A regular meeting of the Board of Developmental Disabilities Services (DDS) was held on May 11, 2006 at the Alexander Human Development Center (AHDC) in Alexander, Arkansas. The meeting convened at 10:30 a.m. pursuant to the call of the Board Chair.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Wesley Kluck, Mr. Thomas Dolislager, Mr. Luke Heffley, Mr. Randy Lann, Ms. Suzann McCommon, Ms. Kay Barnes and Dr. Larry Davis.

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Charlie Green, Ms. Shelley Lee, Mr. Forrest Steele, Ms. Nancy Craft, Ms. Margo Green, Ms. Judy Adams, Mr. Calvin Price, Ms. Betty Schwartz, Ms. Tammy Benbrook, Mr. John Rhodes, Ms. Marilyn Junyor, Ms. Susan Watkins, Ms. Lynn Beck, Ms. Traci Harris, Mr. James Helton, Mr. Dale Woodall, Ms. Deborah Tenner and Ms. Donna Madden.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. Parnell Allbritton; Ms. Brenda Green; Mr. Jim Schenebeck; Dr. Grover Evans; Ms. Jackie Fliss; Ms. Ann West; Mr. Bobby Thomas and Mr. Turner James, Merrill Lynch; and Ms. Lori Freno, Arkansas Attorney General’s Office.

Dr. Wesley Kluck, Board Chair, called the meeting to order.

Dr. Kluck thanked everyone attending the meeting for their attendance, and he introduced and welcomed the new Board member Dr. Larry Davis.

Dr. Kluck called for a motion on the minutes from the February 9, 2006 regular meeting of the Board of DDS.

Ms. Suzann McCommon made a motion the minutes from the February 9, 2006 regular meeting of the Board of DDS be approved. Mr. Thomas Dolislager seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Kluck invited anyone attending the meeting who wanted to address the Board to do so; no one addressed the Board at this time.

Ms. McCommon provided the report for the Physical Management Subcommittee and began by stating the Subcommittee had met before the Board meeting and one item needing Board action had been discussed; stated the item was a request for the use of an additional 300 feet of Booneville Human Development Center (BHDC) land for a pipeline which the Board had approved at a previous Board meeting. Ms. McCommon explained that the company requesting the use of the land had miscalculated on the footage for the pipeline in the earlier request approved by the Board. Ms. McCommon stated the Subcommittee’s recommendation to approve
the request for the additional 300 feet. Dr. Kluck noted a second on the motion was not needed because the motion (recommendation) resulted from action taken at the Board’s Subcommittee meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Randy Lann provided the report for the Administrative Services Subcommittee and began his report by welcoming Dr. Davis to the Board. Mr. Lann stated the Subcommittee had met on May 20, 2006 as decided by the Board at the previous Board meeting and had representatives from two stock companies provide oral presentations to the Subcommittee on written proposals they had submitted on handling stock for the Board. Mr. Lann stated the Subcommittee’s recommendation was to have the Merrill Lynch firm handle the stock. Mr. Lann recognized and introduced two Merrill Lynch representatives attending the meeting. Following discussion on the stock, including handling and/or liquidation and the broker fee, the motion on the Subcommittee’s recommendation regarding the stock was stated by Mr. Lann: Merrill Lynch firm represent the Board and present the Administrative Services Subcommittee with recommendations on the “next steps”. The broker fee would be paid from stock sales proceeds. Motion passed unanimously.

In response to questioning on the time frame the Board could expect to be notified of the “next steps” to be considered by the Subcommittee, Merrill Lynch representatives stated thirty to ninety days. Ms. McCommon commended Mr. Lann on his diligent work and thanked him for everything he had done with regard to stock.

Ms. Nancy Craft, Alexander HDC Superintendent, presented the report for the human development centers and began the report by welcoming everyone attending the meeting to the Alexander Center, and she provided a couple of items of interest about the Alexander facility: the Center’s annual Springfest had been held the Saturday before the Board meeting and Center staff are preparing for the Center’s upcoming CARF (The Rehabilitation Accreditation Commission) survey. Ms. Craft invited the other Superintendents to comment on items of interest about their facilities. Mr. Forrest Steele, Jonesboro HDC Superintendent, noted that information on the Jonesboro Center was included in the monthly activity reports in the Board packet, and he mentioned the Center’s Volunteer Council’s fund raising efforts to beautify the campus with trees, shrubs, and flowers and commented on the beautification efforts of the Council also providing Center residents an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the planting and upkeep of the various items planted. Ms. Margo Green, Arkadelphia HDC Superintendent, noted her Center’s activities were included in the Board packet and she mentioned the Center’s fun day was being held Friday, May 12; Volunteer Council and Chamber of Commerce were holding a golf tournament on May 19 and commented there were slots open for anyone interested in entering the tournament. Ms. Shelley Lee, Booneville HDC Superintendent, commented on the gas line easement the Board had approved to be placed on BHDC land, including trees had been pushed over during the digging of the line, the Center’s Volunteer Council acquired $2000 from the sale of the trees that had been pushed over during the digging, and the Council was using the $2000 to fund a pilot project to determine if a $25 referral bonus would impact direct care recruitment and retention. Ms. Judy Adams, Southeast Arkansas HDC, stated the Center had held its 10th annual “Open Horizons” Conference at the University of Arkansas at Monticello on May 4 and 5. Mr. Calvin Price, Conway HDC
Superintendent, stated the Office of Long Term Care was presently conducting an annual review at the Center; repairs were being made to the gym and other areas affected by the recent storm; DEXA machine that measures bone density had been installed at the Center, is up and running and will be used for the Center residents, with future usage plans including all the HDCs; summer camps, which residents and staff look forward to, has begun for the Center’s five development teams and the camps will run for one week consecutively throughout the early summer, with activities including cook outs, swimming parties, volleyball, movies, etc.; extended an invitation to anyone wanting to attend the Center’s Independence Day celebration being held June 30, which would include food, fireworks and lots of fun.

Dr. Charlie Green provided the Division Director’s report. Dr. Green thanked Ms. Craft and the Alexander HDC staff for hosting the Board meeting and commented that the Alexander staff are always excellent hosts. Dr. Green commented on the hard work and great job the Southeast Arkansas HDC staff did on the “Open Horizons” Conference. He welcomed Dr. Davis to the Board and noted how much the Superintendents would like to have him visit each of their centers. Dr. Green thanked the statewide HDC parent group for all the good things the organization is doing and for good things being planned. Dr. Green commented that the Superintendents had spent the day before the Board meeting working on next year’s budget for the centers and would be meeting again after the Board meeting. Dr. Green stated he would be glad to answer any questions the Board might have; no questions were asked.

Dr. Davis offered a few comments on his reasons for wanting to serve on the Board, including his desire to be a part of the worthwhile important purpose of the Board, and he expressed his appreciation for all the good that is done by DDS.

Dr. Kluck announced the next Board meeting would be held at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, August 3, 2006, at Hendrix College in conjunction with the Conway Center’s “Beyond the Borders” conference.

Dr. Kluck thanked the Merrill Lynch representatives for attending the meeting.

Mr. Lann made a motion the meeting adjourn. Ms. Barnes seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

ATTEST:

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Executive Secretary

Dr. Wesley Kluck, Board Chair
Board of Developmental Disabilities Services