

**MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF MENTAL HEALTH
MISSISSIPPI STATE HOSPITAL
WHITFIELD, MISSISSIPPI
THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2022**

The Mississippi State Board of Mental Health held their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, March 17, 2022, at Mississippi State Hospital in Whitfield, Mississippi.

In Attendance:

Board Members: James Herzog, Ph.D.; Sampat Shivangi, M.D.; Manda Griffin, DNP; Mr. Courtney Phillips; Teresa Mosely, M.Ed.; Mr. Robert Landrum; Sara Gleason, M.D.; and Alyssa Killebrew, Ph.D.

Absent: Mr. Stewart Rutledge

Guests: Lee Pittman, Legislative Budget Office; Sanetra Moore and Wayne McNeer, Hinds Behavioral Health Services

Department of Mental Health Executive Staff: Wendy Bailey, Executive Director; Jake Hutchins, Deputy Executive Director Behavioral Health Services; Craig Kittrell, Deputy Executive Director IDD Services; Katie Storr, Chief of Staff; Kelly Breland, Chief Financial Officer; Toni Johnson, Director, Bureau of Human Resources; Dr. Kristin Merritte, Chief Clinical Officer, IDD Services; Dr. Mallory Malkin, Chief Clinical Officer, Bureau of Behavioral Health Services; Brent Hurley, Director, Bureau of Behavioral Health Services; Stephanie Foster, Director, Bureau of Certification and Quality Outcomes; Cyndi Eubank and McCall Chastain, Attorneys; and Dr. Robert Maddux, DMH Medical Director

Central Office Staff: Grenaye Sullivan, Recording Secretary; and Adam Moore, Office of Communication and Planning

Program Directors: Rinsey McSwain, Ellisville State School; Cindy Cooley, South Mississippi Regional Center; Dr. Paul Callens, North Mississippi State Hospital; Sabrina Young, South Mississippi State Hospital; Dr. Edie Hayles, North Mississippi Regional Center; Jerrie Barnes, Hudspeth Regional Center; James Chastain, Mississippi State Hospital; Shannon Bush, Specialized Treatment Facility; Jamie Prine, Mississippi Adolescent Center; Dr. Charles Carlisle, East Mississippi State Hospital; and Clint Ashley, Boswell Regional Center

DMH Program Assistant Directors: Ricky Grimes, Boswell Regional Center; Dr. Kenneth O'Neal, Ellisville State School

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Dr. James Herzog. Dr. Herzog asked everyone to stand while Craig Kittrell opened the meeting with the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Herzog asked if there were any changes or additions to the agenda.

On motion of Dr. Shivangi and second by Dr. Killebrew, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

Dr. Herzog then asked if there were any changes or additions to the February 2022 minutes.

On motion of Dr. Shivangi and second by Dr. Killebrew, the Board voted unanimously to approve the February 2022, minutes as presented.

Kelly Breland, Chief Financial Officer, presented the Consolidated Financial Summary for the Eight Months Ended (FY22).

Mr. Breland presented for Board action, the "Request for Board Approval of Contracts" non-state retirees, \$50,000 or more annually.

Contracts, non-state retirees, \$50,000 or more annually					
South Mississippi Regional Center					
Name	Start	End	Amount	Annual/Hourly	Description
Woods Professional, LLC	4/01/22	3/31/27	\$465,920	\$93,184	Contractor will provide dysphasia evaluations and Speech Pathology Services at a rate of \$64/hour.
Guard One Security	7/01/22	6/30/25	\$147,423	\$49,141	Contractor will provide security services at a rate of \$15.02/hr.
Ellisville State School					
Name	Start	End	Amount	Annual/Hourly	Description
Holifield Landscape and Irrigation, LLC d/b/a/ US Lawns	7/01/22	6/30/27	\$1,350,000	\$270,000	Contractor will provide lawn care services for the main campus at a rate of \$3,000/grass cutting & \$,500/weedeating/line trimming for 36 cuttings or line trimmings per contract term.
EcoSouth Services	4/02/22	4/01/25	\$325,354	\$108,451	Contractor will provide waste management services and was originally approved for Santek Waste Services in 2020. EcoSouth bought Santek in 2021.
Precision Healthcare Staff, LLC	7/01/22	6/30/27	\$2,125,000	\$425,000	Contractor will provide professional sitter services at a rate of \$18/hr. and COVID positive sitter rate of \$28/hr.

On motion of Mr. Landrum and second by Dr. Killebrew the Board voted unanimously to approve the "Request for Board Approval of Contracts" non-state retirees, \$50,000 or more annually.

Wendy Bailey, Executive Director, provided a COVID-19 update. She reported that as of March 15, 2022, there were two active cases (staff and clients combined) at the DMH Programs. This is the lowest since the beginning of tracking in April 2020. Ms. Bailey reported that currently 84% of staff at DMH Programs have had at least one COVID vaccination shot, while 81% are fully vaccinated. There are 790 staff who have received exemptions. In total, 6% of DMH program staff were out of compliance (not fully vaccinated and no exemption granted) with the CMS vaccination mandate as of March 15, 2022.

Ms. Bailey provided a Legislative Update. She reported that HB 732 passed House and Senate and sent to Governor on March 9. 988 will launch nationally on July 16 – a planning committee for Mississippi has worked for a year to create a solid roadmap for the implementation of 988---the three-number call system for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline which will serve as a behavioral health crisis line. Ms. Bailey reported that this work would not be possible without the support of planning committee members which included stakeholders such as people with lived experience, law enforcement, providers, advocacy groups, and

more from around our state. She reported that Chairman Sam Mims and Rep. Kevin Felsher introduced legislation this year in support of 988, along with Chairman Briggs Hopson and Chairman John Polk who supported funding 988 implementation and continuation in the ARPA legislation for mental health.

Ms. Bailey reported that in December she presented a proposal to the Mississippi Legislature to increase the utilization of community-based services for behavioral health and intellectual and developmental disabilities focusing on decreasing the use of higher levels of care when appropriate. While the community expansion efforts that have taken place over the past several years have placed Mississippi in a better position to respond to the needs created by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this proposal will help the state continue to address needs for mental health services. She reported that Senate Bill 2865 provides an appropriation to DMH for the purposes of implementing services from this proposal, which include: 988 implementation; Mobile Crisis Response Teams enhancements; 60 additional CSU beds; Mental Health First Aid for Public Safety Training; Crisis Intervention Training for Law Enforcement; Peer Support Services through three Pilot Peer Respite Programs; Court/Law Enforcement/Hospital Liaisons; Intensive Community Support Specialists for Children and Youth; Adolescent Offender Programs; and Crisis Services for Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (IDD) with the START Initiative and crisis beds. Ms. Bailey reported conference weekend is set for March 26 and 27 when appropriation bills will be finalized. She reported that DMH's FY23 funding bill has been introduced in Senate Bill 3027. As introduced, it provides \$220,733,786 in General Fund appropriations to DMH.

Ms. Bailey reported that Mr. Rosamond delivered a copy of his latest report to her on Friday, March 4. She reported that the report shares data for the number of commitments by county, benefits of the CCBHC model which Dr. Malkin presented at last month's Board meeting, highlights Crisis Intervention Training, and provides information on housing, focusing more on group homes provided by the CMHCs.

Ms. Bailey reported that on March 9, she and Dr. Thomas Dobbs presented to the MS Public Health Workforce Summit to kickoff a joint initiative to develop a statewide plan to address the public health workforce in our state. She reported that Mr. Chastain, Ms. Storr and Ms. Johnson also participated in the summit. Ms. Bailey said with support and technical assistance from Region IV Public Health Training Center with the National Public Health Institute, DMH is thrilled to be a part of this partnership to have a needs assessment and develop a strategic plan in this area to enhance the current public health workforce and recruit new workforce members in the future.

Ms. Bailey reported that the Mississippi Public Health Institute, Hinds Behavioral Health Services, and DMH announced the launch of a new Hinds County outreach initiative titled the "Congregational Recovery Outreach Program (CROP)", developed to work alongside African American faith-based communities to help foster recovery for Mississippians living with substance use disorders and mental illnesses. She reported that a virtual campaign kick-off was held on March 2, 2022, with three participating churches, Jackson Revival Center, New Horizon Church International and Pearl Street A.M.E. Church.

Ms. Bailey reported that in 2008, DMH launched the "Shatter the Silence: Suicide the Secret You Shouldn't Keep" campaign. Ms. Bailey reported that she is proud of where Ms. Molly Taylor and Ms. JaQuila Newsome have taken the efforts over the last several years. She reported that most recently, a series of videos of personal stories have been recorded including a video by Ms. Mosley. Ms. Bailey shared Mr. Greg Washington's video with the Board.

Ms. Bailey reported that recently, she approached Mr. Chastain about speaking with Dr. Recore to enhance his role within DMH. She reported that she and Mr.

Hutchins met with Dr. Recore regarding priorities for expanding a continuum of care for forensic services, decrease wait times and look at new strategies in this area and for provision of alcohol and substance use services. She reported that Dr. Recore's title will be State Director of Forensic Services and Special Projects. She reported that Dr. Recore will remain at MSH on the medical staff but will no longer be identified as the Service Chief for SUS, but will remain available to teach residents, consult with Forensic Services on difficult cases, and evaluate and treat complicated patients in a consultative role with current clinical and forensic staff.

Ms. Bailey then shared copies of the most recent news articles. The articles included:

1. Trauma of violence reverberates among youth
2. Fact Sheet: President Biden to Announce Strategy to Address our National Mental Health Crisis
3. This is why it's so hard to find mental health counseling right now
4. Mississippi murder suspect found incompetent to stand trial remains in jail
5. 'Shut down every step of the way'
6. Some mentally ill Mississippians wait in jail for hospital beds, report finds
7. State moves to block communication between feds and local mental health staff

Ms. Bailey reported the April 2022 Board of Mental Health meeting will be held at Hudspeth Regional Center on April 21, 2022.

Jake Hutchins, Deputy Executive Director, Behavioral Health Services, presented the Monthly Survey Reports for East Mississippi State Hospital, Mississippi State Hospital, North Mississippi State Hospital, and Specialized Treatment Facility. There were no significant findings during these surveys.

Sanetra Moore and Wayne McNeer, provided an overview of the services provided at Hinds Behavioral Health Services including intensive community support services, mobile crisis, crisis stabilization, peer support, drop-in center for homeless, supported employment, and more.

Dr. Mallory Malkin, Chief Clinical Officer, provided a summary of revisions/updates made to the Mississippi Youth Programs Around the Clock (MYPAC) Proposed Rules resulting from consideration of comments received during the public comment period. Dr. Malkin requested Board approval to file for final adoption with the Mississippi Secretary of State's Office the proposed DMH MYPAC rules. She reported that upon final adoption this document will become part of the 2020 DMH Operational Standards.

On motion of Dr. Shivangi and second by Mr. Landrum the Board voted unanimously to approve the MYPAC Rules Filing.

Adam Moore, Director, Office of Communication and Planning provided an overview of the DMH FY22 Strategic Plan Mid-Year Progress Report. He reviewed outcomes, including outcomes that are off-track, and highlighted data from all three goals.

Craig Kittrell, Deputy Executive Director, IDD Services presented the Monthly Survey Report for Boswell Regional Center and Hudspeth Regional Center. There were no significant findings during these surveys.

Strategic Plan Subcommittee:

Dr. Herzog reported that the Strategic Plan Subcommittee met prior to the Board meeting. Dr. Herzog reported there was no action taken.

Property Subcommittee:

Ms. Eubank reported that the Property Subcommittee met via email prior to the Board meeting. She reported that back in October 2021, Rinsey McSwain, Director, Ellisville State School, received a letter from the Jones County Economic Development Authority requesting an Option to Purchase. In 2017, the Board approved an option to purchase agreement with the Jones County

EDA. She reported that last fall, Jones County EDA sent a letter requesting to exercise its option to purchase about 32 acres from ESS to build some entrance roads and things to make this property more accessible for potential economic development. Ms. Eubank reported after receiving two appraisals for the property, ESS agreed to accept the higher appraisal which amounted to \$239,000.

On a motion of Dr. Killebrew and a second by Dr. Griffin, the Board voted unanimously to authorize Ms. McSwain to execute the Warranty Deed for the sale of 32 acres to the Jones County EDA.

With no further business, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn this meeting.


CHAIRMAN


EXECUTIVE SECRETARY