

S. C. MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING
SCDMH Administration
2414 Bull Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201
July 12, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

The July 12, 2019 meeting of the South Carolina Mental Health Commission was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Dr. Alison Evans, Chairperson, in Conference Room 320 at the SC Department of Mental Health Administration Building, 2414 Bull Street, Columbia, SC. Mr. Stewart Cooner provided the invocation.

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS

Dr. Evans welcomed everyone. Visitors present were Jocelyn Piccone, Liberty Healthcare, and Tim Edwards, brother of John Edwards, BS, RN, CIC – SCDMH, Division of Inpatient Services.

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTION

Dr. Evans presented a resolution from the Commission upon the retirement of Lexington County Community Mental Health Center Director Richard L. Acton. Mr. Acton's resolution read as follows:

Whereas: The South Carolina Mental Health Commission and the State Director of the South Carolina Department of Mental Health recognize the retirement of Richard L. Acton, ACSW; and

Whereas: Mental health is critical to the well-being and vitality of all South Carolinians. Mental illness affects people regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity, religion or economic status; and

Whereas: The service of Mr. Acton has improved the lives of individuals living with mental illness. His roles in mental health have included establishing a leading provider of treatment services to children and their families, developing specialized treatment by combining support services with innovative therapeutic management, and establishing the first on-campus counseling program for students and families in the College community at Urbana University; and

Whereas: Mr. Acton, for 17 years, has embodied the Mission of the Department of Mental Health, to support the recovery of people with mental illnesses, demonstrating exceptional devotion to this mission serving as Executive Director of Aiken-Barnwell Mental Health Center for ten years in addition to his position as Executive Director of Lexington County Community Mental Health Center; and

Whereas: The South Carolina Mental Health Commission and the State Director of the South Carolina Department of Mental Health recognize Mr. Acton not only for his distinguished service as Executive Director of Lexington County Community Mental Health Center, but also as an accomplished social worker, therapist, instructor, and Chief Executive Officer;

Now, therefore: We express our profound appreciation to Mr. Acton for his dedicated service to the mentally ill and his invaluable service to the South Carolina Department of Mental Health; offer him our sincere gratitude and best wishes; and order that a copy of this Resolution be made a part of the Commission's permanent records.

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RECOGNITION OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE

Commissioner Sharon Wilson was recognized for her service as a Commission member since 2012 and as Vice Chair of the Commission since 2018. Commissioner Wilson was presented with a Resolution that was signed by Dr. Alison Evans, Chair, and SCDMH Interim State Director, Mark Binkley. Ms. Wilson's resolution read as follows:

Whereas: The South Carolina Mental Health Commission and the State Director of the South Carolina Department of Mental Health recognize the completion of the Commission term of *Sharon L. Wilson, MA, FACHE, CEAP*; and

Whereas: Mental health is critical to the well-being and vitality of all South Carolinians; and

Whereas: Mental illness affects people regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity, religion or economic status; and

Whereas: Ms. Wilson has embodied the Mission of the Department of Mental Health, to support the recovery of people with mental illnesses, having generously given her time and talents not only to the SC Mental Health Commission, but also to a career of service in the field of Behavioral Health; and

Whereas: The South Carolina Mental Health Commission and the State Director of the South Carolina Department of Mental Health recognize Ms. Wilson for her distinguished and conscientious service as a Commission member since 2012 and as Vice Chair of the Commission since 2018; and

Whereas: The service of Ms. Wilson has improved the lives of individuals living with mental illness;

Now, therefore: We express our profound appreciation to Ms. Wilson for her remarkable service to the mentally ill and her invaluable service to the South Carolina Department of Mental Health; offer her our sincere gratitude and best wishes; and order that a copy of this Resolution be made a part of the Commission's permanent records.

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APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion by Mr. Greg Pearce, seconded by Mr. Robert Hiott, the Commission approved the Agenda for today's Business Meeting.

All voted in favor to the above motion; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Pearce, and seconded by Mr. Hiott, the Commission approved the minutes from the Center Presentation of June 7, 2019.

On a motion by Mr. Hiott, and seconded by Mr. Pearce, the Commission approved the Minutes from the Business Meeting of June 7, 2019.

All voted in favor to the above motions; all motions carried.

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ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Dr. Evans stated that at the June 2019 Commission Meeting she announced she will remain on the Commission but will not seek re-election as Chairperson. Dr. Evans said it has been a privilege to serve as Chair of the Commission for 15 years.

On a motion by Mr. Hiott, seconded by Ms. Sharon Wilson, the Commission elected Mr. Greg Pearce as Chair. All voted in favor; the motion carried.

Dr. Evans stated that Commission Member Ms. Louise Haynes was not present at the meeting, however Ms. Haynes stated she would vote in favor of Mr. Pearce as Chairperson.

Mr. Pearce accepted the position of Chairperson and shared his passion for the Agency's mission to support the recovery of people with mental illnesses, as well as for their families.

As the newly elected Chairperson, Mr. Pearce presided over the remainder of the meeting.

On a motion by Mr. Hiott, seconded by Dr. Evans, the Commission elected Ms. Louise Haynes as Vice-Chair. All voted in favor; the motion carried.

Mr. Pearce commended Dr. Evans for her faithful and dedicated service as chairperson to the Commission for the past 15 years. Those in attendance responded with a standing ovation.

MONTHLY/QUARTERLY INFORMATION REPORTS

Mr. Alan Powell presented the items listed under Monthly/Quarterly Informational Reports, copies of which had been provided to the Commission.

Mr. Powell reported a total of 23 pending SLED investigations: eight (8) are assigned to SLED, ten (10) are assigned to Long-term Care Ombudsman Office, (four) are assigned to the Attorney General's Office, and one (1) is assigned to local law enforcement. The patient advocacy report remains substantially the same as previous month.

DEPARTMENTAL OVERVIEW AND UPDATE

Recognition of 2019 Palmetto Gold Award Recipients

Six (6) nurses from DMH are recipients of the 2019 Palmetto Gold Award, which recognizes the top one hundred (100) nurses in South Carolina each year:

Kenneth Davis, DSN, RN – Patrick B. Harris Hospital
John Edwards, BS, RN, CIC – SCDMH, Division of Inpatient Services
Annie Hutchinson, BSN, RN – CM Tucker Nursing Care Center – Stone
Elva "Sandy" Hyre, MSN, RN – SCDMH, Evaluation, Training and Research
Holly Scaturro, MSN, RN – Contract Monitoring and Forensic Outpatient Services
Janice Thomas, BSN, RN, CWCN – CM Tucker Nursing Care Center - Roddey

The award recipients were congratulated by Mr. Pearce, Mr. Binkley, Dr. Bellamy, and Dr. Handley, and were presented with SCDMH awards for their achievements.

Dr. Handley stated that 40 nurses from DMH have been recipients of the Palmetto Gold Award since inception.

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Community Update/Monthly Management Report

Ms. Deborah Blalock announced the Community Dashboard Monthly Management Report has been renamed to Transparency Monthly Indicators (TMI) report. Ms. Blalock presented the report, copies of which had been provided to the Commission.

Mr. Hiott asked about the Medicaid carve-in changes and if any impact to community mental health services. Mr. Binkley talked briefly about the Medicaid carve-in of community mental health services that was implemented in 2016. He said the Department had to adjust from billing one provider to multiple providers. It was a very difficult challenge, but over time it appears that MCO receipts for community mental health services are now approximating fee for services.

Ms. Blalock provided a handout to the Commission and presented the following information:

- Statewide Collaborative Documentation (when a clinician is completing the documentation with the patient)
 - % of Notes Completed within 24 Hours of Appointment for FY 2019 was just a little over 82%.
 - The benchmark for FY 2020 is 80%; an increase from 75% in FY 2019.
 - Ms. Blalock said she expects the trend to continue to rise.
- Number of Outpatients Served by Fiscal Year
 - The trend for the number of patients served by the outpatient system is on an upward trend, and is expected to continue to rise.
- Annual Access Rates Meeting Standards (measured based on when the appointment is offered)
 - The benchmark for FY 2020 is 95%; an increase from 90% in FY 2019.
 - Ms. Blalock reported eight (8) of the 16 centers are exceeding the standard.
- Average Annual Productivity
 - The benchmark for FY 2020 is 780 hours.
 - Productivity is measured on available hours, which is about 1,600 hours.
 - Productivity for FY 2019 was 772.29 hours.
 - Ms. Blalock stated there are strategies in place at the centers for improvement.
 - There is an increase in productivity hours in the centers with automated call reminder systems in place.
- Number of Schools with SCDMH Mental Health Services
 - Ms. Blalock reported a total of 739 schools with SCDMH mental health services in FY 2019. She said she anticipates an increase of up to 200 in FY 2020.
 - She reported eleven school districts have their own mental health program.
 - There is an increase in the number of school districts financially supporting SCDMH services in the schools. Mr. Pearce requested information related to school districts funding for school mental health services.
- Number of SCDMH Clinicians in Schools
 - Ms. Blalock said work is being done to determine clinician to school ratios based on the number of students in each school. She reported 412 DMH clinicians in the schools in FY 2019.
 - The goal is to hire 88 new clinicians in FY 2020.

Additionally, Ms. Blalock reported:

- The Greater Greenville Mental Health Center merger is complete.
- The Intensive Community Treatment Teams is about 66% to full implementation. She anticipates 100% implementation across all centers in the next few months.
- Staff members have been identified and are receiving training for the multi-dimensional family therapy intensive treatment for children.

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- Community Crisis Response and Intervention (CCRI) is in all 46 counties after hours. There are 29 counties with CCRI 24/7 and the remaining 17 counties that do not have full 24/7 CCRI will have it in place by the end of August. South Carolina is one of very few states in the country to have CCRI throughout the entire state.
- Mental Health Association-Greenville is the only lifeline network call center in South Carolina that accepts calls from the National Suicide Prevention Hotline. Discussions are underway on how to better receive and manage the calls from the hotline number.
- Blue Cross and Blue Shield has awarded the Department a grant to hire five (5) clinicians for law enforcement agencies across the system.
- The General Assembly has provided \$875,000 for FY 2020 for the development of an additional community care facility.

Report of the Inpatient Facilities Governing Body Meeting of April 10, 2019 and Approval of the Minutes

Dr. Versie Bellamy presented the Inpatient Facilities Governing Body Meeting minutes from the April 10, 2019 meeting, copies of which had been provided to the Commission.

Dr. Bellamy reported the following:

- G. Werber Bryan Psychiatric Hospital has received a note of Accreditation Decision of “accredited” and has full accreditation for up to 36 months beginning September 29, 2018.
- Morris Village is scheduled for its CARF triennial survey on July 25-26, 2019.
- The Department of Veteran Affairs surveyed the Stone Nursing Care Facility on March 26-28, 2019 with a very positive outcome.
- Effective May 1, 2019, Richland County Probate hearings are taking place at Bryan via teleconference.
- Effective April 24, 2019, telepsychiatry was implemented at Bryan.
- During this reporting period, seclusion utilization trended below the national average at Joint Commission accredited hospitals Harris and Bryan.
- CM Tucker observed a UTI rate of 0.6%, which is below the state average of 4.0% and the national average of 3.0%.
- The process has begun to obtain a validated survey tool through the National Research Institute (NRI), which will allow the psychiatric hospitals to benchmark nationally against other facilities.
- Current census for the Sexually Violent Predator Treatment Program (SVPTP) is 210.
- The DIS Executive Staff held a planning retreat on April 11, 2019 to develop initiatives and a framework for the 2019 Inpatient Services Strategic Plan. Dr. Bellamy expressed appreciation to Mr. Pearce for attending the retreat and for the support of the Commission.

Mr. Pearce expressed appreciation and commended Stuart Shields and his staff for their achievements and accomplishments.

On a motion by Mr. Hiott, seconded by Dr. Evans, the Commission approved the Governing Body Meeting minutes from the April 10, 2019 meeting.

All voted in favor to the above motion; motion carried.

Forensic Waiting List Update/Presentation

Mr. Binkley said the forensic services presentation, *Building Effectiveness within the Forensic Priority*, will provide an in-depth understanding of why forensic services and the efficient and effective treatment of patients who are referred through the criminal justice system is the Agency’s top priority. By law, the Agency is mandated to comply with court orders for the evaluation of criminal defendants’ capacity to stand trial. If the court subsequently commits the defendant

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to DMH, then DMH is mandated to accept those individuals into the hospital, provide treatment, and to comply with that court order.

The following is a list of the presenters:

Mark W. Binkley, J.D., Interim State Director
Versie J. Bellamy, DNP, MN, RN, Deputy Director, Inpatient Services & LTC
Kimberly Rudd, M.D., DIS Chief Medical Office and Assistant Deputy Director for LTC
Stuart Shields, MSW, MHA, Director, Bryan Psychiatric Hospital
Kelly Gothard, Ph.D., Director, Forensic Evaluation & Outreach Services
Allyson Sipes, Psy.D. Director, Clinical Initiatives
Holly Scaturro, MSN, RN, Director Contract Monitoring & Forensic Outpatient Services

A copy of the presentation is filed with the minutes in the Office of the State Director.

The Commissioners thanked everyone for the informative presentation.

Financial Status Update

Ms. Noelle Wriston highlighted certain information on the monthly financial report, copies of which had been provided to the Commission. Ms. Wriston reported DMH is projected to end FY 2019 under budget. Final numbers for FY 2019 will be presented at the August Commission Business Meeting. Mr. Wriston said that discussions have begun for needs for FY 2021 to present to the General Assembly in September.

Mr. Binkley said a draft of the FY 2021 budget requests will be presented to the Commission in August prior to the September Commission Business Meeting.

Issue Action Paper

Debbie Calcote presented an Issue Action Paper requesting approval of an easement to Duke Energy on the property at 1200 East National Cemetery Road, Florence, South Carolina for the purpose of providing electric and communication services for the construction and operation of the Florence Veterans Nursing Home. The site preparation for construction began in May 2019.

On a motion by Dr. Evans, seconded by Ms. Wilson, the Commission approved an easement to Duke Energy on the property at 1200 East National Cemetery Road, Florence, S.C.

All voted in favor to the above motion; motion carried.

Approval of Medical Care Account Waiver

Mr. Alan Powell presented an approval request for the waiver of a patient's outstanding balance of \$ 563,329.44, a copy of which had been provided to the Commission.

On a motion by Mr. Hiott, seconded by Dr. Evans, the Commission approved the request to grant a medical waiver to waive the patient's outstanding balance.

All voted in favor to the above motion; motion carried.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Binkley reported the following:

- S.303 Workgroup on Transportation of Emergency Admissions met on June 28, 2019 at DMH. Participation included the SC Sheriffs' Association, SC Police Chiefs Association, Probate Judges, NAMI, SC Chapter of Emergency Physicians, SC Association of Counties County, and others. It was discovered through court administration that probate judges report the number of mental orders, which include detention orders, child commitment orders, chemical dependency commitment orders, and other orders that have nothing to do with emergency admission. The workgroup will work on determining a more accurate number in regard to transportation of emergency admissions.
- The House Legislative Oversight Subcommittee hearings were held on June 20th and July 9th. The next hearing is scheduled for July 23, 2019.
- Senior Management met with Amanda Whittle, Director, Department of Children's Advocacy. The new Department came into existence on July 1, 2019.
- DMH Senior Management met with the Department of Disabilities and Special Needs (DDSN) senior staff and their new director Mary Poole on July 3, 2019. Another meeting will be schedule in the near future.
- Alan Powell, General Counsel, announced his retirement effective July 31, 2019. Beth Hutto will fill the position effective August 1, 2019.
- The 2019 DMH Executive Leadership Program will begin on September 4, 2019.

NOTICE/AGENDA

A notice and agenda of the meeting were sent out to all individuals and news media who requested information, in accordance with State law.

ADJOURNMENT

At 1:00 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Hiott, seconded by Ms. Wilson, the Commission adjourned the Business Meeting and entered into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter and the recruitment for a permanent State Director. Upon convening in open session at 1:45 p.m., it was noted that only information was received; no votes are actions were taken.

ATTENDANCE

Commission Members

Dr. Allison Evans, Chair Robert Hiott
Sharon Wilson, Vice Chair Greg Pearce

Visitors/Staff

Mark Binkley, JD	Tim Edwards	Jocelyn Piccone	Allyson Sipes
Dr. Versie Bellamy	Kelly Gothard	Alan Powell	Janice Thomas
Debbie Blalock	Patricia Handley	Dr. Kimberly Rudd	Irene Thornley
Debbie Calcote	Annie Hutchinson	Stacey Rhodes	Noelle Wriston
Stewart Cooner	Sandy Hyre	Holly Scaturro	Valerie Perkins
John Edwards	Eleanor Odom	Stuart Shields	

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APPROVALS



L. Gregory Pearce, Jr.
Chair



Kim Ballentine
Recording Secretary