



SANDHILLS CENTER

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2022

Members Present:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robert Mims | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Priscilla Little, Secretary |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Karen Watford | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Billy Louya |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trish Baker | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alan Perdue | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Walter Salinger |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Alvin Keyes | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Matt Nicol | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Harry Southerland, Chairperson | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jackie McLean |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kirk Smith | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Walter Ferguson |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mary Hassell | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Catherine Graham | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Matthew Rothbeind |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Allen | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ann Shaw |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Ayers | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Rick Watkins | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Tommy Jarrell |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Richardson | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Keith Duncan |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jan Herring | |

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 type="checkbox"/> Bonita Porter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leonard Covington |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patrick Sloan | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Owen |

Guest: Lisa Jackson, DMH, LME/MCO System Performance Liaison

The Sandhills Center Board of Directors convened for a regular meeting on Tuesday, October 11, 2022. The meeting was held at the Randolph County Government Center, 725 McDowell Road, Asheboro, NC.

Call to Order and Invocation

Chairperson Commissioner Harry Southerland called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner David Allen gave the invocation.

Oath of Office of New Board Member

Richmond County representative, Commissioner Rick Watkins was welcomed and administered the Oath of Office. Commissioner Watkins took the opportunity to provide background information.

Certification of Quorum

Priscilla Little, Secretary, certified a quorum.

Conflict of Interest

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. None noted.

Approval of Agenda

Chairperson Southerland stated that the Agenda would need to be amended to include discussion of the November and December Board meetings. *A motion was made by Keith Duncan and seconded by Commissioner David Allen to "amend, and approve, the Agenda". The motion was approved unanimously.*

Absent Board Members Justifications

Justifications for Board member absences:

- Commissioner Alan Perdue – out of state working. *A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk Smith and seconded by Walter Ferguson to "excuse the absence". The motion was approved unanimously.*

Approval of Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Walter Ferguson and seconded by Commissioner David Allen to "approve the Consent Agenda". The motion was approved unanimously. The following was approved:

- September 13, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
- Quality Management Program Evaluation FY 21 – 22

Public Comments

None

New Business

➤ **Chief Executive Officer's Report – Victoria Whitt, Chief Executive Officer**

Mrs. Whitt welcomed everyone. She reported that Guilford County has appointed James Summey to the Board to fill the slot vacated by Gart Evans. Mrs. Whitt stated that she received an email from Tonya Gray today. Ms. Gray, because of personal and professional reasons, has elected to resign from the Board. Mrs. Whitt will be working with Harnett County on her replacement. Mrs. Whitt will also work with Montgomery County on filling the slot vacated by Carol Whitaker.

Mrs. Whitt provided the following:

A. Construction/Building Projects Updates

Mrs. Whitt gave an update on several construction/building projects:

- **Richmond Child Facility Based Crisis (FBC) Update** – Mrs. Whitt stated with the opening of the Richmond County FBC facility, a couple of issues have arose with the fence around the courtyard and some interior issues. She stated that talks have occurred with the architect who designed the FBC facility in Guilford County. Mrs. Whitt stated that after the preliminary review of the facility, LS3P submitted a fee proposal for Architectural Design Services associated with a proposed new secured courtyard design and interior renovation study at the Richmond County Child Facility Based Crisis Center, for a maximum amount not to exceed \$25,000. Mrs. Whitt explained that the existing outdoor courtyard is not secure for the patients served and does not meet the program requirements for use by the different age groups. The interior of the facility has items that staff would like addressed to provide gender separation for the adolescence patients and greater security of the staff.

Mrs. Whitt reported that N. C. General Statutes § 143-64.31 requires the solicitation and evaluation of firms to perform design services to be based on qualifications on any amount over \$50,000, to be posted for public bid. N. C. General Statutes § 143-64.32 exempts entities from being required to publically bid out a project, if the estimated fee is less than \$50,000.

Mrs. Whitt presented a resolution, for review and approval, allowing Sandhills Center to be exempted from N. C. General Statutes § 143-64.31, allowing Sandhills Center to move forward with LS3P without soliciting for competitive bids and the approval of moving forward with LS3P in the amount of \$25,000. All Architect recommendations will be brought to the Board for review and approval.

After discussion, on behalf of the Finance Committee, a recommendation was made by Commissioner David Allen and seconded by Walter Ferguson to "adopt the resolution presented and approve moving forward with LS3P, in the amount of \$25,000." The recommendation was approved unanimously.

- **Future Seven Lakes/West End Corporate Office Building – 1100 Seven Lakes Drive, West End, NC** – Mrs. Whitt gave an update on the Corporate Office Building in West End, noting the progress that has occurred. Central Builders, the General Contractor, projects a substantial completion date of approximately four (4) months out due to supply shortages and delays, from their nine (9) month projected completion date. Mrs. Whitt stated the project certificate of occupancy date is now March 2, 2023. A meeting is scheduled tomorrow with Central Builders to begin discussion regarding liquidated damages.
- **Asheboro Office Building** – Mrs. Whitt gave an update on the Office Building in Asheboro. Lomax Construction, Inc., the General Contractor, projects a substantial completion date within two (2) weeks of their contract end date of March 1, 2023. Monthly construction meetings continue.

B. Sandhills Center Response to COVID-19 Pandemic

- **Employee COVID-19 Testing** – Mrs. Whitt shared the current statistics of employees COVID-19 testing since the September Board meeting.

C. Behavioral Health/Intellectual Developmental Disabilities Tailored Plan Update

Mrs. Whitt took the opportunity to provide an update on Tailored Plan. On September 29, 2022, DHHS announced the delay the implementation of the Tailored Plan until April 1, 2023. The delay allows the LME/MCOs more time to contract with additional providers to support member choice and to validate the data systems are working appropriately. Leadership of the six (6) LME/MCOs supports the decision.

D. Sandhills Center Nominating Committee/Election of Officers

Mrs. Whitt reported that the Nominating Committee would need to convene to select officers for the 2023 year. She provided the following guidance:

- At the November Board meeting, the Board will elect a Nominating Committee and the Nominating Committee Chairperson.
- The Nominating Committee must consist of five (5) members, no more/no less, inclusive of the Chairperson.
- Anyone interested in serving on the Nominating Committee should let their interest be known to Board Chairperson Southerland before the November meeting.
- If we have less than five (5) volunteers prior to the November board meeting, volunteers will be taken from the floor, prior to election/selection by the Board.
- The Board Chair may not serve on the Nominating Committee; however, any other board member may serve on the Nominating Committee.
- Nothing prohibits the members of the Nominating Committee from consulting the Chair or other members of the Board in making its selection.
- The Nominating Committee is required to convene an in-person meeting, where feasible, to present a slate of nominees for the officer positions (Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary) at the January 2023 regular Board meeting.
- The meeting of the Nominating Committee must provide for active participation and involve all members of the nominating committee.
- Anyone interested in serving as an officer should make their interest known to a member of the Nominating Committee.
- Sherry will help to facilitate the meeting of the Nominating Committee and will take minutes.
- The Nominating Committee must confirm the willingness of the nominees to serve in each role prior to the January Board meeting.
- The Board Chair will call for nominations from the floor for each office at the January meeting.
- The Board will vote to elect each officer by a simple majority of the quorum.
- New officers will be installed at the January Board meeting.
- The terms of each officer shall be for one (1) year or until their successors are elected.
- No officer may serve in any one (1) position for more than two (2) consecutive terms.
- Having served their two (2) consecutive terms, current officers for the year of January 2022 are not eligible for re-nomination and re-election to their current position.

Mrs. Whitt stated if anyone is interested in serving on the Nominating Committee, let Chairperson Southerland know before the November meeting.

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

Mr. Ward took the opportunity to review the following:

- **Medicaid Waiver Operations Report** – September 2022, includes the months of July and August 2022. Mr. Ward called attention to the Blockage Rate. He stated the high Blockage Rate was due to a cut phone line, which kept calls from coming into the Call Center. Mr. Ward commented that the line has since been repaired. He noted that for the month of August, the 10.0% exceeded the 5% threshold of which Sandhills is held accountable.
- **Rate Increase** – Sandhills Center will continue the COVID-19 rate enhancements that have been in place since April 2020, permanently going forward. Mr. Ward reported that due to various COVID variants,

providers need to continue to have enhanced staffing and protective equipment. Positive responses have been received.

- **Medicaid Waiver Financial Operations Report** – September 2022, noting the financial measures that Sandhills is required to meet.
- **External Quality Review** – Mr. Ward reported on the recent External Quality Review conducted by CCME (Carolina Center for Medical Excellence) on behalf of NC Medicaid. He stated that Sandhills did well and that this is the second year in a row where Sandhills did not have a corrective action plan, only a few recommendations/best practices.

➤ **November Board Meeting**

Mrs. Whitt took the opportunity to discuss the November Board meeting, scheduled for November 8th, Election Day. She noted that several Board members are running for election or involved with the election and feels that there may not be a quorum present to approve items, including the financial audit. After discussion, it was decided to move the meeting to another date and that Sherry would poll the Board members on their availability. Chairperson Southerland stated that absences would be excused if the date selected were not a convenient date.

➤ **December Board Meeting**

Mrs. Whitt took the opportunity to discuss the December Board meeting. *After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mike Ayers and seconded by Walter Ferguson to "cancel the official business meeting of the Board scheduled for December 13, 2022, and to hold an informal social gathering at a place to be determined in its place". The motion was approved unanimously.*

Committee Reports

- **Appointments** – Chairperson Southerland appointed Ann Shaw to the Human Resources Committee and Commissioner Matt Nicol to the Finance Committee.

- **Finance Committee Report** – Commissioner David Allen reported the Finance Committee met prior to tonight's Board of Directors Meeting, reviewing the construction project updates and the Consolidated Balance Sheet and Income Statement – August 31, 2022.

On behalf of the Finance Committee, a motion was made by Committee David Allen and seconded by Commissioner Robert Mims to "approve the Consolidated Balance Sheet and Income Statement for August 31, 2022, as presented". The motion passed unanimously.

- **Consumer Family and Advisory Committee** – Committee Chairperson Mike Ayers gave the report. Jackie McLean commented on the Tailored Plan readiness presentation from their September meeting. Chairperson Southerland recommended that with all the new members on the Board, a Tailored Plan presentation to the Board of Directors would be beneficial.

- **Human Resources Committee Report** – Did not meet.

- **Compliance/Regulatory Committee** – Did not meet.

- **Client Rights Committee Report** – Did not meet.

Old Business

None

Comments

Commissioner Kirk Smith reported on the Crisis Intervention Team training held in Lee County.

Chairperson Southerland read a thank you note from Thad Ussery expressing his appreciation of the gift he received and of the wonderful comments made to him at the September meeting.

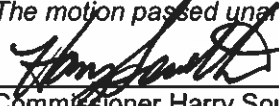
Board Materials

- i2i Center of Integrative Health Annual Conference, Pinehurst, December 7 – 9, 2022
- Community Agencies Breakfast Meetings Agenda
- DMA Monthly Financial Report – August 2022

- Human Resources Report
- Newspaper Articles

Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner David Allen and seconded by Walter Ferguson to "Adjourn the meeting". The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned 7:50 p.m.



Commissioner Harry Southerland
Chairperson, Board of Directors

11-10-2022
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