

**MINUTES**  
**STATE BOARD OF MENTAL HEALTH**  
**DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH**  
**JACKSON, MS**  
**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2024**

The Mississippi State Board of Mental Health held their regularly scheduled board meeting on Thursday, December 19, 2024, at the Department of Mental Health in Jackson, MS via teleconference.

**In Attendance:**

**Board Members:** Alyssa Killebrew, Ph.D.; James Herzog, Ph.D.; Manda Griffin, DNP; Mr. Stewart Rutledge, Mr. Courtney Phillips, Sara Gleason, M.D.; and Mr. Robert Landrum

**Absent:** Teresa Mosely, M.Ed.

**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; Dr. Kristin Merritte, Chief Clinical Officer, IDD Services; Brent Hurley, Director, Bureau of Crisis Services; Kim Wood, Chief Information Officer; MaCall Chastain, General Counsel; Cyndi Eubank, Chief General Counsel; and Dr. Thomas Recore, DMH Medical Director

**Guests:** Mr. Noel Morgan, lobbyist, Simmons Consulting Firm

**Central Office Staff:** Marquaita Lampkin, Director, Human Resources; Adam Moore, Director, Communications and Planning; Suzanne Marler, Recording Secretary

**Program Directors:** Dr. 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; Renee Burton, 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; and Dr. Paul Callens, North Mississippi State Hospital

**Assistant Directors:**

**Other DMH Program Staff:** Dr. Duncan Stone, Mississippi State Hospital

The meeting was called to order at 9 a.m. by Mr. Courtney Phillips with a roll call of the board members. Mr. Phillips asked everyone to stand while Mr. Criag Kittrell opened the meeting with the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Phillips called for a motion and a second to approve the consent agenda. On the motion of Dr. Alyssa Killebrew and a second by Mr. Stewart Rutledge, the Board voted unanimously to approve the consent agenda.

Ms. Wendy Bailey, Executive Director, provided an overview of the Suicide Prevention and 988 Guide for Mississippi Schools, which DMH released in November in conjunction with the Mississippi Department of Education. The toolkit was designed to guide conversations about a difficult topic and point Mississippians working within the school system to resources available for those impacted by suicide or in need of behavioral health services.

Ms. Bailey shared that during the 2024 Legislative Session, SB 2727 created the Mississippi K-12 and Post-Secondary Mental Health Task Force, which met throughout the fall with DMH as a member. The task force was charged with examining state laws and policies to help address mental health among children and adolescents. In October, the task force released its recommendations to the Mississippi Legislature. Ms. Bailey provided an overview of the recommendations with the board.

Ms. Bailey presented a legislative update to the board. She pointed out that the session begins on January 7, 2025. During the three-month session, several bills pertinent to mental health will be presented as well as the FY26 budget request for DMH. DMH will be working to educate legislators about the vital needs within the budget request. Ms. Bailey also shared that the Governor released his FY26 Executive Budget recommendation, which mentioned mental health in relation to improving student mental health. The task force emphasized the need for additional school-based mental health therapists. Governor Reeves has included \$4,475,000 for an additional 90 school-based therapists.

Ms. Bailey concluded her report with review of the FY24 Annual Report in the board packet for review.

Mr. Phillips indicated that Agenda Item IV, "Informational Items," included the Consolidated Financial Summary Report for the period ending November 30, 2024, as well as the Contract Summary Report. He reminded everyone that these were made available for review prior to the meeting. Mr. Phillips suggested that if anyone had any questions, Mr. Breland or Director Bailey could address them.

**Presentation of Contracts to the State Board  
of Mental Health Contracts, non-state  
retirees, \$75,000 or more annually  
December 19, 2024**

<b>MISSISSIPPI STATE HOSPITAL</b>					
Name	Start	End	Amount	Annual/ Hourly	Description of Services
Medical Edge Recruitment	1/21/2025	7/22/2028	\$5,000,000.00	RN - \$45.00/hr; LPN - \$35/hr; CNA - \$25/hr	Contractor will provide nursing services.
Infiniti Healthcare Services	1/21/2025	7/22/2028	\$25,000,000.00	RN - \$40.00/hr; LPN - \$35/hr; CNA - \$24.50/hr	Contractor will provide nursing services.
TD Medical Solutions	1/21/2025	7/22/2028	\$10,000,000.00	RN - \$65.93/hr; LPN - \$50.15/hr; CNA - \$29.37/hr	Contractor will provide nursing services.
HMP Nursing Services	1/21/2025	7/22/2028	\$10,000,000.00	RN - \$55.00/hr; LPN - \$45/hr; CNA - \$30/hr	Contractor will provide nursing services.
<b>NORTH MISSISSIPPI STATE HOSPITAL</b>					
Dilyana Milev, MD	1/4/2024	6/30/2028	\$640,000.00	\$200.00/Hour	Contractor will provide psychiatric services.
<b>SOUTH MISSISSIPPI REGIONAL CENTER</b>					
SHC Services, Inc.	11/1/2024	6/30/2026	\$1,600,000.00	NP - \$115/hr; RN - \$64.50/hr; LPN - \$44/hr; CNA - \$35/hr; PCA - \$32/hr	Contractor will provide nursing services.

**Patient Care Subcommittee Report**

Dr. Duncan Stone reported the Patient Care Subcommittee met prior to the Board meeting. The Patient Care Subcommittee recommended the following medical appointments.

Reappointments for IDD programs from Dec. 19, 2024, to Dec. 19, 2029:

**Boswell Regional Center**

Dr. Russell Slover

**Ellisville State School**

Dr. Maxine Hyde

Dr. Joseph Moring

Dr. Benjamin Weber

**Hudspeth Regional Center**

Dr. Michael Holman

Dr. Harry Dayton

Dr. Gray Hilsman

Dr. Stephanie Harris

**South Mississippi Regional Center**

Dr. Minor Griffin

Dr. Robert Culpepper

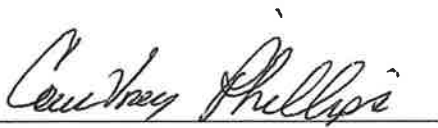
On the motion of Dr. James Herzog and a second by Dr. Alyssa Killebrew, the Board unanimously approved Patient Care appointments.

Dr. Stone presented the Patient Care subcommittee bylaws. On motion of Mr. Stewart Rutledge and a second by Dr. James Herzog, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Patient Care subcommittee bylaws.

Ms. Bailey reminded everyone that the next board meeting would be held on Thursday, February 20, 2025, at Mississippi State Hospital.

Mr. Phillips informed everyone there was no need for an executive session.

With no further business, on the motion of Dr. Alyssa Killebrew and a second by Dr. Manda Griffin, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.



CHAIRMAN



EXECUTIVE SECRETARY