

**METROPOLITAN HUMAN SERVICES DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
March 31, 2017
MINUTES**

A meeting of the Board of Directors of Metropolitan Human Services District was held on Friday March 31, 2017 at the District Office, located at 3100 General DeGaulle Drive, New Orleans, La. 70114. The meeting was called to order at 12:39 pm. Roll was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present.

Board members in attendance were Joseph Constans, Charlotte Parent, Michael Pechon, Vice-Chair, Sylvie Tran, Joseph Kanter and Chair, Gary Mendoza was the ranking member of the Board and ran the meeting.

Other individuals present were: MHSD, Rochelle Head-Dunham, MD Executive Director/Medical Director, Steven J. Farber, Deputy Director of Administration/General Counsel, Traci Brown, Chief Financial Officer, David Timoll, Chief Operating Officer, Amanda Kay Henderson, Executive Staff Attorney, Sharon Barnett-Starks Mental Area Regional Director and Kimberly Bourque Executive Assistant to Dr. Dunham and Plaquemines Care: Julie Olsen.

Call to Order by Board Chair Gary Mendoza New Board Appointee, representing Orleans Parish, Joseph Kanter, MD, MPH, was sworn in by Steven J. Farber, JD; and introduced himself to the board members.

Motion to approve the January 27, 2017 Meeting Minutes.

Motion made by Michael Pechon, Seconded by Michael Pechon, All voted in favor.

Chair Report

Meeting with State Legislators

MHSD met with a few members of the Senate and Legislators. All meetings were positive in nature, many of the meetings talked about future projects for MHSD to participate in with the different Parish communities.

Executive Director's Report

Introduction of New Staff

No new staff.

Update on MHSD

Dr. Dunham spoke about possible partnership with the local universities. MHSD is looking to establish internships for students. Dr. Dunham mentioned MHSD's new CEU program and the Weekly Wednesday Meetings with Dr. DeLeonardo. Dr. Dunham talked about new prescribers that MHSD looking to bring on-board. She also spoke about some of the other personnel filled at MHSD. Dr. Dunham discussed the Ingenuity Drug Testing contract and explained the services provided to MHSD. Dr. Dunham spoke about MHSD's marketing efforts and mentioned the MHSD Connect team-building event scheduled for staff in April. Dr. Dunham spoke about upcoming CARF accreditation for the Children's Services and Intellectual/Developmental Disability Services at MHSD.

Fiscal/Budget

MHSD CFO, Traci Brown, presented the latest MHSD budget reports. She explained the prior legislative cuts from the Special Session and the projected cuts for the 2017 Regular Session. Ms. Brown explained the benefits realized from Medicaid Expansion and how it has helped MHSD reduce state general funds used.

Quality Control and Data Analysis

Dr. Dunham and Dr. Williams reviewed the Continuous Quality report with the board members. The report showed the data trends pertaining to Medicaid expansion. Dr. Dunham also spoke about the improvement in

the I/DD Division. Dr. Williams was commended by the Board for the information collected and provided to the Board in her report.

Legislative Update

MHSD Dep. Director of Administration/General Counsel, Steven Farber reviewed the prefilled bill by Senator Mills, regarding the Human Services Districts. He explained that the proposed legislation is intended to make the independent authorizing District statutes unified and consistent. Charlotte Parent asked if this bill could address the proxy votes for the Board. Mr. Farber advised that it did not, but the issue has been proposed to Senator Mills. Mr. Farber advised the Board Members of their duty to obtain yearly ethics training and their duty to file their financial disclosure statements with the Louisiana Ethics Administration by May 15, 2017.

Compliance Report – Compensation and Benefits

Mr. Farber review the compliance report and HR benefits for MHSD.

Other Business

None.

Public Comments

None.

Public Comments:

St. Bernard – Michael Pechon inquired about how he can help to promote MHSD’s services in his parish. MHSD will be developing a marketing strategy through MHSD’s Public Information Section to target St. Bernard..

Plaquemines – Julie Olsen, Plaquemines Cares spoke about the Jambalaya Cook off and MHSD participation.

Orleans – Health Department is applying for a grant with the DOJ.

Adjournment

Motion by Michael Pechon at 2:30pm, Seconded by Charlotte Parent, All voted in favor.