BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

March 12, 2026
7711 Goodwood Blvd, Room 102
12:00 PM to 1:00 PM

MINUTES

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:07 PM. Board members participating were Chair Patrick Seiter, Sharon Robinson, Cynthia Munn, Charles Abboud, Denise Amoroso, Aishala Burgess, Dennis Grimes, Randal Johnson, Chris Landry, Dr. Jan Laughinghouse, Hillar Moore, Treva Parolli-Barnes, and Frederick Thomas. A quorum was determined.

Also participating were Charlotte Claiborne from the Bridge Center for Hope, Emily Grey from Breazeale Sachse and Wilson, Beverly Haydel from Frontline Strategies, Shawne Langston-Emery, and Lysha Best from Recovery Innovations.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Seiter asked if any members of the public wished to comment. After hearing none, Mr. Seiter proceeded with the agenda as written.

III. MINUTES

A. For Action: Approval of Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held January 8, 2026

Mr. Seiter reviewed the minutes of the January 8, 2026, Board of Directors meeting. Upon a motion by Randal Johnson, seconded by Cynthia Munn, the January 8, 2026, minutes were unanimously approved.

IV. FINANCE COMMITTEE

A. For Discussion: Financial Overview

Mr. Seiter deferred to Ms. Robinson. Ms. Robinson provided a financial overview, stating that approximately $7.7 million in revenue has been received from City-Parish funding and that funds have been moved into the investment account.

B. For Discussion: Annual Audit

Mr. Seiter deferred to Ms. Claiborne, who stated that the annual audit timeline had been accelerated to a target completion date of April 30 to accommodate the City-Parish request. The audit would be presented to the Finance Committee for review and approval, followed by the Board at the May 14, 2026, Board of Directors meeting.

C. For Discussion: Follow-up Report on Service Agreement Questions

Mr. Seiter deferred to Mr. Abboud, who reported that after the previous Board meeting, a follow-up discussion was held with Recovery Innovations' finance team to address questions about the financial reports. Mr. Abboud reported that RI representatives clarified salary, wage, and benefit discrepancies, explaining that overtime wages had not been included in the initial reporting. Once those amounts were incorporated, the figures reconciled appropriately. Mr. Abboud also reported that additional discussion addressed an entry initially categorized as bad debt, which was more accurately described as aged receivables tied to outstanding reimbursement payments. Following the review and clarification of these items, the Finance Committee was satisfied with the explanations.

V. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

A. For Discussion: Board Vacancies

Mr. Seiter deferred to Ms. Claiborne, who reported that a board vacancy will be announced on the Bridge Center website and social media accounts on March 16, 2026.

VI. BRIDGE CENTER ORDERS

A. For Discussion: Legislative Update

Mr. Seiter deferred to Ms. Haydel, who provided a legislative update and reported that the legislative session is currently underway. She advised that work is in progress on a resolution, anticipated to be filed in the Senate, urging the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) to reconsider reimbursement rates for the first 23 hours of care based on findings from the HMA rate study. Beverly reported coordination efforts with Senators Barrow and Selders and noted House support from Representative Barbara Freiberg as a potential backup filer.

B. For Discussion: HMA Update

Mr. Seiter deferred to Ms. Claiborne, who reported on HMA's ongoing feasibility analysis related to crisis stabilization operations and potential expansion opportunities. Discussion included evaluating unused space and considering increasing crisis stabilization capacity beyond the current 16 beds. Ms. Claiborne advised that HMA is finalizing a consolidated CRC operations report and expansion memorandum, which is expected to be completed and presented for review by the end of the month.

VII. RECOVERY INNOVATIONS

A. For Discussion: MCO Update

Mr. Seiter deferred to Recovery Innovations. Ms. Best reported that Healthy Blue and UnitedHealthcare have paid the majority of outstanding balances and that reconciliation efforts remain ongoing. Ms. Best also discussed a Gainwell provider enrollment issue that resulted in Recovery Innovations being unenrolled from July through September due to renewal documentation not being received. Recovery Innovations has engaged legal counsel to pursue backdated enrollment and associated reimbursement payments.

B. For Discussion: Mobile Crisis Response Update

Mr. Seiter deferred to Recovery Innovations for an update on the mobile-response program. Recovery Innovations representatives reported refinements to dispatching processes aimed at capturing additional calls and improving response coordination. Recovery Innovations noted increased program activity, including approximately 19 calls within a recent one-week period.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. For Approval: Cabinet Signage

Mr. Seiter deferred to Ms. Claiborne, who reported that the proposed lobby signage would cost $6,254.75, with Recovery Innovations agreeing to cover one-half of the total cost. Following discussion, upon a motion by Chris Landry and a second by Randal Johnson, the lobby signage proposal was approved.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. For Discussion: Annual Training (In-person option)

Mr. Seiter deferred to Ms. Claiborne to discuss options for in-person annual Ethics training. Ms. Claiborne reported that the organization is considering offering optional in-person training sessions with a facilitator present prior to scheduled board meetings. The Board agreed that, if there is sufficient interest, an in-person training option would be offered at 11:00 a.m. in conjunction with the September board meeting.

X. ADJOURN

With no further business to conduct, on a motion by Denise Amoroso and a second by Aishala Burgess, the Board of Directors meeting adjourned at 12:53 PM.