



ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, November 28, 2023

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

7711 Goodwood Blvd, Room 102

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83326190786?pwd=VThWc2JUUKh0MVpzenFmc3lSUlpOdz09>

Meeting ID: 833 2619 0786

Passcode: 858901

Phone: 346-248-7799

MINUTES

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 p.m. Board members in attendance were Chair Patrick Seiter, Michael Denicola, Denise Amoroso, Cynthia Munn, Greg Dicharry, Charles Abboud, Donna Collins-Lewis, Lauren Crump, Michael Mitchell, Dr. William Clark, and Dr. Kathleen Crapanzano. A quorum was determined.

Also participating were Charlotte Claiborne of the Bridge Center for Hope, Emily Grey of Breazeale, Sachse and Wilson (BSW), Shawne Emery-Langston, Lysha Best of RI International, Jessica Wagner and Al Bourgeois of EAG Gulf Coast.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Seiter opened the meeting by asking if any members of the public wished to comment. After hearing no comments, Mr. Seiter proceeded with the agenda as written.

III. MINUTES

A. For Action: Approval of Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held September 19, 2023

Mr. Seiter reviewed the minutes from the Board of Directors meeting held on September 19, 2023. On a motion by Greg Dicharry and a second by Cynthia Munn, the minutes from the Board of Directors meeting held on September 19, 2023, were unanimously approved.

IV. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

A. For Approval: Slate of Directors, Officers, and Nominee

Mr. Seiter presented the Board with the slate of directors, officers, and the nominee recommended by the Executive Committee that were due for reconsideration and reelection:

Reconsideration:

Greg Dicharry
Kathleen Crapanzano, MD
Tiffany Simpson, PhD
Janzean Laughinghouse, PhD
Donna Collins-Lewis
Michael Denicola

Officers:

Patrick Seiter – Chair
Donna Collins-Lewis – Vice Chair
Sharon Robinson – Treasurer
Lauren Crump – Secretary

Nominee:

Randal Johnson

After discussion, the Board of Directors, on a motion by Denise Amoroso and a second by Charles Abboud, approved the slate of directors, officers, and the nominee.

V. FINANCE COMMITTEE

A. For Discussion: Financial Overview

B. For Approval: Continuation of Investment Opportunities for 2024

Mr. Seiter deferred to Ms. Claiborne to provide the financial overview. Ms. Claiborne presented the financial overview for 2023, highlighting the return on investments and projected year-end balance.

Ms. Claiborne also reported that the initial allocation for 2024 City-Parish funding was due to arrive between the third and fourth week of January and requested approval for the continuation of investments. Upon due discussion and on a motion by Greg Dicharry and a second by Michael Denicola the Board of Directors approved the continuation of investments for 2024 funding.

VI. ACCOUNTABILITY AND QUALITY COMMITTEE

A. For Approval: Software Development Contract Agreement

Mr. Seiter deferred to Ms. Claiborne to discuss the update for the Accountability and Quality Committee. Ms. Claiborne shared that a plan to create a dashboard and database had been suggested by the committee and was supported by the Executive Committee. Ms. Claiborne mentioned that a firm had been identified and was working with the legal department. Ms. Claiborne requested approval from the board.

After a discussion on a motion by Donna Collins-Lewis and a second by Greg Dicharry, the Board agreed to a confidentiality contract to allow the firm to access the required data and outline the estimated hours and cost needed to develop the dashboard and database. The scope of work will be presented at the next Board of Directors meeting on January 23, 2024.

VII. COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

A. For Approval: Continuation of Advertisement Contract

Mr. Seiter deferred to Ms. Claiborne to provide the update on the Community Relations Committee. Ms. Claiborne reported that the contract with Gray Media expires on December 31, 2023, and requested approval to enter into a new agreement for 2024 for the continuation of advertisement.

After a discussion on a motion by Cynthia Munn and a second by Charles Abboud, the Board approved a new contract with Gray Media to continue advertisement for 2024.

VIII. STRATEGIC PLAN

A. For Discussion: 2024 Strategic Plan

B. For Approval: Mobile Crisis Response Unit

Mr. Seiter asked Ms. Claiborne to provide an update on the 2024 Facility Strategic Plan. Ms. Claiborne shared that the strategic plan focused on enhancing the facility's capacity by introducing a mobile crisis response team outside its current operation. Additionally, the plan included increasing the chair capacity in the 23-hour observation unit, adding a second Crisis Receiving Unit, and potentially introducing a peer recovery unit. Ms. Claiborne informed that the plan would be introduced in stages over 12 to 18 months, with the first rollout being the Mobile Crisis Response unit.

Ms. Claiborne has requested approval for funding to implement the Mobile Crisis Response unit operated by RI International to begin in the year 2024. Ms. Claiborne explained that the unit would be funded by the additional revenue generated by the investment opportunities. After a thorough discussion, the Board of Directors recommended postponing the discussion until the January 23, 2024 meeting to allow more time for further conversation.

IX. RI INTERNATIONAL

A. Discussion: Facility Overview

Mr. Seiter deferred to RI International to provide a facility overview. Ms. Best reiterated that RI was diligently working with Ms. Claiborne on the strategic plan to increase capacity at the facility. Ms. Langston-Emery discussed that the facility was currently operating as planned, noting that during this time of the year, the general census within the region typically decreases for all providers.

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. For Discussion: 2023 Annual Trainings

Mr. Seiter reminded everyone to complete their annual training.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Seiter asked if there was any new business that required discussion. Mr. Abboud proposed convening a separate meeting to discuss strategic planning with a consulting firm.

XII. ADJOURN

With no further business to conduct and on a motion by Cynthia Munn and a second by Michael Denicola, the Board of Directors meeting was adjourned at 1:03 PM.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. For Discussion and Approval: Executive Director
Performance Evaluation and Benefits

Minutes prepared by:
Charlotte Claiborne, Executive Director