

MINUTES OF MEEETING
BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SERVICES
February 2, 2011
Conway Human Development Center
Conway, Arkansas

A regular meeting of the Board of Developmental Disabilities Services (DDS) was held on February 2, 2011 at the Conway Human Development Center (CHDC) in Conway, Arkansas. The meeting convened at 2:30 p.m. pursuant to the call of the Board Chair.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Suzann McCommon, Mr. Ron Carmack, Ms. Sally Hardin, Mr. David Rosegrant, Dr. Linda Selman and Mr. Arch Jones.

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Charlie Green, Ms. Margo Green, Mr. Forrest Steele, Mr. Jeff Gonyea, Ms. Judy Adams, Mr. Calvin Price, Mr. Matt McCue, Mr. Jim Brader, Ms. Marilyn Junyor, Ms. Linda Henderson, Ms. Angela Green, Ms. Sandra Gardner, Ms. Sarah Murphy, Mr. B. F. Franklin, Ms. Kathy Guffey, Ms. Linda Reynolds, Ms. Tamara Hill, Mr. Kim A. Leach, Mr. Larry Brewer, Ms. Becky Brewer, Ms. Jennifer Ethridge, Mr. Dale Woodall, and Ms. Gail Miller,

OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. Mike McCreight,; Mr. Dusty Maxwell; Ms. Brandy R. Marks; Ms. Janie Huddleston, Ms. Julie Munsell; Ms. Rita Hoover; Ms. Regina Wilson; Ms. Jan Fortney; Ms. Annette Matthews; Mr. Larry Taylor; Mr. Lamar Richmond; Ms. Amy Ford, Attorney General's Office; and Ms. Amy Upshaw, Arkansas Democrat/Gazette.

Ms. Suzann McCommon, Board Chair, called the meeting to order.

Ms. McCommon called for a motion on the minutes from the November 3, 2010 regular meeting of the Board of DDS.

Mr. Ron Carmack made a motion the minutes from the November 3, 2010 regular meeting of the Board of DDS be approved. Ms. Sally Hardin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. McCommon invited consumers/advocates/guests to address the Board with any comments or issues. Mike McCreight with Pathfinders, Inc. announced Pathfinders has been working cooperatively with the Alexander Human Development Center (AIHDC) in transitioning clients to the Pathfinder program. He expressed his appreciation to Dr. Charlie Green, Mr. Matt McCue, Mr. Dale Woodall, Mr. Jim Brader and others in the DDS system for their support and assistance with the transition. Mr. McCreight provided information on residences for the clients being transitioned to the Pathfinder program and expressed his hope that in the near future anyone wanting to visit the residences would have the opportunity to do so. Ms. McCommon thanked Mr. McCreight for the information he had shared; commented on the Board members being concerned about placement for the clients residing at the Alexander center and stated how glad she was that Pathfinder was partnering to help provide the care needed by the clients.

Ms. Sally Hardin presented the report for the Physical Management Subcommittee. Ms. Hardin presented three recommendations needing Board action.

Ms. Hardin stated the first recommendation and motion from the Subcommittee was to renew a lease held by the Arkansas Forestry Commission on Jonesboro HDC (JHDC) land. Ms. Hardin noted no changes were being made to the lease; the recommendation was only for a five year renewal. Motion was seconded by Mr. Carmack and passed unanimously.

The second recommendation and motion from the Subcommittee was for approval of an easement for electric and gas lines to the Jones Apartments on the Booneville HDC (BHDC) campus. Ms. Hardin explained the easement would run right inside the gate entrance to the campus; separate meters would be installed for the apartments; and she noted there had not been an easement in the past. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

The third recommendation and motion from the Subcommittee was to allow the DDS Commissioner to explore options to sell, lease or otherwise use the Alexander HDC (AIHDC) property in such a manner to allow for the most benefit to Arkansans who have developmental/intellectual disabilities. Dr. Green clarified this motion would only allow the Commissioner to explore the options available. He further stated nothing would be undone that was already in place such as the Circle Drive lease. The motion was seconded by Mr. Arch Jones and passed unanimously.

Mr. Carmack presented the report for the Administrative Services Subcommittee.

Mr. Carmack stated the Administrative Services Subcommittee's first recommendation and motion was for the Board to approve authorizing expenditures of an additional \$1.2 million from the DDS Gifts and Bequests Fund to pay the York Legal Group for the Group's representation with the lawsuit initiated by the Department of Justice. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hardin and passed unanimously.

Mr. Carmack stated the Subcommittee's second recommendation and motion was for the Board to approve the proposed "DDS Plan for Systems Change" that outlines the priorities and direction of DDS and to reaffirm that Numbers 1 and 2 of the "Plan" are and always have been the Board's highest priority. The motion was seconded by Mr. David Rosegrant and passed unanimously.

Mr. Calvin Price, CHDC Superintendent, presented the report for the human development centers. Mr. Price welcomed Board members and visitors attending the Board meeting and stated CHDC is always glad to host the Board meetings. He recognized CHDC staff attending the meeting. Mr. Price noted that the HDCs' monthly reports were included in the Board packet and he included in his report items of interest about each HDC as provided to him by each Superintendent.

Mr. Carmack expressed his appreciation to the Alexander Human Development Center and the DDS Director/Commissioner for taking the time to find accommodations for the clients from Alexander properly. Mr. Carmack stated that it is paramount that the clients and their families come first. Mr. Matt McCue reported that all transitions from Alexander HDC have been successful and the center staff have provided post transition follow-up visits at 7, 45 and 90 days

with 180 day visits to be completed soon. Mr. McCue stated no problems have been noted and no clients have had to return due to an unsuccessful transition. He also noted that offers of assistance to providers by Alexander HDC staff have been extended but have not been required at this point.

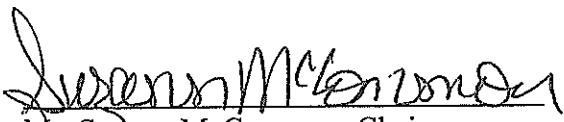
Dr. Charlie Green presented the Division Director's report. Dr. Green began his report with a "thank you" to CHDC staff for again hosting the Board meeting. Dr. Green recognized and thanked Mr. McCue for his assistance helping DDS with the closure of the Alexander HDC; expressed appreciation to Ms. McCue for his expertise with a difficult job; and commented on Mr. McCue's establishing a good rapport with the clients and their families. Dr. Green recognized Judy Adams and the Southeast Arkansas Human Development Center (SEAHDC) for taking several clients from the Alexander center and embracing them and making them feel at home in their new location. Dr. Green commented that all the Superintendents have been flexible and working together to provide services for clients and the Superintendents are a great "team" to work with. Dr. Green recognized Janie Huddleston, DHS Deputy Director, and Ms. Julie Munsell, DHS Communications Director, for their assistance in negotiating obstacles and always providing guidance to the HDC's and DDS Board members. Dr. Green expressed his appreciation to the DDS Board members for their support of DDS business and for being so involved and caring with the individuals DDS serves. Dr. Green provided an update on the Department of Justice lawsuits and expressed his appreciation to the attorneys for their efforts and accomplishments with the lawsuits.

Mr. Jim Brader, Attorney and DDS' Assistant Director for Compliance, provided information on the status of the DOJ's lawsuit and trial involving the Conway center to include the following: the York Legal Group had conveyed to him appreciation to the DDS Board and the State of Arkansas for their efforts with the trial; commented on briefs, responses, transcripts and exhibits that had been involved with the trial; noted a decision possibly being rendered shortly after spring since the Judge had stated he would try to render a decision as soon as possible.

Ms. McCommon presented the Board's reimbursement methodology for the 2011 calendar year; stated the methodology was included in the Board packet for review; and explained Board action on the methodology was required by law at the Board's first meeting each year. Ms. McCommon noted any changes to the methodology were effective January 1, 2011. A motion was made and seconded to approve the reimbursement methodology. The motion passed unanimously. (Copy of reimbursement methodology is an attachment to minutes.)

The meeting adjourned at 3:09 p.m.

ATTEST:


Ms. Suzann McCommon, Chair
Board of Developmental Disabilities Services


Executive Secretary