



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, September 17, 2024

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

7711 Goodwood Blvd, Room 102

Virtual Option (non-Board Members)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89067915052?pwd=Is3XUILg8bIFseO2UwxSZ9hEIz3idT.1&from=addon>

Meeting ID: 890 6791 5052

Passcode: 311122

Phone: 346-248-7799

AGENDA

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:10 PM. The board participants were Chair Patrick Seiter, Sharon Robinson, Lauren Crump, Donna Collins Lewis, Charles Abboud, Greg Dicharry, Gerri Hobdy, Randall Johnson, Kathy Kliebert, Dr. Jan Laughinghouse, Michael Mitchell, and Cynthia Munn.

Charlotte Claiborne, Emily Grey, Treva Barnes, Beverly Haydel, and Shawne Langston-Emery also participated.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Seiter asked if any members of the public wished to comment. After hearing no comment, Mr. Seiter proceeded with the agenda as written.

III. MINUTES

A. For Action: Approval of Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held July 16, 2024

Mr. Seiter reviewed the minutes from the Board of Directors meeting held on July 16, 2024. On a motion by Gerri Hobdy and a second by Cynthia Munn, the minutes were unanimously approved.

IV. FINANCE COMMITTEE

A. For Discussion: Financial Overview

Mr. Seiter deferred to Ms. Robinson to give the financial overview. Ms. Robinson provided a detailed analysis, particularly focusing on the year-to-date earned interest and grant funding. During the meeting, the board explored options for utilizing the grant funding.

V. BRIDGE CENTER UPDATES

A. For Discussion: Update on Bridge Center for Hope Bylaws

Mr. Seiter deferred to Ms. Grey to provide the bylaws update. Ms. Grey mentioned that the use of designees is still awaiting an AG opinion.

B. For Action: Mobile Crisis Response

Mr. Seiter deferred to Ms. Claiborne to provide the update on Mobile Crisis Response. Ms. Claiborne reported that she communicated with LDH to verify whether the CRC license was still applicable for providing mobile crisis services. Ms. Grey indicated that City-Parish had accepted the majority of the changes concerning the CEA and mobile crisis, with just a few issues still pending resolution.

After a thorough discussion, on a motion by Lauren Crump and a second by Donna Collins Lewis, the board unanimously approved altering the agenda from 'discussion' to 'action' to approve the CEA Agreement.

On a motion by Gerri Hobdy and a second by Greg Dicharry, the Board unanimously approved the CEA concept and authorized Chair Patrick Seiter to sign once an agreement is finalized.

C. For Discussion: LDH Update

Mr. Seiter deferred the LDH Update to Ms. Claiborne. Ms. Claiborne reported that follow-up communication between Bridge and LDH had been unsuccessful. As a result, Ms. Claiborne requested Ms. Haydel to set up a meeting with Dr. Abraham to further discussions. Ms. Haydel reported that a meeting request had been sent.

VI. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

A. For Discussion: Directors and Officers Reconsideration

Mr. Seiter deferred to Ms. Hobdy to provide the Nominating Committee update. Ms. Hobdy shared that a board vacancy notice was posted on the website, social media, and in the newsletter, with applications due by October 2, 2024. She noted that Lauren Crump and Michael Mitchell have both opted out of serving another term, leaving two Director positions and one Officer role as secretary available. Additionally, with Dennis Grimes retiring as Warden, Sheriff Sid Gautreaux has requested Warden Cathy Fontenot to fill the position. To date, only one application has been received, and Dennis Grimes has shown interest in returning as a civilian. After a thorough discussion, the Nominating Committee will develop a Board Matrix to track all available positions at their upcoming Nominating Committee meeting and provide recommendations at the Annual Board of Directors meeting.

VII. RI INTERNATIONAL

A. For Discussion: Facility Update

Mr. Seiter deferred to Ms. Langston-Emery for an update. Ms. Langston-Emery noted nothing significant to share but highlighted the uptick in services after roll call meetings with the Baton Rouge Police Department.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Seiter asked if there was any unfinished business that required discussion. After hearing none, Mr. Seiter proceeded with the agenda as written.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Seiter asked if there was any new business that required discussion. After hearing none, Mr. Seiter proceeded with the agenda as written.

X. ADJOURN

With no further business to discuss, the Board of Directors meeting was adjourned at 1:10 PM on a motion by Greg Dicharry and a second by Randal Johnson.

CLOSED

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. For Discussion: Executive Director Annual Evaluation