

**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SERVICES**  
**August 6, 2014**  
**Conway Human Development Center**  
**Conway, Arkansas**

A regular meeting of the Board of Developmental Disabilities Services (DDS) was held on August 6, 2014 at the Conway Human Development Center in Conway, Arkansas. The meeting convened at 1:45 p.m. pursuant to the call of the Vice Board Chair.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. David Rosegrant, Ms. Artie Jones, Ms. Suzann McCommon, Ms. Sally Hardin, Mr. Darrell Pickney and Mr. Randy Laverty. Dr. Linda Selman participated by telephone.

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Charlie Green, Mr. Jeff Gonyea, Ms. Linda Scales, Mr. Calvin Price, Mr. Forrest Steele, Mr. Steve Farmer, Ms. Tammy Benbrook, Mr. Dale Woodall, Mr. Brooks Reese, Ms. Sarah Murphy, Ms. Rhonda Thompson, Mr. Brad Rogers, Ms. Lisa Hancock, Ms. Angela Green, Ms. Katherine Marsdan, Ms. Kathy Guffey, Mr. Jim Brader and Ms. Jennifer Evans.

OTHERS PRESENT: Ms. Jan Fortney, Ms. Rita Hoover, Ms. Deborah Rainwater, Mr. Paul Rainwater, Ms. Carole Sherman, Ms. Annette Matthews, Ms. Patricia Lee, Ms. Elissa Douglas, Ms. Jackie Fliss, Mr. Christian Adcock from Disability Rights Center and Mr. Brandon Robinson, Attorney General's Office.

Mr. David Rosegrant, Board Chair presiding, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.

Mr. Rosegrant called for a motion to approve the minutes from the May 7, 2014 regular meeting of the DDS Board.

Ms. Suzann McCommon made a motion that the minutes from the May 7, 2014 regular meeting of the Board of DDS be approved. Ms. Artie Jones seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mr. David Rosegrant, Board Chair, invited consumers, advocates and guests to address the Board.

Ms. Rita Hoover, parent of a Conway HDC resident, addressed the Board and asked if the Board would consider moving the consumers, advocates, parents and guests concerns and comments to the end of the meeting after they have heard all the DDS reports. After some discussion by the board, the chairman agreed to move this item to the end of the agenda for this meeting. DDS staff offered, and was subsequently asked, to send board members a copy of the board policy that addresses parent and consumer input.

Ms. Suzann McCommon presented the report for the Administrative Services Committee and stated the Subcommittee had one item for recommendation to the Board for action. Ms. McCommon stated it was recommended the DDS Board accept the estate gift from a Conway HDC residents' family via a probate court action in another state. Motion carried.

Ms. Sally Hardin presented the report for the Physical Plant Subcommittee and stated the subcommittee had two items for recommendation to the Board for action. The first item was a recommendation for Arkansas Oklahoma Gas to receive a 4000 ft. easement to install natural gas lines on the leased USDA property that runs through BHDC grounds. Motion carried.

The second item was a recommendation that the DDS Board accept new terms of the USDA lease agreement between USDA and Booneville HDC updating the time frame from 2014-2034, a total of twenty years. Motion carried.

Mr. Calvin Price, Superintendent at Conway HDC, presented the report for the human development centers (HDCs) and reminded the Board that monthly reports for the HDCs were included in the Board packets. Mr. Price presented items of interest about each HDC along with recent survey results provided to him by each Superintendent.

At the conclusion of Mr. Price's report, Ms. Carole Sherman thanked the Superintendents and HDC employees for their hard work and the services they provide to the family's loved ones.

Dr. Green requested that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue. The board entered into the executive session at 2:05 p.m. and returned at 2:25 p.m. to resume the meeting.

David Rosegrant called for a motion that the DDS Board acknowledge the appointment of Mr. Forrest Steele as the new Superintendent at Jonesboro Human Development Center. Mr. Darrell Pickney made a motion and Suzann McCommon seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Mr. Steele was welcomed by the Board.

Dr. Green began his report by recognizing and extending appreciation to the Board for their continued service and thanked Calvin Price and Conway HDC for hosting the DDS Board Meeting.

Dr. Charlie Green presented the Division Director's report by discussing DDS' operational budget, preliminary budget data and upcoming requests, physical plant needs for the HDCs, procedural events of prioritizing items for consideration and past occurrences of budget review during a transition year. Dr. Green assured Board members that as soon as the draft of capital projects is available, it will be sent out to them for review.

Mr. Darrell Pickney reminded all of his displeasure about the handling of the 2013 capital request as well as his wish to be provided with information throughout the process this year. Mr. Pickney also stated his concerns that the ABA Facility Assessment would not be concluded until 2015 when some of the problems have already been identified that we need to address and add to the current capital request.

Mr. Randy Laverty provided all with his historical perspective of the budget request process as both a member of the legislature and as a state employee.

Mr. Pickney reminded the Board again that he had met with Department of Human Services Director John Selig and expressed his displeasure in last year's process. Mr. Pickney was assured by Dr. Green that board members would be provided with information pertaining to the division's budget request and that Booneville HDC remained a high priority.

Mr. Pickney had the following other concerns that he would like be reviewed: the decline of licensed capacity numbers in the HDCs, why a budget request was not made to acquire more staff, social workers in the HDCs relaying information to families of clients being placed or made to think they need to be placed in a "least restrictive environment".

Ms. Jan Fortney, parent of a Conway HDC resident, addressed the Board with a request that someone from the DDS/HDC locations keep data of the daily calls requesting HDC services. This could be any services, such as respite, new admission, transfer, etc. Ms. Fortney said this information would be beneficial to the HDCs, DDS board and the HDC Task Force.

Mr. Paul Rainwater, parent of a HDC resident, addressed the Board and wanted to know the reasoning or explanation of the statements being made across the country against facility placement or the national trend against the HDC placements. Mr. Randy Laverty explained the mid-80s lawsuits and the beginning of the Olmstead Act and how the Justice Department became involved in the rights of disabled Americans. Mr. Rosegrant also spoke to ease Mr. Rainwater's concerns to remind him that Arkansas had fought the Justice Department and won and that the board has no intentions of closing the human development centers.

Ms. Carole Sherman, parent of a HDC resident at ARHDC, reported that she received a notice from the Public Health Committee regarding a meeting coming up on August 21<sup>st</sup> of the new proposed Community First Choice Option plan. Mrs. Sherman gave a copy of her concerns/questions, titled "Statement of Carole L. Sherman, in response to notice of House & Senate Health Services Committee", (Attachment 1:1) Ms. Sherman presented informative data to the Board regarding the different federal programs associated with accepting some of the new proposed agendas. She expressed her concerns again regarding programs of federal grants such as Money Follows the Person (MFP) and Balancing Improvement Payment Plan (BIPP).

Ms. Rita Hoover, parent of a Conway HDC resident, thanked Ms. Sherman for all her thorough study of issues regarding services to people with developmental disabilities throughout Arkansas and the United States. Board Chair David Rosegrant and other members of the board also expressed their gratitude toward Ms. Sherman on keeping them informed and abreast of the key areas.

Ms. Hoover also gave a story of a friend that works for the Forestry Department that had relayed information to her that we don't have enough money to honor the budget requests in our human development centers but in their department, a half million dollars were used by Arkansas government to track turkeys. Ms. Hoover stated that she thought this was totally unacceptable.

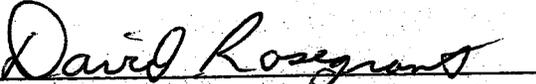
Ms. McCommon reminded the Board that we all have a responsibility to contact our local legislators on our requests and beliefs.

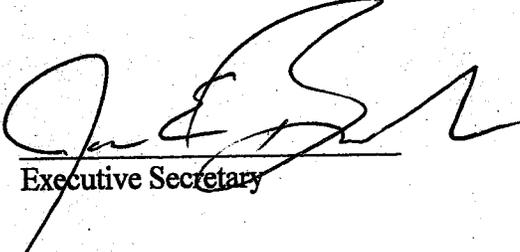
Dr. Green addressed concerns from the consumers and offered again to Ms. Sherman that he would be glad to meet with the parents group or other groups to discuss pending questions and concerns.

Mr. David Rosegrant called for a motion the meeting be adjourned. Randy Laverty made a motion the meeting be adjourned. Suzann McCommon seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

ATTEST:

  
Mr. David Rosegrant, Chair  
Board of Developmental Disabilities Services

  
Executive Secretary

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
CALLED BOARD MEETING OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SERVICES  
OCTOBER 21, 2014  
1:00 P.M.**

**By phone or DDS Conference Room, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Donaghey Plaza North  
108 E. 7<sup>th</sup>, Little Rock, AR 72201**

An emergency called board meeting of the Board of Developmental Disabilities Services (DDS) was held on October 21, 2014 by phone conference originating in the DDS Conference Room, 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the Donaghey Plaza North, 108 E. 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Little Rock, AR 72201 at 1:00 p.m. by phone in participation. The meeting was scheduled to begin at 1:00, but Board Chair David Rosegrant allowed a few minutes before commencing the meeting to permit interested parties to call in to the teleconference.

Board Chair David Rosegrant, Interim Director Jim Brader and Tammy Benbrook were present in the DDS Conference Room. Attending by telephone were board members Ms. Artie Jones, Ms. Suzann McCommon, Ms. Sally Hardin, Mr. Randy Laverty and Dr. Linda Selman. Attorney Eddie Martin, representing Coulson Oil Company also participated by phone.

Mr. David Rosegrant, Board Chair presiding, called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance.

Mr. Rosegrant referred the meeting to Jim Brader to give a description of the land on the CHDC campus that is the subject of a long term lease. Mr. Brader explained that the land at issue is the subject of a long term lease with Coulson Oil Company. Coulson is currently razing two gas stations and building one in their place on the property, and the City of Conway is replatting some of the sections in the subject property. The city told Coulson to cease construction until they obtained the approval and signature of the DDS Board on the new platting.

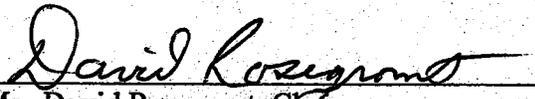
Mr. Brader further stated that the Arkansas Building Authority had been consulted on the issue and, following their review of the current and proposed platting for the property, did not see any problems with approving it.

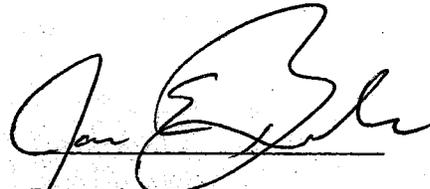
After discussion of Mr. Brader's information from the board members, Mr. Martin was given an opportunity to answer questions and to clarify any misinformation regarding the lease and proposed plat changes.

Ms. Suzann McCommon made a motion that the board approve the replatting of the property and Ms. Artie Jones seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

ATTEST:

  
Mr.. David Rosegrant, Chair  
Board of Developmental Disabilities Services

  
Executive Secretary