

MINUTES OF MEETING
BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SERVICES
February 6, 2013
Conway Human Development Center
Conway, Arkansas

A regular meeting of the Board of Developmental Disabilities Services (DDS) was held on February 6, 2013 at the Conway Human Development Center's Visitation Center in Conway, Arkansas. The meeting convened at 1:30 p.m. pursuant to the call of the Vice Board Chair.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Artie Jones, Ms. Sally Hardin, Dr. Linda Selman, Mr. David Rosegrant and Mr. Robert James.

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Charlie Green, Ms. Margo Green, Mr. Forrest Steele, Mr. Jeff Gonyea, Mr. Al Peer, Mr. Calvin Price, Ms. Sarah Murphy, Ms. Tammy Benbrook, Mr. Dale Woodall, Ms. Gail Miller, Mr. Brooks Reese, Ms. Debbie Eddington, Ms. Angela Green, Ms. Kathryn Marsden, Mr. Jody Nichols, Ms. Kathy Guffey and Mr. James Brader.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. Darrell Pickney, Mr. Tom Hill, Ms. Jan Fortney, Ms. Carole Sherman and Ms. Amy Ford, Attorney General's Office.

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

Mr. Rosegrant called for a motion on the minutes from the November 7th, 2012 regular meeting of the Board of DDS.

Ms. Artie Jones made a motion the minutes from the November 7th, 2012 regular meeting of the Board of DDS be approved. Mr. Robert James seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mr. Rosegrant invited consumers, advocates and guests to address the Board. Mr. Darrell Pickney, President of Friends and Families of Care Facility Residents (FFCFR) addressed the DDS Board and expressed the concerns regarding the InteRAI Assessment Tool process and the meaning of the results based on a comment made by the assessor on HDC placements. Mr. Pickney's other concern was related to the functional capacities of the HDCs and that all licensed beds were not occupied. Ms. Carole Sherman addressed the Board and thanked each one of them for their public service but stated she had concerns with the new plans of the Medicaid Expansion and Payment Improvement Initiative.

Mr. Rosegrant thanked Mr. Pickney and Ms. Sherman for their comments and stated Dr. Charlie Green would be addressing the issues presented in his Division Director's report.

Mr. Rosegrant reported that there was no subcommittee meetings held prior to the Board coming to order.

Dr. Green announced that Mr. Forrest Steele would be presenting the report for the human development centers (HDCs) and he congratulated Mr. Steele on his promotion to the Assistant Director of Residential Services. The Board congratulated Mr. Steele on his new position. At this time, Mr. Steele reminded the Board the monthly reports for the HDCs were included in the Board packets. Mr. Steele presented items of interest about each HDC along with recent survey results as provided to him by each Superintendent. A special recognition was given to Ms. Margo Green, Superintendent at Arkadelphia Human Development Center for their most recent OLTC survey which resulted in no deficiencies. Mr. Steele reported that some of the HDCs have been accredited for three years through CARF surveys and that the other HDCs were getting ready for annual and CARF surveys. Also, Ms. Debbie Eddington was announced as the Interim Superintendent at Jonesboro Human Development Center and Ms. Sarah Murphy as the new Asst. Superintendent at CHDC. It was noted that Ms. Eddington and Ms. Murphy have each held many positions at the centers and their experience will be an asset to each facility.

At 1:45 p.m., Dr. Charlie Green and the DDS Board left the meeting to enter Executive Session.

Following the Executive Session, the DDS Board Meeting convened at 2:15 p.m. It was announced that it was the recommendation of Dr. Green for Calvin Price remain Superintendent at Conway Human Development Center after his 30 day retirement break. Dr. Green stated that, given the skills necessary to operate such a large facility, it was his intention to have Mr. Price provide a period of training for his replacement.

Ms. Linda Selman made a motion that the recommendation for Mr. Price to remain the Superintendent at Conway HDC be accepted. Mr. Robert James seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Charlie Green presented the Division Director's report. Dr. Green began his report with a "thank you" to Mr. Price and Conway HDC staff for hosting the DDS Board Meeting.

Dr. Green continued his report to include the following:

Each Board Member was given a copy of the letter from Merrill Lynch stating they could no longer manage state funds so the funds have been liquidated and transferred to a DDS brokerage account. Dr. Green recommended that the DDS Board follow the same process as in the past when acquiring an investment management service. The Administrative Subcommittee will meet and set up meetings with investment management representatives to address the board about their services.

Ms. Sally Hardin made a motion that the recommendation for the Administrative Services Chairman and members meet to set up meetings of investment management services representatives in order to choose an investment firm. Mr. Robert James seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Green gave an overall update of the Legislative Session and information regarding Medicaid Expansion and general revenue. Regarding the earlier questions about the assessment tool and its purpose, Dr. Green assured everyone that it is not the assessor's role to decide whether or not

an individual is appropriate for an institution or not. Dr. Green said he would refer Mr. Pickney's concerns to Ms. Shelley Lee who could address the assessor's comments.

In addressing the issues raised by a parent in attendance, Dr. Green stated that often the vacancies that are reported in a given month are not in units/cottages that would be suitable for the clients on a facility's current waiting list. Among the factors that must be considered is the client's gender, age, functioning level and behavioral challenges. Many admissions to the HDCs are considered "emergency admissions" that are due to clients being in crisis. These clients often present behaviors that can be disruptive and dangerous to others. Staff at the HDCs must be mindful of how new admissions will effect current residents. Dr. Green stated he would also ask Forrest Steele to assess the waiting list and vacancies of the HDCs to see if some of the individuals could be placed in the near future.

Ms. Sally Hardin asked Dr. Green to look at the past records and see how many emergency admissions were admitted in the past 12 months. Dr. Green will report that at the next meeting.

Dr. Green addressed the Payment Improvement Initiative concerns and pros and cons of the system that will provide individualized service plans.

One more question was asked regarding the Department of Justice funds and Mr. Brader reported that the 150,000 in awarded costs was received in November of 2012 and had been electronically deposited in to the Board's Merrill Lynch account.

Mr. Rosegrant called for a motion for the meeting be adjourned. Mr. James made a motion the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Hardin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

ATTEST:

Executive Secretary

Mr. David Rosegrant, Chair
Board of Developmental Disabilities Services

