

**MINUTES**  
**STATE BOARD OF MENTAL HEALTH**  
**MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH**  
**JACKSON, MS**  
**THURSDAY, April 18, 2024**

The Mississippi State Board of Mental Health held their regularly scheduled board meeting on Thursday, April 18, 2024, at the Department of Mental Health in Jackson, MS.

In Attendance:

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

Department of Mental Health Executive Staff: 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; Dr. Kristin Merritte, Chief Clinical Officer, IDD Services; Brent Hurley, Director, Bureau of Behavioral Health Services; Kim Wood, Chief Information Officer; Cyndi Eubank and MaCall Chastain, General Counsel; Dr. Robert Maddux, DMH Medical Director

Absent: Ms. Wendy Bailey, Executive Director

Central Office Staff: Suzanne Marler, Recording Secretary; Adam Moore, Director of Division of Communications and Planning; and Shondra Barker, Accounting Director

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

Other DMH Program Staff: Bobby Sterling, Ellisville State School; Bo Blanks, Mississippi State Hospital; Lee Varner, Mississippi State Hospital; Amy Carruth, Mississippi State Hospital; Dr. Tom Recore, Mississippi State Hospital

The meeting was called to order at 9 a.m. by Mr. Stewart Rutledge. Mr. Rutledge asked everyone to stand while Mr. Craig Kittrell opened the meeting with the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Rutledge asked if there were any modifications or objections to the consent agenda. There were none, the consent agenda for April 18, 2024, was approved unanimously.

Mr. Rutledge asked if there were any modifications or objections to the Minutes. There were none, the Minutes dated February 15, 2024, were approved, and accepted unanimously.

In Ms. Bailey's absence, Mr. Jake Hutchins, Deputy Executive Director Behavioral Health Services, presented a brief legislative update and informed everyone that the deadline for conference reports on appropriation bills to be filed is Saturday, April 27, 2024. SB 3021, the appropriation bill for the Department of Mental Health, was introduced with \$234,534,597 in General Funds (GF) and \$427,710,570 in Special Fund (SF) authority. Compared to the current year appropriation, this is an increase of \$328,433 in GF and \$957,847 in SF. Mr. Hutchins reiterated that the requested funding in SB 3021 will continue to address staffing needs at our programs that provide 24/7 care for Mississippians with mental illness and intellectual and developmental disabilities. The total General Fund increase that is being requested is \$30,103,109. Mr. Hutchins highlighted several other bills of interest including HB 1640, HB 974, HB 1088, HB 1983, SB 2408, SB 2799, SB 3021, HB 1090, SB 3162, and HB 1983.

Mr. Hutchins shared that DMH organized Mental Health Legislative Appreciation Day at the Capitol on March 28, 2024. Friend groups from each state hospital had a display table and Friends of MSH provided a food truck lunch for the legislators and Capitol staff.

Mr. Hutchins communicated that IDD Day at the Capitol was held on March 6, 2024. In honor of IDD Awareness Month, a proclamation was signed by Governor Reeves. Clients and employees from Boswell Regional Center and Hudspeth Regional Center, representatives from the ARC of Mississippi, and DMH employees joined Governor Reeves for the signing of the proclamation.

Mr. Hutchins shared information regarding the Real Hope video series, a monthly video series emailed to stakeholders featuring real stories of hope and recovery from Mississippians. This month's video featured two clients from Boswell Regional Center. The video focused on each client and their abilities, not disabilities.

Mr. Kelly Breland, Chief Financial Officer, provided a written Consolidated Financial Summary Report for the nine months ended Sunday, March 31, 2024, for the Board's review.

Mr. Breland presented an update on the FY 2024 Federal SAMHSA Grant funding.

Mr. Breland presented the Contracts, with non-state retirees, earning \$50,000 or more annually.

<b>HUDSPETH REGIONAL CENTER</b>					
<b>Name</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Annual/ Hourly</b>	<b>Description of Services</b>
Claudia White -Physical Therapist	7/1/2024	6/30/2025	\$86,000.00	\$86,000 \$65/Hour	Contractor will serve as Director of Physical Therapy Department and assist those with intellectual/develop mental disabilities.
Dr. Jo Harbour - Physician	7/1/2024	6/30/2025	\$168,000.00	\$168,000 \$150/Hour	Contractor will provide medical services, general medical care, urgent or psychiatric care as needed to residents.
<b>ELLISVILLE STATE SCHOOL</b>					
<b>Name</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Annual/ Hourly</b>	<b>Description of Services</b>
HMP Nursing Services	1/3/2024	6/30/2028	\$4,500,000.00	\$1,000,000 NP: \$75/Hour. RN: \$55/Hour LPN: \$45/Hour CNA: \$30/Hour PCA: \$24/Hour	Contractor will provide nursing and CNA services for Ellisville State School.
Prime Care Nursing, Inc.	1/3/2024	6/30/2028	\$4,500,000.00	\$1,500,000 NP: N/A RN: \$58/Hour LPN: \$47/Hour CNA: \$26/Hour PCA: \$25/Hour	Contractor will provide nursing and CNA services for Ellisville State School.
Humpries Auto Supply, LLC	5/8/2024	5/7/2029	\$1,917,000.00	\$383400/Annual \$90/Hour	Contractor to provide two ASE certified vehicle mechanics to maintain ESS fleet of vehicles.

CENTRAL OFFICE					
Name	Start	End	Amount	Annual/ Hourly	Description of Services
The Arc of Mississippi	7/1/2024	6/30/2027	\$779,376.00	\$259,792/Annual; \$5200 per training	Contractor will provide statewide training on advance crisis plan for IDD Home and Community Based Service providers.

Mr. Breland presented a resolution authorizing the DMH programs to participate in group purchasing. On motion of Mr. Rutledge and seconded by Dr. Herzog, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution. Resolution is attached.

Mr. Adam Moore, Director, Division of Communications and Planning, presented the Strategic Plan FY24 Mid-year progress report.

Mr. Craig Kittrell, Deputy Executive Director, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Services, requested a private pay rate increase for Boswell Regional Center and Mississippi Adolescent Center. Mr. Rutledge asked if there was any opposition to the private pay rate increase for Boswell Regional Center. There was no opposition voiced, the board voted unanimously to approve the rate increase for Boswell Regional Center. On the motion of Dr. Alyssa Killebrew and seconded by Dr. Manda Griffin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the rate increase for Mississippi Adolescent Center.

**Patient Care Subcommittee Report:**

Dr. Duncan Stone reported that the Patient Care Subcommittee met prior to the Board meeting. The Patient Care Subcommittee recommended the following medical reappointments to the MSH Medical Staff:

Paul Dare, MD; Karen Page Branam, MD; John Kennedy, MD; Michael Bugg, MD; Scott Carlton, MD; Reese Bulmash, MD; Kevin Young, MD; Marshall Belaga, MD; Robert Maddux, MD; Stephen Shoop, DO; Zinat Khandekar, MD; and Duncan Stone, DMD.

On motion of Teresa Mosley and seconded by Dr. Sara Gleason, the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointments of 12 medical staff from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2026, to Mississippi State Hospital.

**Property Subcommittee Report:**

No Report

**Strategic Plan Subcommittee Report:**

Dr. Herzog stated that the committee met prior to the Board meeting, to review the Strategic Plan FY24 Mid-year progress report.

Dr. Herzog made the group aware that the Ethics Committee would hold a training opportunity on May 16, 2024, at Mississippi State Hospital for an ethics in-service.

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



CHAIRMAN



EXECUTIVE SECRETARY