



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, January 23, 2024

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

7711 Goodwood Blvd, Room 102

Virtual Option:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84361411399?pwd=ZGdiSVNUWjlLZEp0RGE0TnJlVjBaZz09>

Meeting ID: 843 6141 1399

Passcode: 542299

Phone: 346-248-7799

MINUTES

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 PM. Board members in attendance were Chair Patrick Seiter, Dr. Jan Laughinghouse, Sharon Robinson, Donna Collins-Lewis, Greg Dicharry, Dr. William Clark, Kathy Kliebert, Cynthia Munn, Michael Denicola, Randal Johnson, Denise Amoroso, Lauren Crump, Dennis Grimes, Charles Abboud, Tiffany Simpson, and Dr. Kathleen Crapanzano. A quorum was determined.

Also in attendance were Charlotte Claiborne of the Bridge Center for Hope, Michael Weileman of Emergency Medical Services, Jessica Wagner of EisnerAmper, Murphy Foster of Breazeale Sachse and Wilson, and Shawne Langston-Emery, and Lysha Best of RI International.

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. DIRECTORS

A. Introduction of the New Director(s)

Mr. Seiter introduced the newly appointed Director, Randal Johnson, to the board and asked him to introduce himself, followed by introductions from each board member.

IV. MINUTES

A. For Action: Approval of Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held November 28, 2023

Mr. Seiter reviewed the minutes from the Board of Directors meeting held on November 28, 2023. On a motion by Dr. William Clark and a second by Cynthia Munn, the minutes from the Board of Directors meeting held on November 28, 2024, were unanimously approved.

V. FINANCE COMMITTEE

A. For Discussion: 2023 Budget Overview

Mr. Seiter deferred to Ms. Robinson to provide the financial overview. Ms. Robinson provided a detailed summary of the 2023 financials, including the return on investments. Ms. Claiborne reported that some outstanding invoices from 2023 had not been reconciled and advised that the amount would change.

Ms. Claiborne reported that City-Parish funding was expected within a few days. Ms. Claiborne advised that a significant amount will be invested based on the approval from the November 28, 2023, Board of Directors meeting.

VI. ACCOUNTABILITY AND QUALITY COMMITTEE

A. For Action: Discussion and approval Brilliant Associates and Salesforce Contracts

Mr. Seiter deferred to Ms. Claiborne to update the Board on the Brilliant Associates and Salesforce contracts for the creation of the dashboard/database. Ms. Claiborne reviewed the final scope of work received and the estimated associated cost. After due discussion and upon a motion by Donna Collins-Lewis and a second by Lauren Crump the contract with Brilliant Associates and Salesforce was approved.

VII. RI INTERNATIONAL

A. For Action: Discussion and approval of Mobile Crisis Response Unit

B. For Discussion: Facility Update

Mr. Seiter deferred to Ms. Claiborne and RI International to discuss the mobile crisis response unit. Ms. Claiborne introduced Emergency Medical Services (EMS) representative Michael Weileman, who will collaborate with the Bridge Center/RI International on mobile crisis response. Mr. Weileman responded to inquiries regarding East Baton Rouge Parish residents who dialed 911 to report behavioral health concerns and how EMS intends to interface with the Bridge Center.

Ms. Claiborne explained that an additional \$375,000 in funding and \$25,000 for marketing and resource materials would be necessary to operate a 40-hour mobile crisis team. Ms. Best elaborated on the manner in which the mobile crisis team would operate within the facility and in the community. After careful consideration and in anticipation of a legal review, the Board of Directors unanimously approved \$400,000 to finance a mobile crisis response team and additional program-related expenses in response to a motion from Greg Dicharry and a second by Cynthia Munn.

Ms. Claiborne deferred to Ms. Langston-Emery to provide the facility update. Ms. Langston-Emery provided an update on reimbursement rates and informed the Board that RI continues to work with the Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) and the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) on reimbursements.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Seiter asked if there was any unfinished business that required discussion. Ms. Claiborne reminded to complete the benefits portion of her contract.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Seiter asked if there was any new business that required discussion. Ms. Claiborne informed the Board that due to the new Open Meetings law, the Bridge Center Bylaws would require updating. Ms. Claiborne also reminded the Board about the upcoming Behavioral Health Day on May 2, 2024.

X. ADJOURN

With no further business to conduct and on a motion by Dr. William Clark and a second by Kathy Kliebert, the Board of Directors meeting was adjourned at 1:05 PM.