# S. C. MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING SCDMH Administration 2414 Bull Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201 August 5, 2022

A Business Meeting of the S.C. Mental Health Commission was held in Room 320 at the S.C. Department of Mental Health Administration Building on Friday, August 5, 2022, at 10:30 a.m. The meeting notice and agenda were posted prior to the meeting and notice made to all individuals and news media who requested information in accordance with State law.

#### CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Pearce called the meeting to order at 10:33 a.m. Chaplain James Stokes provided the invocation.

#### INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS

Chairman Pearce welcomed everyone. Visitors present virtually were: Beth Franco, Executive Director, Disability Rights South Carolina; Elizabeth Harmon, Executive Director, SC Behavioral Health Coalition; Bill Lindsay, Executive Director, NAMI SC; Jon Siler, Regional Access Manager, Otsuka; John Tjaarda, Area Director, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, SC Chapter; and Susan von Schenk, Capital Information Affiliates (CIA). Wanda McMichael, Program Manager, Liberty Healthcare Corporation, was also present.

### RECOGNITION OF FORENSIC POSTDOCTORAL PSYCHOLOGY FELLOW

Chairman Pearce recognized Dr. Michaela Mozely, who was present virtually, and presented her with a certificate of completion in the S.C. Department of Mental Health Postdoctoral Fellowship in Forensic Psychology with the Forensic Evaluation Services Department. Chairman Pearce congratulated Dr. Mozely and wished her all the best as she begins the next phase of her life. Dr. Mozely announced that following graduation she will be moving to Chicago, Illinois. Dr. Kelly Gothard, Director of Forensics, also extended congratulations to Dr. Mozely and thanked her for her efforts. Dr. Gothard thanked Dr. Samantha Horsley, Chief Psychologist, DMH Forensic Evaluation Services Department, for all her efforts on training and making the program a success.

### RECOGNITION OF 2022 PALMETTO GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS

Chairman Pearce expressed appreciation for the DMH nursing services. He said James Woods Babcock established the Training School for Nurses in 1892. DMH was 50 years ahead of the University of South Carolina (USC) as they did not start a nursing school until 1942. The DMH Training School for Nurses was discontinued in 1950. Chairman Pearce said that nursing has been a part of DMH for many years and we honor them today.

Chairman Pearce recognized Dr. Patricia Handley, Chief Nursing Officer, to introduce the recipients of the 2022 Palmetto Gold Award. Dr. Handley said that 2022 marks the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Palmetto Gold Celebration. The Palmetto Gold Award recognizes the top one hundred nurses in South Carolina each year. This year, there were 15 Palmetto Gold nominations from DMH. A total of 51 nurses from DMH have been recipients of the Palmetto Gold Award since inception. Dr. Handley noted that Dr. Bellamy was in the inaugural group of Palmetto Gold Award winners.

Five nurses from DMH are recipients of the 2022 Palmetto Gold Award. The award recipients are:

Aldevone Ardoin, MSN, BSN, RN – William S. Hall Psychiatric Institute Emily Avant, BS, RN – Santee-Wateree Mental Health Center

Laura Griffith, MBA, BSN, RN – G. Werber Bryan Psychiatric Hospital Erica Mollohan, MRC, BSN, RN – Columbia Area Mental Health Center Cheryl Randall, BSN, RN – Division of Inpatient Services

Dr. Handley expressed appreciation to Ms. Jean Felder, MHA, RN, Performance Improvement Liaison, G. Werber Bryan Psychiatric Hospital, for her outstanding guidance and support. Ms. Felder is the DMH representative on the Palmetto Gold Committee.

#### INTRODUCTION OF VETERANS NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATORS

Dr. Kimberly Rudd introduced the following Veterans Nursing Home Administrators: Mr. Eric S. Jones, Administrator, E. Roy Stone Veteran's Nursing Home; Mr. Russell Evatt, Administrator, Richard M. Campbell Veterans Nursing Home; Mr. Greg McNeill, Administrator, Palmetto Patriots State Veterans Home; and Ms. Theresa Smelser, Veterans Victory House. Ms. Laura Fowler, Administrator, Veteran Village State Veterans Home. Each person talked about their areas of responsibilities. A brief bio on each administrator had been provided to the Commission.

# MOMENT OF COMMEMORATING 200<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF DMH

Chairman Pearce's moment of commemorating the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of DMH was presented above under agenda item, "RECOGNITION OF 2022 PALMETTO GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS."

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

By motion duly made and seconded, the Commission approved the Agenda for today's Business Meeting.

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

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

By motion duly made and seconded, the Commission approved the minutes from the Facility Presentation of June 3, 2022 and the Commission Business Meeting of June 3, 2022.

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

### ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Dr. Carl Jones nominated Mr. Greg Pearce to be re-elected Chair. Mr. Bobby Mann seconded the nomination. No further nominations were received. Mr. Pearce was re-elected by acclamation as Chair.

Dr. Alison Evans nominated Dr. Elliott Levy to be re-elected Vice-Chair. Dr. Jones seconded the nomination. No further nominations were received. Dr. Levy was elected by acclamation as Vice-Chair.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Pearce commented on the number of newspaper articles about mental health services recently published and said it was probably in response to the launching of the new nationwide crisis hotline 988. He said that it is disturbing for comments to be published that state mental health care is difficult to get. He reminded everyone that DMH operates 16

mental health centers and 60 clinics throughout the state. There are multiple resources to access mental health care in this state. He said DMH is not in the business of turning away anyone seeking mental health services. Access to mental health care throughout South Carolina could not be any easier than a phone call.

### Dr. Rogers reported the following:

- During June and July Dr. Rogers and DMH leadership conducted collaborative meetings with the leadership of the following South Carolina state agencies: Department of Social Services (DSS), Department of Children's Advocacy (DCA), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse (DAODAS), and Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services (PPP).
- Dr. Rogers met with the following legislators concerning mental health services in the State: House Speaker Murrell Smith, Representative Gilda Cobb-Hunter, Senator Brad Hutto, and Senator John Scott. A meeting with Senator Thomas Alexander is scheduled on August 16, 2022.
- Dr. Rogers met with Jarrod Bruder, Executive Director, SC Sheriff's Association, on July 8, 2022, and Chief John Hicks, Chief Jail Administrator, York County Sheriff's Office, on July 15, 2022 to talk about mental health and jails. He will meet with Kent Lesesne, Director of Governmental Affairs, SC Association of Counties on August 16, 2022.
- Quarterly meetings are being held with probate judges around the state to talk about DMH's available resources and services to broaden a patient's access to mental health treatment.
- Dr. Rogers and Mr. Paul Morris attended the 2022 National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD) Annual meeting on July 24-26 in Arlington, Virginia. Dr. Rogers noted a couple of things that came out of that meeting. He said that about ¼ of mental health systems in the country have had some kind or reorganization in the past two years. Mental health systems in every state in the United States are experiencing staff issues and that is extremely problematic in terms of trying to provide services for the increase in mental health services needed. Almost all states are pushing to increase the number of both civil and forensic beds. Dr. Rogers referred the surge in the number of forensic patients as creating a forensification of state hospitals by taking more civil beds offline and looking at how to increase the number of forensic beds. He said that 988 was a big discussion. There is confusion around the country of what numbers to dial for mental health care, crisis services that currently exits, and how to get care. DMH is working with community partners to get the message out and to promote all the available resources throughout the state.
- Dr. Rogers attended the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Lowcountry Mental Health Conference July 27-29, 2022 held in Charleston, S.C. The conference is sponsored by the Charleston-Dorchester Mental Health Center and Mental Health Heroes, a non-profit organization in Charleston, S.C. He congratulated them on an outstanding job and said the conference was an absolutely wonderful event!
- DMH is working with the Action Council on preparations for the 2023 Cross Cultural Conference which will take place in February 2023.
- Dr. Rogers and Dr. Jones met with Retired Col. Alexander Conyers, President of South Carolina State University, and community leaders in Orangeburg to convene a conference statewide to address the complications and solutions in dealing with the mental health and substance abuse challenges of young people in South Carolina. It is hopeful that the conference will be televised through South Carolina ETV.
- Dr. Rogers gave a presentation at the 2022 Pediatric Symposium held at McLeod Health in Florence, S.C. on July 20, 2022. The symposium centered around managing acute mental health issues in a pediatric medical setting.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) among DMH, HHS, DJJ, and DCA for the provision of a psychiatric residential treatment facility (PRTF) for justice-involved youth requiring mental health treatment was executed on August 2, 2022. DMH will be the leading agency in the project. The PRTF will be located on the NE Campus across from what is currently Hall Institute Administrative Buildings.
- DMH leadership continues to have conversations about salaries for Masters Level Therapists with State HR. The S.C. Department of Administration provided a report which shows DMH salaries are low. DMH will continue to work with the legislature and budget directors to provide the increases.

- Dr. Rogers announced that DMH recently was awarded the GoMobile Grant. DMH will be working with the Clemson University School of Nursing to expand nurse-led mobile units in Orangeburg County.
- Dr. Levy asked if there has been any discussion regarding an increase in salaries for doctors. He noted that two doctors recently left the Charleston-Dorchester Mental Health Center due to low salaries. Dr. Rogers reported that about 2 ½ years ago senior leadership began efforts to increase salaries for nurses. Those salaries have increased substantially compared to 2 ½ years ago. Currently, senior leadership is working on increasing salaries for MHPs and for some administrative staff in community mental health centers. He said that reviewing physician salary increases is on the list for senior leadership to do. Dr. Levy said one of his concerns is there is not enough focus on retaining great staff. Dr. Rogers said the Department has not been able to keep up with competitive pay salaries, especially for doctors, which makes for an existential threat to the agency. He said that Agency vacancies are largely related to salaries and competition from outside private entities. Dr. Levy said there probably needs to be a more aggressive focus on the Agency's relationship with the legislature. Dr. Rogers said the Department is committed and continues to look at ways to use internal and state provided funding to raise staff salaries while trying to stay fiscally sound. Dr. Rogers said, "It is a tough balancing act, but we are committed to our employees and will continue to do so to the extent that we can."

# MONTHLY/QUARTERLY INFORMATION REPORTS

Ms. Elizabeth Hutto, General Counsel, presented the items listed under Monthly/Quarterly Informational Reports, copies of which had been provided to the Commission.

Ms. Hutto reported for the month of July 2022 a total of four pending investigations for the Office of Public Safety.

Ms. Hutto reported that as of Wednesday, August 3, 2022, there are 25 pending SLED investigations. One case was assigned to SLED from September of 2021; 17 cases were assigned to Long-term Care Ombudsman Office, of which the oldest is from March 2021; and four cases were assigned to local law enforcement and three were assigned to the patient advocate and has to do with complaints originating out of the Sexually Violent Predator Treatment Center (SVPTC).

Ms. Hutto highlighted the following for the month of June 2022 from the Patient Advocacy Report:

- 72 calls to patient advocacy.
- 74 complaints were resolved.
- The number of complaints by category resolved is 559 (complaints are broken out by category, a single patient complaint may have more than one category). Ms. Hutto reported three complaints under subtype 9d Voting. She commended patient advocate Alma Corboy for her good work in helping patients register to vote. Ms. Corboy has for the past ten years coordinated all the voter registration activities. She helped patients register to vote absentee for the June 2022 primaries resulting in over 60 patients voting in the primaries.

#### 6-MONTH REPORT OF COLLECTIONS

Ms. Hutto presented the items from the six-month report of medical care accounts collections for January 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022, copies of which had been provided to the Commissions. These funds are collected through involuntary means from self-pay clients. A total of \$1,209,527.93 was collected from January 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022. Dr. Levy noted that Catawba Mental Health Center had \$151,354 in setoff debt collections, the highest amount compared to all the other centers. Ms. Hutto explained the setoff debt collections are based on state tax returns. If a citizen owes money to a public hospital, like DMH, the program allows DMH to attach that debt to the individual's state tax return. There was discussion about showing the setoff amount as a percentage versus dollars for a more accurate measure of data.

Ms. Hutto reported a total of 1,016 open files and 97 files closed during the reporting period. A total of \$7,000 were waived by Financial Services during the reporting period.

### SEMI-ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REPORT

Dr. Lynelle Reavis, Director of Quality Management and Compliance, Division of Medical Affairs, gave a SCDMH Compliance Program Review for January – June 2022, copies of which had been provided to the Commission. A copy of the report is on file with the minutes in the Office of the State Director. Dr. Reavis explained that QMAC ensures conformance with federal and state requirements as well as to requirements of third-party payors of the delivery and billing of quality services, regularly monitors and audits the mental health centers and facilities activities, and enforces appropriate conduct and discipline. Following are highlights from the report.

- There were eight compliance issues in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter FY'22: one administrative performance; three clinical performance; two credentialing; and two external audits.
- There were ten compliance issues in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter FY'22: two clinical performance and eight external audits. The majority of external audits were school mental health audits that were initiated by HHS.
- Dr. Reavis reported a total of 42 compliance issues in FY'22:
  - o Clinical Performance 23
  - o Credentialing 2
  - o Administrative 1
  - o External Audit 16
- In FY'22, the following companies audited DMH:

Company	# of Audits
Absolute Total Care	2
Molina	5
Healthy Blue	2
SC Department of Health & Human Services	1
Select Health	1
Wellcare	1
United Healthcare	1
United Recovery Services	3

- There were twelve HIPAA / HITECH Events in 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter FY'22 and eight HIPAA/ HITECH Events in 4<sup>th</sup> quarter FY'22. Most of those events were for unauthorized access/disclosure.
- There were 41 HIPAA / HITECH events in FY'22. Of those, 37 were for unauthorized access/disclosure.
- The most common complaints and privacy issues in FY'22:
  - o Excessive Billing
  - o Copy/Paste
  - o Falsifying Record
  - O Disclosure of Protected Health Information (PHI) to Unauthorized Individuals
  - o Inadvertent Email/Mailing or Unencrypted Email
  - o Individual Receiving PHI for Another Patient
  - o Social Media Posting/Contact

Dr. Levy asked about the process for when an employee falsifies a record(s). There was discussion. Dr. Reavis said the employee is terminated and a report is made to the Licensure Board.

Chairman Pearce thanked Dr. Reavis for the informative presentation.

### DEPARTMENTAL OVERVIEW AND UPDATE

## Community Mental Health Services

Ms. Deborah Blalock, Deputy Director, Community Mental Health Services, presented the Community Mental Health Services (CMHS) report. Following are highlights from the report:

- Ms. Blalock presented the CMHS Trends and Transparency Monthly Indicators (TMI) spreadsheets, copies of which had been provided to the Commission.
- Through the end of June 2022, a total of 927,623 services were provided to 85,716 patients by community mental health services. There is a total of 2,052 staff in community mental health services. This number includes all positions, not just clinicians.
- Ten of the 16 mental health centers have successfully received their CARF® accreditation, and one center is awaiting the final report. One mental health center is scheduled to have its survey next week.
- To date three school districts have terminated their school mental health services contracts with DMH: one district in Horry County, one district in Kershaw County, and one district in York County. Two of the districts will provide their own mental health services and one district is contracting with a private entity. Ms. Blalock noted that the districts that are no longer contracting with DMH are sending children that they find too difficult to serve to DMH. Unfortunately, because DMH is not in the school, this can create hardship on the caregiver and the child. Another item of concern to note is that private providers are not serving unfunded children.
- Highway to Hope (H2H) has served 737 patients. 482 of those patients had never been served by DMH.
- There were more than 1,700 attendees at the LowCountry Mental Health Conference which was held July 27-29, 2022 in Charleston: 1,251 in person and 574 virtually.
- Ms. Blalock said there have been several reports in the news recently about police departments negotiating with individuals with mental health issues. She said that DMH has staff who are trained negotiators and who participate and respond with law enforcement negotiation teams in dealing with hostage/barricade situations involving people who are in a state of mental and emotional distress.
- DMH has provided mental health resources and coping strategies to sister agencies, and on six occasions to DHEC, in an effort to support and reduce the stress associated with the pandemic.
- Ms. Blalock reported that she plans to write an op-ed in response to recent news articles concerning resources and access to mental health care in South Carolina. The op-ed will include facts and information on the resources that are available and how to access those resources. Ms. Blalock said that DMH has comprehensive resources for mental health care in every county in the State. Dr. Jones said that the op-ed is a very good response to the articles as anything left unanswered remains true to a lot of people.
- A facility in the Midlands area has been identified for a Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU). DMH's Physical Plant staff are responding to DHEC's request for architectural renderings of the facility. Ms. Blalock said that in the absence of a CSU, a person may go to an emergency room or to a jail, so the CSU is a diversion from both the emergency room and jail. Efforts are being made across the state to develop CSUs, specifically in the Midlands, Florence, Anderson, Kershaw, and Greenville areas.
- A location in Charleston has been identified for the development of a second 988 Call Center.

#### Division of Inpatient Services (DIS)

Dr. Bellamy presented the Division of Inpatient Services report, copies of which had been provided to the Commission. Following are highlights from her report:

• Effective August 17, 2022, Charles "Keith" Jackson will assume the role of Chief Operating Officer (COO) for the SCDMH's inpatient hospitals. Mr. Jackson will manage the daily operations of G. Werber Bryan Psychiatric Hospital (BPH) (including William S. Hall at BPH), Patrick B. Harris Psychiatric Hospital, and Morris Village

Alcohol and Drug Treatment Center. Dr. Bellamy expressed appreciation to Mr. Allen McEniry for his leadership as the Acting Chief Executive Officer at BPH.

- Dr. Bellamy reported there are COVID positive cases at all DIS facilities in both vaccinated and unvaccinated patients. Isolations and quarantines are slowing admissions. DIS is working with DHEC partners for consults and direction with regard to regulatory requirements and how to streamline the process of admissions.
- June 2022 concluded with the highest number of monthly orders for forensic evaluation on record, with a total of 151 evaluation orders. The previous high was 144 in June 2018. The average number of monthly evaluation orders received from 2017 to present is 92, which accounts for a 64% increase from the monthly average. All evaluations were performed within the required statutory timelines.
- On June 13, 2022, the Jail-Based Competency Restoration pilot program opened, housing 25 defendants. Under contract with a private partner, operations at the site continue to go well. In August, an additional group of 25 defendants will be admitted to the program.
- The first cohort of the jail-based day treatment program for Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center concluded in July. Additional defendants are under assessment at the detention center for appropriateness for the program, with a tentative start date in August. Training is in place for staff at Spartanburg Mental Health Center and the Aiken Barnwell Mental Health Center in preparation for outpatient and jail-based competency restoration treatment. Dr. Bellamy commended the dedication and hard work of the Forensics staff and leadership. There was discussion about leadership at Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center. Dr. Gothard reported the Forensics staff continues to work with the Detention Center's mental health coordinator. Ms. Blalock said the current medical provider at Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center is Advance Correctional Healthcare.
- Dr. Bellamy presented the SCDMH Inpatient Services HBIPS (hospital-based inpatient psychiatric services) Report & Long-Term Care Quality Measures, copies of which had been provided to the Commission. The Psychiatric Hospital Quality Measures HBIPS data focuses on Admission Screening (violence to self, violence to others, substance use, psychological trauma history, and patient strengths); Physical Restraint Use; Seclusion Use; and Patient Discharged on Multiple Antipsychotic Medications with Appropriate Justification. Two high profile Long-Term Care Quality Measures focus on high risk unstageable pressure ulcers and falls of major injury. Dr. Bellamy reported performance above or below the state and national averages in hospital and long-term quality. A copy of the report is filed with the minutes in the Office of the State Director.

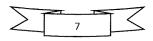
Dr. Rogers said the Department has a plan to increase the number of inpatient beds by 21 by October 1, 2022. There were funds in the FY22 budget to purchase beds in the community, but not funded in FY23. Using reserve funds, the Department will continue bed purchases in the community.

## Administrative Services & Financial Status Update

Mr. Paul Morris, Deputy Director, Administrative Services, and CFO presented the monthly financial report, copies of which had been provided to the Commission, and Administrative Services report.

#### Financial Status Update

- DMH ended FY22 with a balance of \$29.2 million. Mr. Morris noted an improvement over prior year of \$13.6 million. The remaining balance will be split between deferred maintenance and carry-over into FY23.
  - o Variance Explanation over FY21
    - Revenue
      - State Appropriations over prior year
        - o VA Nursing Homes \$14 million
        - o Forensics \$3.7 million
        - O Workforce \$4.3 million
        - o Non-recurring Appropriations \$6.3 million



- Expense
  - Salary & Wages (\$4.5 million)
  - Case Services
    - o VA Nursing Homes \$13 million
    - o External Inpatient Crisis Bed Days \$7 million
- The Department's FY24 budget plan is due to the Executive Budget Office by Friday, September 23, 2022. A preliminary outline will be presented to the Commission at its September 2022 business meeting. There was discussion.
  - O Dr. Rogers explained that the South Carolina General Assembly allocated \$20 million to the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) for the development of a PRTF. The MOU between DMH, DJJ, HHS, and DCA signed this past week stipulates that DJJ shall transfer the funding to HHS to oversee the funding of the project, and DMH will manage the Request for Proposals (RFP) process and construction of the project. DMH will own and operate the facility.
  - O DMH leadership continues to have conversations with the Department of Administration/State HR on salary initiatives and how to improve MHP staff salaries. Dr. Rogers presented the salary increase request to Speaker Murrell Smith in July. He will present the request to the Senate Budget Chair and House Budget Chair in August.
- Mr. Morris attended the 2022 NASMHPD Annual meeting on July 24-26 in Arlington, Virginia. He said that one of the topics discussed was called, "The Unwinding of Medicaid After the Pandemic Declaration Ends." States have been required in the public health emergency to provide continuous coverage for Medicaid recipients until that declaration ends. Nationwide there was a 25% increase in Medicaid enrollment. When the declaration ends beneficiaries will need to re-enroll in Medicaid.

### Administrative Services

- Mr. Morris gave an update on the Electronic Health Record (EHR) Exploration Project.
  - o Proposals were due to DMH by July 13, 2022.
  - o Scoring of the proposals will be on September 7-8, 2022.
  - o Demonstrations from up to three vendors will be conducted on September 27-29, 2022.
  - o Intend to award will be on October 6 and the final award on November 12, 2022.

### HR Report

Ms. Eleanor Odom-Martin, Chief of Staff, presented the HR report, copies of which had been provided to the Commission. Following are highlights from the report:

- From July 2021 through July 2022, the Department had a total of 865 FTE hires and 1,116 departures.
- Recruiting efforts in June included advertising through social media, television media, and billboards. A job fair was held on June 29, 2022 for inpatient services. There were 33 attendees and 30 offers presented, with 18 positions filled. The next job fair will focus on the upstate area and will be held at Harris Psychiatric Hospital. Future plans are to hold job fairs regionally for some of the community mental health centers.
- The main reason employees are leaving the Agency is money/salaries. Pursuant to State regulations a 15% increase may be offered to retain an employee. The State does not allow the provision of salary that causes inequity among peers.
- Open enrollment for 2023 changes in employee benefits is October 1 31, 2022.
- Ms. Odom-Martin attended the United Way State Leadership Meeting on July 27, 2022. The Department will hold activities to encourage employee interest in participating in United Way.
- Senior Management is in the process of implementing universal review dates for employee performance evaluations. Each division will have an established date. The proposed policy was submitted to State HR for review and the Department is now working on the suggested revisions.

Dr. Levy said it would be interesting to know what is the most efficient or what has been the most successful recruitment approach. Mr. David Diana, Marketing Director, is working with HR to identify what has been the most effective recruitment approach.

### OTHER BUSINESS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 12:53 p.m., by motion duly made and seconded, the Commission adjourned the Business Meeting and entered into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter and to finalize the State Director's performance evaluation. Upon convening in open session at 1:53 p.m., Chairman Pearce noted that only information was received; no votes or actions were taken.

#### ATTENDANCE

#### **Commission Members**

L. Gregory Pearce, Jr., Chair

Dr. Elliott Levy, Vice Chair Dr. Alison Evans (virtually)

Dr. Carl Jones

Mr. Bobby Mann (virtually)
Dr. Crystal Maxwell (virtually)

Visitors/	Staff
Deborah	Blalocl

Elizabeth Hutto
Wanda McMichael
Paul Morris
Elegnor Odom Mar

Eleanor Odom-Martin Dr. Lynelle Reavis Dr. Kenneth Rogers Chaplain James Stokes

**Brett Williams** 

present	virtually	via	Zoom
-			

Aldevone Ardoin Emily Avant Janet Bell

Dr. Versie Bellamy Dr. Robert Breen Mirtha Brown

Algie Bryant
Pete Camelo
Rochelle Caton

Pete Creighton Teresa DeLoach Matt Dorman Russell Evatt Allison Farrell

Jeanne Felder Beth Franco

### present virtually via Zoom

Melanie Gambrell Mary Griddine Dr. Kelly Gothard Laura Griffith Dr. Patricia Handley

Jeffery Ham
Elizabeth Harmon

Darla Helms Dr. Maryjane Hicks

Charice Jones
Eric Jones
Tracy LaPointe
Bill Lindsay
Sarah Main

Christine Mayo

present virtually via Zoom

Dr. Allen McEniry Greg McNeill

Dr. Michaela Mozley

Valarie Perkins Cheryl Randall Vicki Redding

Dr. Kimberly Rudd

Jon Siler

Theresa Smelser Tamara Smith Irene Thornley John Tjaarda Eric Turner Susan von Schenk

Susan von Schenk Lindsay Walker Sheena Willis

**APPROVALS** 

L. Gregory Pearce, Jr.

Chair

Kin Ballentine

Kim Ballentine

Recording Secretary