



SANDHILLS CENTER

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2023

Members Present:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robert Mims | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Priscilla Little, Vice-Chairperson |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Karen Watford, Secretary | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Billy Louya |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trish Baker | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alan Perdue | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Walter Salinger |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Alvin Keyes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. James Summey |
| <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"/> Sharon Reynolds |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nick Picerno | <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 type="checkbox"/> Dr. Tommy Jarrell |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Richardson | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Keith Duncan |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jan Herring | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Morris |

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"/> 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, April 11, 2023. 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.

Certification of Quorum

Clerk to the Board, Sherry Bynum, 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

A motion was made by Commissioner Alan Perdue and seconded by Mike Ayers to "approve the Agenda." The motion carried unanimously.

Absent Board Members Justifications

Justifications for Board member absences:

- Commissioner Karen Watford – vacation
- Dr. Tommy Jarrell – vacation

A motion was made by Commissioner Nick Picerno and seconded by Jackie McLean to "excuse the absences." The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Commissioner Mark Richardson and seconded by Matthew Rothbeind to "approve the Consent Agenda." The motion carried unanimously. The following was approved:

- 📌 March 14, 2023, Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
- 📌 Policy Revisions

Public Comments

George Reynolds requested to speak. He thanked Mrs. Whitt for all she has done for the families and communities during her tenure with Sandhills Center. He expressed his thoughts on the next CEO for Sandhills Center.

New Business

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

Mrs. Whitt provided the following:

A. FY 22 – 23 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 22 – 23 Operating Budget. She noted much of the decrease of the budget is related to the Tailored Plan delay.

On behalf of the Finance Committee, a motion was made by Finance Committee Chairperson David Allen and seconded by Commissioner Mark Richardson to "adopt the FY 22 – 23 Operating Budget Amendments as presented." The motion passed unanimously.

B. FY 23 – 24 County General Budget Request

Mrs. Whitt reported that the county budget request and program updates to the County Commissioners will begin next week.

C. Construction/Building Projects Updates

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

- 📌 **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. Staff have moved into the new building. A few punch list items remain. Items identified as incomplete must be completed prior to reinspection and certification of the final pay application.
- 📌 **Asheboro Office Building** – Mrs. Whitt gave an update on the Office Building in Asheboro. She reported that the Electrical MDP panel, which was delayed causing the project to be put on hold, has now come in. The decision was made for Lomax Construction, Inc. to continue with the plans for renovations at the Richmond County FBC Center project, which started today. Once that project is completed, Lomax Construction will come back to the Asheboro Office Building to complete that project. It is expected that final inspections will happen in the last half of June.
- 📌 **Richmond County Child Facility Based Crisis Center (FBC) Update** – Mrs. Whitt gave an update on the renovations of the courtyard, noting that work began today.
 - The new design seeks to address the following areas:
 - The height and materials of the courtyard fence.
 - Expansion of courtyard.
 - Surface area would be combination of grass, concrete and synthetic materials allowing for more recreational activity options.
 - Courtyard facing windows and access door to be replaced with security/safety windows.

Commissioner David Allen took the opportunity to provide updates on the projects.

Mrs. Whitt reported that closing on the two (2) West End Office buildings is moving forward.

D. DHHS/2023 NC General Assembly Updates

2023 NC General Assembly

- **Medicaid Expansion** – Mrs. Whitt provided the update.
 - House Bill 76, a bill to expand Medicaid in North Carolina, received final approval from the North Carolina House of Representatives on March 23, following approval by the Senate. The bill then went to Governor Cooper who signed it into law on March 27. Implementation is conditional on the state passing a new budget. With the adoption of the expansion, North Carolina would see an increase of Medicaid recipients.

NC DHHS Update

- **Medicaid Transitions in April 2023** – Mrs. Whitt asked Mr. Ward to provide the update.
 - On April 1, DHHS transitioned Medicaid Direct to management of the LME/MCOs.
 - April 1 marks the launch of Jiva for the Utilization Management system.
 - A Command Center was established to help identify any risks, barriers, and challenges associated with the auto assignment of Tailored Care Management members to the LME/MCOs.
 - Continue outreach to the large hospital systems.
 - Continue to work on claims processing.

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

Mr. Ward took the opportunity to review the following:

- **Medicaid Waiver Operations Report** – March 2023, noting that all benchmarks continue to be met.
- **Medicaid Waiver Financial Operations Report** – March 2023, noting the financial measures that Sandhills is required to meet.

Committee Reports

- **Board of Directors Standing Committees** – Standing Committee list was included in the packet.

- **Finance Committee Report** – Finance Committee Chairperson, Commissioner David Allen reported the Finance Committee met prior to tonight's Board of Directors Meeting. Committee Chairperson Allen reviewed the February 28, 2023, Consolidated Balance Sheet and Income Statement, and the Capital Project Ordinance for the construction project of the courtyard located at the Richmond County FBC Center.

On behalf of the Finance Committee, a recommendation was made by Committee Chairperson Commissioner David Allen and seconded by Commissioner Priscilla Little to "approve the Finance Report, which includes the Capital Project Ordinance for the courtyard at the Richmond County FBC Center, as presented." The motion carried unanimously.

- **Compliance/Regulatory Committee** – Compliance/Regulatory Committee Chairperson, Commissioner Mark Richardson reported the Compliance/Regulatory Committee met prior to tonight's Board of Directors Meeting, and reviewed the following:

- Regulatory updates provided by Mrs. Whitt.
- Tailored Plan and Medicaid Direct updates provided by Bonita Porter, Chief Compliance Officer.
- The Sandhills Center By-Laws. Chairperson Richardson reported that the Committee is recommending a review of the By-Laws. A copy was included in the packet and any recommendations should be sent to Evelyn Quick or Sherry Bynum. *On behalf of the Compliance/Regulatory Committee, a motion was made by Committee Chairperson Mark Richardson and seconded by Matthew Rothbeind to "approve the recommendation to revise the Sandhills Center By-Laws." The motion carried unanimously.*
- The Tailored Plan Compliance Plan has been adjusted to address Medicaid Direct. Chairperson Richardson reported that the Committee is recommending approval of the Tailored Plan Compliance Plan. *On behalf of the Compliance/Regulatory Committee, a motion was made by Committee Chairperson Mark and seconded by Matthew Rothbeind to "approve the Tailored Plan Compliance Plan." The motion carried unanimously.*
- The FY 22 – 23 Compliance/Regulatory Projects were reviewed.

Committee Chairperson, Commissioner Mark Richardson commended the staff for the extraordinary work that has been accomplished with the Tailored Plan.

- 🦋 **Consumer Family and Advisory Committee (CFAC)** – Consumer Family and Advisory Committee representative Mike Ayers, gave the quarterly report. He stated that there are still some counties that are not represented in CFAC. He expressed his concerns on the Tailored Plan application.
- 🦋 **Client Rights Committee Report** – Committee did not meet.
- 🦋 **Human Resources Committee Report** – In the absence of Chairperson Dr. Tommy Jarrell, Committee member Commissioner Kirk Smith reported that the Human Resources Committee met prior to tonight's Board of Directors Meeting. He reported that the Committee did not discuss item #4 on the agenda, the CEO Salary Analysis/Comparison/Recommendations.

Closed Session – N.C. General Statute § 143-318.11(a)(1) & (6)

Chairperson Southerland stated that the Board would need to go into Closed Session to discuss a few items. A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk Smith and seconded by Walter Ferguson "that the Board go into closed session pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes sections 143-318.11(a)(1) & (6) to consider the performance and conditions of appointment of the Chief Executive Officer and confidential information under section 122C-126.1 of the General Statutes." The motion passed unanimously. Closed Session began at 7:42 p.m.

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

A motion was made by Commissioner David Allen and seconded Commissioner Kirk Smith to "reconvene open session." The motion passed unanimously. Open Session resumed at 9:25 p.m.

A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk Smith and seconded by Walter Ferguson to "appoint Anthony Ward as CEO at the end of Mrs. Whitt's incumbency, effective July 1, 2023." The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk Smith and seconded by Walter Ferguson "to compensate Mr. Ward with an annual salary of \$357,665, with adjustments in the future, effective July 1, 2023." After discussion and upon vote, Board members present approved the motion, with Commissioner Nick Picerno voting against. By majority vote, the motion passed.

Old Business

None

Comments

Commissioner Kirk Smith reported on a one-day advanced CIT (Crisis Intervention Team) training that was held in Lee County recently. Training topics included working with Veterans/Active-Duty Military PTSD and suicide prevention.

Board Materials

- 🦋 Community Agencies Breakfast Meetings Agenda
- 🦋 DMA Monthly Financial Report – February 2023
- 🦋 Human Resources Report
- 🦋 Newspaper Articles

Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Alan Perdue and seconded by Commissioner David Allen to "Adjourn the meeting." The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned 9:29 p.m.



Commissioner Harry Southerland
Chairperson, Board of Directors

5-9-2023

Date