



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

7711 Goodwood Blvd, Room 102

Main Library

MINUTES

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Patrick Seiter at 12:06 PM. Board members in attendance were Sharon Robinson, Cynthia Munn, Denise Amoroso, Alishala Burgess, Sharon Douglas, Gerri Hobdy, Chris Landry, Dr. Jan Laughinghouse, Hillar Moore, Treva Parolli-Barnes, and Tiffany Simpson.

Also in attendance were Charlotte Claiborne from the Bridge Center for Hope, Shawne Langston-Emery and Lysha Best from Recovery Innovations, Emily Grey from Breazeale, Sachse and Wilson, and Christian Claiborne, a member of the public.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

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

III. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

A. Introduction of New Directors

Mr. Seiter mentioned that the Board had recently welcomed several new members after some resignations and retirements, and he asked each attendee to give a brief introduction to help everyone become better acquainted.

IV. MINUTES

A. For Action: Approval of Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held May 20, 2025

Mr. Seiter reviewed the minutes from the May 20, 2025, Board of Directors meeting. On a motion by Gerri Hobdy and a second by Tiffany Simpson, the minutes were unanimously approved.

V. FINANCE COMMITTEE

A. For Discussion: Financial Overview

Ms. Robinson provided a financial overview, noting strong year-to-date revenue performance, with significant funding received from the City-Parish. She reported that expenses remained well within budget, resulting in a healthy cash position to support planned projects.

B. For Discussion: 2026 City-Parish Budget Request

Ms. Claiborne provided an update on the expedited City-Parish budget request, which was now due earlier than in previous years. Ms. Claiborne noted that the Executive Committee met and approved a proposed budget aligned with City-Parish's suggested amount. Ms. Claiborne covered key allocations, including support for staff, professional services, and direct programming.

Mr. Seiter entertained a motion to approve the ratified budget by the Executive Committee for full board approval, and on a motion by Cynthia Munn and a second by Chris Landry, the 2026 City-Parish Budget Request was approved.

VI. BRIDGE CENTER ORDERS

A. For Discussion: Response to Funding Increase Request

Mr. Seiter reported that although the increased funding request for Recovery Innovations was reasonable, it could not be approved due to state laws that restrict mid-term contract increases unless an escalation clause is included. He mentioned that legal counsel confirmed these limitations, and therefore, such language will be added to future agreements to provide flexibility when justified. Mr. Seiter also noted that while the increase cannot be accommodated mid-contract, it may be addressed in the next contract cycle starting on January 1, 2026.

B. For Discussion: MCO Updates

Mr. Seiter deferred to Ms. Claiborne. Ms. Claiborne discussed a meeting with UnitedHealthcare, where they reviewed a report from HMA, which generated interest from the executives. Ms. Claiborne mentioned ongoing efforts to schedule meetings with Humana and the Louisiana Healthcare Connections, as well as the new Secretary, Mr. Greenstein.

VII. RECOVERY INNOVATIONS

A. For Discussion: Mobile Crisis Response Update

Mr. Seiter deferred to Ms. Langston-Emery. Ms. Langston-Emery updated that equipment installation is underway in the new van, new staff members have been hired, and a collaborative meeting with EMS has taken place. Mr. Landry proposed scheduling staff education sessions with EMS in October.

In addition to Mobile Crisis Response, Mr. Seiter inquired about claims with the Managed Care Entities (MCEs). Ms. Langston-Emery reported improvements, but issues with denials and payment timeliness persist. Ms. Munn suggested that these topics should be prioritized in future discussions with Secretary Greenstein.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. For Discussion: Reminder Annual Training

Mr. Seiter reminded everyone of their annual training.

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 conduct, the Board of Directors meeting adjourned on a motion by Cynthia Munn, seconded by Denise Amoroso, at 12:58 PM.