continuity of Behavioral Health Services** – Ms. Whitt explained that Sandhills Center staff have worked with NC DHHS staff over the course of the past month to clarify requirements of NC General Assembly approved funding for LME/MCOs and to learn requirements around shifting part of the funding outside of Unit Cost Reimbursement (UCR) reporting process. By shifting funding outside of the UCR constraints, providers have greater flexibility in using the funding. Flexible funding can be used to fund services without traditional service definitions, purchase necessary personal protective equipment, and cover staff time or other expenses associated with continued service delivery during the pandemic. Tonight's Finance Agenda includes recommendations for Non-UCR allocations to current State funded providers to help with program expenses. These Non-UCR allocations follow a similar formula and pattern as the Non-UCR allocations offered earlier in the calendar year.

- **Provider Network COVID-19 Outbreak Status** – Mrs. Whitt reported that NC DHHS maintains a listing of COVID-19 Ongoing Outbreaks in Congregate Living Settings and Sandhills reviews the list routinely specifically looking for network providers with an ongoing COVID-19 outbreak. Since the last update, three (3) residential providers in Sandhills Center's provider network have been identified with an outbreak. One (1) Substance Abuse residential treatment facility was identified with five (5) lab confirmed cases; One (1) Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility with nine (9) confirmed cases; and One (1) IDD residential supports facility identified one (1) confirmed case.

In each of the cases, the provider reported the confirmed COVID-19 cases to Sandhills staff directly, through the State reporting list or through local health departments. The facilities outlined steps they were taking to test, identify and isolate individuals who were positive for COVID-19 as well as take measures to prevent spread of the virus to other members and staff.

C. Comprehensive/Facility Based Crisis (FBC) Centers Update

- **Randolph County Update** – Mrs. Whitt reported that Sandhills Center's legal counsel continues to work with the General Contractor legal counsel on closeout and determination of liquidated damages. Daymark continues the recruitment process. Once all staff are hired, DHSR will start their process for final licensure inspection. Hiring for this program is a priority for Daymark.

- **Richmond County Update** – Mrs. Whitt reported that she has received notification that DHSR Construction has issued their approval. Daymark continues to recruit for staff, who must be in place prior to the final licensure inspection.

- **Guilford County Update** – Mrs. Whitt reported that the Guilford County FBC center is moving along. An updated construction schedule is showing completing by January 21, 2021. The contracted date is January 31, 2021.

Mrs. Whitt noted that Guilford County is constructing a facility nearby that will offer 23-Hour Chairs, Adult Facility Based Crisis beds and Outpatient Services. As some of these services are new to the community service array, Guilford County is considering the best way to ensure a strong start for them and to ensure strong coordination with other community services and providers. Sandhills Center has been asked to think about what management/oversight assistance they may be able to offer in support of that goal and to consider options for structuring that assistance.

D. Robert Porcher Way, Greensboro Renovations (LME/MCO Offices)

Mrs. Whitt gave an update on the renovations of the LME/MCO offices on Robert Porcher Way. She stated that the renovations are going well. The projected completion date is February 15, 2021.

E. West End Corporate Building

Mrs. Whitt reported that at the October Board meeting, permission was granted to have TTF Architects to design a corporate office at the 1100 Seven Lakes Drive location. A meeting was held with TTF Architects on October 29th. Next steps include:

- The Architect will prepare a package of requirements and estimated square footage.
- The Engineer will review requirements for septic tank, run off water, parking and setbacks.
- Will meet during November to review all of the above.
- Plans are to bring sketches and a contract to the January meeting.

F. Sandhills Center Board of Directors Standing Committees

Mrs. Whitt stated that appointment to all the Board Standing Committees – Human Resources, Finance Committee, Corporate Compliance and Internal Audit Committee, and Client Rights Committee – will be at the January Board meeting. She commented that prior to the January meeting, the current Committee Chairperson should poll the current Committee members regarding their interest in remaining on the committee. Also, prior to the January Board meeting, if there are committee vacancies, the Committee Chairperson should solicit interest from other Board members regarding serving on that Committee. Mrs. Whitt stated that in the Board packet, is a list of the standing committees, members of each committee, and any vacancies. In addition to the appointment to the committees, the committees will appoint their own Chairperson at their first official meeting.

G. Medicaid Transformation/Managed Care

Mrs. Whitt discussed the Medicaid Transformation for Standard Plans and the Tailored Plans.

Standard Health Plans

- Medicaid Managed Care Standard Plans will launch July 1, 2021.
- All Medicaid Beneficiaries, including those with mild to moderate behavioral health problems, currently managed by LME/MCOs, will select their plan from one of these contracts.
- Contracts have been awarded to:
 - AmeriHealth Caritas
 - Blue Cross Blue Shield of NC – Healthy Blue
 - UnitedHealthcare
 - WellCare (Centene)
 - Carolina Complete Health Network (a Provider Led Entity co-managed by the NC Medical Society, the NC Community Health Centers Association and Centene). This is a regional contract to operate in Health Plan regions 3, 4, and 5. These regions include all the Sandhills Center counties with the exception of Randolph and Guilford counties

Tailored Health Plans

- Medicaid Tailored Health Plans, which are specialized plans targeted toward populations with significant behavioral health and intellectual and developmental disabilities (BH/I-DD), will launch July 1, 2022.
- Only LME/MCOs will be allowed to apply and must meet certain criteria and undergo a DHHS comprehensive readiness review. No more than seven (7) and no less than five (5) Plans will be selected. Projected timetable:
 - Request for Applications (RFA) to be released Friday, November 13th
 - RFA Responses Due – Week of January 25, 2021
 - May 18, 2021 – Award Date
 - May 18, 2021 – July 1, 2022 Preparation time for LME/MCOs and DHHS

➤ Clinical Services & Operations Report – Anthony Ward, Chief Operating Officer/Deputy Director

Mr. Ward reviewed the following, noting that his reports cover the months of August and September. All benchmarks and measures continue to be met.

- Medicaid Waiver Operations Report – October 2020
- Medicaid Waiver Financial Operations Report – October 2020
- October 2020 Quarterly Community Report – the quarterly report covers additional COVID-19 funding resources allocated, virtual CIT trainings, and extending temporary Medicaid reimbursement rate increases.

➤ Board of Directors Nominating Committee

Vice-Chair Southerland reported that five (5) Board members have volunteered to serve on the Nominating Committee: Gart Evans, Mazie Fleetwood, Priscilla Little, Walter Ferguson, and Commissioner Harry Southerland.

A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk Smith and Commissioner David Allen to 'approve the named Board members to serve on the Nominating Committee: Gart Evans, Mazie Fleetwood, Priscilla Little, Walter Ferguson, and Commissioner Harry Southerland'. Voting yes – Priscilla Little, Commissioner Alan Perdue, Gart Evans, Dr. Walter Salinger, Dr. Alvin Keyes, Commissioner Mark Johnson, Tonya Gray, Commissioner Harry Southerland, Stephany Bonds, Commissioner Kirk Smith, Carol Whitaker, Matthew Rothbeind, Commissioner David Allen, Mazie Fleetwood, and Leann Henkel. The motion passed unanimously.

Vice-Chair Southerland asked if any of the named Board members – Gart Evans, Mazie Fleetwood, Priscilla Little, Walter Ferguson, and Commissioner Harry Southerland – would like to serve as Chairperson of the Nominating Committee. Priscilla Little volunteered.

A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk Smith and Commissioner David Allen to 'approve Priscilla Little as Chairperson of the Nominating Committee'. Voting yes – Priscilla Little, Commissioner Alan Perdue, Gart Evans, Dr. Walter Salinger, Dr. Alvin Keyes, Commissioner Mark Johnson, Tonya Gray, Commissioner Harry Southerland, Stephany Bonds, Commissioner Kirk Smith, Carol Whitaker, Matthew Rothbeind, Commissioner David Allen, Mazie Fleetwood, and Leann Henkel. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Whitt commented that Sherry will get in touch with Ms. Little to arrange a convenient date and time for the Committee to convene. The meeting will be in person, if feasible. The Nominating Committee will bring a slate of officers to the January meeting.

➤ **December Meeting**

After much Board discussions, it was decided to cancel the December meeting and to postpone the dinner until a later date, possible in the spring.

Committee Reports

🌸 **Finance Committee Report** – Committee Chairperson Gart Evans reported the Finance Committee met remotely on Friday, November 6, 2020, and reviewed the Finance Report in detail. Chairperson Evans presented and reviewed the Finance Agenda with the Board of Directors. A review of the Consolidated Balance Sheet and Income Statement reflects services through September 30, 2020.

On behalf of the Finance Committee, a motion was made by Committee Chairperson Gart Evans and seconded by Commissioner Kirk Smith to "approve the Finance Agenda as presented". Voting yes – Priscilla Little, Commissioner Alan Perdue, Gart Evans, Dr. Walter Salinger, Dr. Alvin Keyes, Commissioner Mark Johnson, Tonya Gray, Commissioner Harry Southerland, Stephany Bonds, Commissioner Kirk Smith, Carol Whitaker, Matthew Rothbeind, Commissioner David Allen, Mazie Fleetwood, and Leann Henkel. The motion passed unanimously.

🌸 **Client Rights Report** – Committee Chairperson Carol Whitaker gave the report.

🌸 **Corporate Compliance & Internal Audit Committee** – Did not meet.

🌸 **Human Resources Committee Report** – Human Resources Committee Chairperson Mazie Fleetwood reported that the Human Resources Committee met telephonically Friday, November 6, 2020. Chairperson Fleetwood discussed and reviewed in detail the Stop Loss Vendor Coverage 2021 and the OSHR Substantially Equivalent Monitoring Form 2020.

➤ **Stop Loss Vendor Coverage 2021** – *On behalf of the Human Resources Committee, a recommendation was made by Chairperson Mazie Fleetwood and seconded by Walter Ferguson to approve the following recommendations:*

- *Effective January 1, 2021, move coverage from Tokio Marine – HCC to OPTUM. OPTUM is slightly higher, from an annual premium perspective, but will provide a superior contract and future protection to the organization with the following added provisions:*
 - a. *No new lasers;*
 - b. *A Rate-Cap of 85%; and*
 - c. *Opportunity to receive an Experience Refund.*

Voting yes – Priscilla Little, Commissioner Alan Perdue, Gart Evans, Dr. Walter Salinger, Dr. Alvin Keyes, Commissioner Mark Johnson, Tonya Gray, Commissioner Harry Southerland, Stephany Bonds, Commissioner Kirk Smith, Carol Whitaker, Matthew Rothbeind, Commissioner David Allen, Mazie Fleetwood, and Leann Henkel. The motion passed unanimously.

➤ **OSHR Substantially Equivalent Monitoring Form 2020** – Chairperson Fleetwood presented the OSHR Substantially Equivalent Monitoring Form 2020, noting that no action is required by the Board of Directors. She explained that the form is just a way of affirming that Sandhills Center is in compliance with state and federal requirements, and Sandhills Center policy and procedures. Chairperson Fleetwood commented that this is an ongoing process that Sandhills will need to affirm periodically.

➤ **Committee Members** – Chairperson Fleetwood reported that the HR Committee has a vacancy. If anyone is interested in joining the Committee, please let a Committee member know.

Closed Session

A motion was made by Gart Evans and seconded by Commissioner David Allen to "go into Closed Session, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. 143-318.11(a)(1) in order to prevent the disclosure of competitive health care information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. 122C-126.1, or not considered a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the General Statutes". The motion was approved by general consent and without objection. Voting

yes – Priscilla Little, Commissioner Alan Perdue, Gart Evans, Dr. Walter Salinger, Dr. Alvin Keyes, Commissioner Mark Johnson, Tonya Gray, Commissioner Harry Southerland, Stephany Bonds, Commissioner Kirk Smith, Carol Whitaker, Matthew Rothbeind, Commissioner David Allen, Mazie Fleetwood, and Leann Henkel. The Closed Session began at 7:15 p.m.

Sandhills Center Staff staff in attendance: Chief Executive Officer Victoria Whitt, Chief Operating Officer/Deputy Director Anthony Ward, Chief Legal Officer/Corporate Compliance Officer Evelyn Quick, and Clerk to the Board/Executive Assistant Sherry Bynum.

A motion was made by Gart Evans and seconded by Commissioner Kirk Smith to “reconvene Open Session”. The motion was approved by general consent and without objection. Voting yes – Priscilla Little, Commissioner Alan Perdue, Gart Evans, Dr. Walter Salinger, Dr. Alvin Keyes, Commissioner Mark Johnson, Tonya Gray, Commissioner Harry Southerland, Stephany Bonds, Commissioner Kirk Smith, Carol Whitaker, Matthew Rothbeind, Commissioner David Allen, Mazie Fleetwood, and Leann Henkel. Open Session reconvened at 7:54 p.m.

Old Business

None

Comments

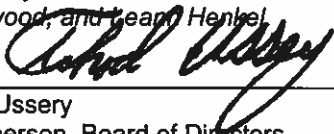
None

Board Materials

- i2i Virtual Pinehurst Conference
- DMA Monthly Financial Report – September 2020
- Quality Management Committee Executive Summary (July – September 2020)
- Human Resources Report
- Newspaper Articles
- Other

Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner David Allen and seconded by Gart Evans to “Adjourn”. The motion was approved by general consent and without objection. Voting yes – Priscilla Little, Commissioner Alan Perdue, Gart Evans, Dr. Walter Salinger, Dr. Alvin Keyes, Commissioner Mark Johnson, Tonya Gray, Commissioner Harry Southerland, Stephany Bonds, Commissioner Kirk Smith, Carol Whitaker, Matthew Rothbeind, Commissioner David Allen, Mazie Fleetwood, and Leann Henkel.



Thad Ussery
Chairperson, Board of Directors

1-12-2021

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 of Directors/Executive Assistant to CEO