

S. C. MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING
SCDMH Administration
2414 Bull Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201
May 12, 2023

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, May 12, 2023, 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 10:30 a.m. Chairman Pearce announced Commissioner Bobby Mann was absent, excused. Commissioner Dr. Crystal Maxwell was present virtually via Zoom. Chaplain James Stokes provided the invocation.

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS

Chairman Pearce welcomed everyone. Visitors present virtually were: Gail Cordial, Director, Policy & Government Relations, Alkermes; Bill Lindsay, Executive Director, NAMI SC; John Magill, former SCDMH State Director; Kathleen Martin, Attorney, Disability Rights South Carolina; Wanda McMichael, Program Manager, Liberty Healthcare Corporation; and Susan von Schenk, Capital Information Affiliates (CIA).

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Commissioner Evans was recognized for her service as a Commission member since March 2004. She was elected Chair of the Commission that same year and served as Chair for 15 years. On behalf of the Commission, Chairman Pearce presented Dr. Evans with the "Order of the Brick" award in appreciation of her dedicated service to the S.C. Mental Health Commission.

Mr. John Magill, former DMH State Director, expressed appreciation to Dr. Evans for her service. He said, "*Alison was a counselor at a mental health center in the Pee Dee region, and that is where she got her start with being one of the leaders in mental health in this state. She was president of the Mental Health Association in Hartsville, S.C., which had the largest membership of any local mental health association in the state, served on the Board of the State Mental Health Association when I was president, she became president of the State Mental Health Association, and subsequently came to the Department as Commissioner. The only thing I would say is nobody has given more to mental health than she has. When I was State Director for 12 ½ years, our partnership was absolutely wonderful. I can't imagine having a chairman that was more receptive and supportive than Alison was in all those years. Thank you very much, Alison, and congratulations.*"

Dr. Bank said Commissioner Evans was Commission Chair when he became Medical Director in 2008. He expressed appreciation for her exemplary contributions to mental health in South Carolina. He talked about her commitment to the students at the South Carolina Governor's School for Science and Mathematics, where she was both mental health counselor and an instructor. Dr. Evans would bring students from the school to visit DMH in conjunction with a Commission Business meeting to learn about the Department. Dr. Bank thanked Dr. Evans for her service and said, "*I hate to see you go!*"

Dr. Evans said that she never expected to be appointed to the Commission and to serve for as long as she has, but that it has been a pleasure and a journey. She said a lot of good things have happened during this time, but the single best decision the Commission made while she served on the Commission was to hire John Magill. She said her legacy is totally connected to Mr. Magill. She said she is proud of the Department and the dedicated employees. She thanked the

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Commission for presenting her with the order of the brick and said it is such a great commemoration of the work of the Department.

On behalf of the Commission, Chairman Pearce expressed appreciation to Dr. Evans for her commendable contributions and for her faithful and dedicated service to the Commission and said she will be greatly missed.

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.

2023 HASSENPLUG CLINICIAN OF THE YEAR ANNOUNCEMENT

Chairman Pearce announced the name of each nominee. The nominees were: Ms. Stacey Rowell, Division of Community Mental Health Services; Ms. Brooke McCarthy, Aiken Barnwell Mental Health Center; Ms. Julie Bird, Anderson-Oconee-Pickens Mental Health Center; Ms. Marie Green, Beckman Center for Mental Health; Ms. Kayla Bennett, Berkeley Community Mental Health Center; Ms. Pam Hutchinson, Catawba Community Mental Health Center; Ms. Laura Hare; Charleston-Dorchester Mental Health Center; Mr. Donnie "DC" Campbell, Coastal Empire Mental Health Center; Ms. Lauren Azarigian, Columbia Area Mental Health Center; Ms. Kia Morgan, Greater Greenville Mental Health Center; Ms. Tiera Brown, Lexington Community Mental Health Center; Mr. Morris Thompson, Orangeburg Area Mental Health Center; Ms. Tamarah Williams, Pee Dee Mental Health Center; Ms. Carline Samuels, Santee-Wateree Mental Health Center; Ms. Bailey Bridges, Spartanburg Area Mental Health Center; Mr. Michael Stolarik, Tri-County Community Mental Health Center; Mr. Matthew Pressley, Waccamaw Center for Mental Health; Dr. Rushiraj Laiwala, C.M. Tucker Nursing Care Center; Ms. Lainey Fenn, BPH Forensics; Dr. Marie Gehle, Forensic Evaluation Services; Dr. Rebecca Tummons, G. Werber Bryan Psychiatric Hospital; and Mr. Calvin Jones, Morris Village

On behalf of the Commission, Chairman Pearce announced the winner of the 2023 Louise R. Hassenplug Outstanding Clinician of the Year is Mr. Donnie "DC" Campbell. Following is the nomination:

After 33 years of service at our center, Donnie "DC" Campbell continues to meet all performance goals and develop easy rapport with all types of patients with mental illness. Our Chief of Psychiatric Services has told me that when patients speak about their journey to recovery, she cannot count the times the story starts with "well, we just talked to Mr. Campbell and he got us here. We heard you could help." In addition to skillfully maintaining a full caseload of clinic-based patients of all ages and referral type, DC has embedded himself in organizations in our community that trust him to help them access services at CECMHC. On many occasions, DC has patients who request him as their counselor, because they are the second or third generation of their family or friends that he has helped over his professional career. For instance, DC works in the community with Beaufort AMI to provide counseling services to youth who have been through the DJJ system and helps them change the trajectory of their lives. He makes special visits to the facility on Fridays. He was seen leaving the staff appreciation event in December in order to dedicate his time to a new patient there. When the Beaufort AMI patients are at the clinic, you will see DC out in the back playing basketball while doing therapy to make the kids feel safe and comfortable to work on difficult events in their lives.

DC is an unsung hero to many patients as they are inspired through his counseling to "feel seen." They absorb from his dedication to the DMH mission that they should also insist on "being seen" and take ownership of their needs in their recovery. Though he has not taken any official supervisory positions,

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he is frequently seen mentoring newer staff, volunteering to help with crises, and serves as a go-to for cases that require a creative approach to rapport. He supports our staff morale through culinary efforts routinely; His jerk chicken, pound cake, and shrimp and grits have made many a staff meeting more festive! He will cook in the wee hours to make CECMHC patient Thanksgiving happen. He has provided mental health support in hurricane evacuation shelters. He will stay late and rearrange sessions when another staff member or a family needs him to do so. DC is a selfless, loyal, and caring counselor and colleague. He is endless in his efforts to decrease mental health stigma and offer support to all citizens in Beaufort County. CECMHC and Beaufort County are all fortunate for having DC as a member of our community. I believe DC exceeds the description of “outstanding clinician” and he is most deserving of the 2023 Louise R. Hassenplug Award.

Mr. Campbell thanked the Commission, the Department, and Coastal Empire Community Mental Health Center for the recognition and the support he receives serving so many in the community. On behalf of the Commission Chairman Pearce congratulated Mr. Campbell and thanked him for his many years of service with the Department.

2022 OUTSTANDING SCDMH EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR ANNOUNCEMENT

Dr. Bank announced the name of each nominee. The nominees were: Mr. Thomas Lloyd, Aiken Barnwell Mental Health Center; Ms. Cristal Brown, Anderson-Oconee-Pickens Mental Health Center; Mr. Darius Myers, Beckman Center for Mental Health; Mr. Kelvin Tyler, Jr., Berkeley Community Mental Health Center; Mr. Reginald Brackett, Catawba Community Mental Health Center; Ms. Cindi Ruhl, Charleston Dorchester Mental Health Center; Ms. Omega Smalls-Francis, Coastal Empire Mental Health Center; Ms. Karen Brown, Columbia Area Mental Health Center; Ms. Sheryl Ladson, Greater Greenville Mental Health Center; Ms. Rebecca Curry, Lexington Community Mental Health Center; Ms. Nicole Shackelford, Orangeburg Area Mental Health Center; Ms. Traci McKight, Pee Dee Mental Health Center; Ms. Belinda Caudle, Santee-Wateree Mental Health Center; Ms. Joanne Paige, Spartanburg Area Mental Health Center; Ms. Tabitha Campbell, Tri-County Mental Health Center; Ms. Desiree Aklin, Waccamaw Center for Mental Health; Ms. Taneifa Evans, Public Safety; Ms. Jennifer Butler, Community Mental Health Services; Ms. Laura Sue Fetters, Harris Psychiatric Hospital; Ms. Christine Kaminer, Bryan Psychiatric Hospital – Adult; Dr. Jennifer Alleyne, Bryan Psychiatric Forensics; Ms. Beverly Williams, C.M. Tucker Stone; Ms. Gwendolyn Smalls-Odubena, C.M. Tucker Roddy; Mr. Harold Blackwell, Morris Village; and Ms. Arias Hall, William S. Hall.

Dr. Bank announced the 2022 Outstanding Employee of the Year is Ms. Omega Smalls-Francis, Coastal Empire Mental Health Center. Following is the nomination:

Omega Smalls-Francis has devoted her career to working with and advocating for mental health patients and services for 46 years with the SCDMH – CECMHC. She has served as a direct line clinician in her early career days providing services to mental health patients and at the same time always looking ahead towards improvement and expansion of mental health services. She moved into the role of Clinic Director in the Hilton Head Clinic of CECMHC and truly embedded herself in the community she serves. It is difficult to distinguish her personal life and her professional life as it relates to mental health services. In all of her roles personal or professional, she is always advocating for mental health, establishing connections, and building relationships and partnerships with others. At this time, Ms. Omega-Smalls Francis is not only the Hilton Head Clinic Director, but also serves as the Patient Advocate for CECMHC, and as an Administrator with CECMHC Mobile Crisis On- Call Services. In her current advocacy role, she excels in demonstrating patient-centered care. Our patients feel heard and respected in dealing with any issues requiring the attention of the patient advocate. This is evidenced in her resolving most patient-advocacy issues on the local level. Often, she is able to transition initial problematic situations into opportunities to build additional relationships in the community and create new community partners.

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I was fortunate to have started my career with CECMHC as a clinician in the Hilton Head Clinic under the leadership and mentoring of Ms. Smalls-Francis. She readily shares her knowledge to less experienced staff demonstrating her investment in the growth of younger staff and promoting team work with all position and experience levels. She is dedicated and devoted to CECMHC and the community in which she serves. She acts as a liaison with NAMI-Low Country, Beaufort County schools, community hospitals, and private providers in the community in coordinating mental health services. The community recognizes her as integral part of the Hilton Head – Bluffton community. You can just mention the name “Omega” within her service area and you are greeted with a smile, positive comments, and stories of her great impact on mental health services. Omega Smalls-Francis is a synonym for mental health for CECMHC and especially the Beaufort County, Hilton Head-Bluffton service areas. In looking for someone who is “outstanding” in working tirelessly for improvements for mental health patients and services, Omega Smalls-Francis is that person.

Ms. Smalls-Francis thanked the CECMH family and said without them she would not be where she is today. She said CECMH is the best department in the Agency! Dr. Bank and Chairman Pearce congratulated Ms. Smalls-Francis on receiving this award and thanked her for her service.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

By motion duly made and seconded, the Commission approved the minutes from the Commission Business Meeting of March 3, 2023 and the meeting on April 14, 2023. Chairman Pearce noted there was not a quorum at the April 14, 2023 meeting.

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

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 introduced Ms. Tamara Curry. Ms. Curry began her responsibilities as Staff Attorney effective February 17, 2023. Prior to coming to DMH, she was an associate probate judge in Charleston County for 25 years. Ms. Curry will be promoting efforts to train solicitors, police departments, circuit courts, family courts, probate courts, and legal stakeholders in the area of mental health law.

Ms. Hutto reported for the month of April 2023 a total of five pending investigations for the Office of Public Safety.

Ms. Hutto reported that as of yesterday there were 24 pending SLED investigations. Four cases were assigned to SLED, of which the oldest is from August 2022; thirteen cases were assigned to Long-term Care Ombudsman Office, of which the oldest is from June 2022; six cases were assigned to local law enforcement; and one case is with the DSS Adult Protective Services.

Ms. Hutto highlighted the following from the Patient Advocacy Report:

- 92 calls to patient advocacy in March 2023; a total of 251 year to date.
- 83 complaints were resolved in March 2023; a total of 231 year to date.
- The number of complaints by category resolved is 98 (*complaints are broken out by category, a single patient complaint may have more than one category*).

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE SCDMH COMMISSION BYLAWS

Ms. Hutto presented the following amendments to the Bylaws of the South Carolina Mental Health Commission, copies of which had been provided to the Commission (*underscore indicates new language*):

- To change the makeup of the Governing Body Committee for Inpatient Facilities (page 8, Article VI, Section 3). The Deputy Director of Administrative Services shall replace the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) on the Governing Body. The Deputy of Administrative Services supervises the Division of Financial Services and can fill the role on the Governing Body previously held by the CFO.
 - Article VI, Section 3:
“**Section 3.** The Governing Body Committee for Inpatient Facilities shall conduct governing body responsibilities for each inpatient hospital and nursing care center of the Department of Mental Health as directed by the Mental Health Commission. The voting members of the committee shall consist of the SCDMH Deputy Director of Inpatient Services, (Chair); the Medical Director of the Department of Mental Health; the General Counsel, the Inpatient Services Administrator, the Inpatient Services Chief Nursing Officer, the ~~Chief Financial Officer~~, Deputy Director of Administrative Services, the Inpatient Services Medical Director, the Inpatient Services Director of Performance Improvement, Risk Management, Regulatory Compliance and the ~~Inpatient Services~~ Inpatient Services Financial Controller. The Committee will meet no less than quarterly beginning on the second Tuesday of January. A quorum of the Committee shall be a majority of the individuals occupying the designated positions. Each inpatient hospital and nursing care center of the Inpatient Services Division may have in attendance at the meetings the Director, Medical Director, Chief Nursing Officer and the Performance Improvement Director. A community advocate may be selected by the State Director to also serve on the Committee.
- Remove a duplicative reference to Inpatient Services (page 8, Article VI, Section 3, line 9).
- In the final sentence of Article VI, Section 3, remove an unnecessary comma.
- Attachment 1 to the Bylaws (Mental Health Commission Members) shall be updated to include the current Commission Members.

By motion duly made and seconded, the Commission approved the amendments to the Commission Bylaws as presented.

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

Ms. Hutto referenced Article III. Quorum in the Bylaws. A majority of the Commission shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Commission. She noted with the departure of Dr. Evans there will be five members on the Commission with three members constituting a quorum. She reminded the Commission that the election of Commission officers is held each year at the July business meeting.

USE OF BULL STREET PROCEEDS TO SUPPORT OLMSTEAD ACTIVITIES

Ms. Hutto presented an Issue Action Paper (IAP) requesting Commission approval for additional expenditures from the Bull Street property sale proceeds to create a fund to assist patients access appropriate community housing. A copy of the detailed IAP had been provided to the Commission. If approved, proceeds from the Bull Street property parcel sales in the amount of \$500,000 would be used to create an “Olmstead Fund” to assist hospitalized patients’ transition from the hospital to community housing, as well as periodically assist those patients in other secure institutional settings seeking admission to a DMH hospital when appropriate community housing would enable diversion of the patient to community treatment. The balance of unallocated Bull Street sale funds would be \$7.8 million.

By motion duly made and seconded, the Commission approved the IAP as presented.

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

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO S.C. CODE REGS. § 87-2., PARKING REGULATIONS

Ms. Hutto said the Department proposes to update its Parking Regulations found in S.C. Code Regs 87-2 in order to update the bond penalties and remove superfluous offenses. The Notice of Drafting on the proposed amendments was published in the South Carolina State Register on December 23, 2022. Ms. Hutto presented the following, of which a detailed copy had been provided to the Commission Members.

87-2 Parking Regulations.

A. The South Carolina Mental Health Commission hereby establishes the following violations and bonds related to vehicular parking at the Department of Mental Health facilities.

(1)	Parking improperly		\$ 4 7.00
(2)	Parking at fire plug	up to	\$ 1 20.00
(3)	Double parking	up to	\$ 6 20.00
- (4)	Parking overtime		\$ 4.00
- (5 4)	Parking wrong side of street		\$ 5 7.00
(6 4)	Parking in no-parking area	up to	\$ 5 20.00
(7 5)	Parking in reserved space	up to	\$ 4 20.00
(8 6)	Blocking (i.e., driveway, loading zone, sidewalk)	up to	\$ 1 20.00
(9)	Blocking sidewalk		\$ 10.00
(10 7)	Parking in loading zone	up to	\$ 5 20.00
(11 8)	Employees driving parking w/o ID decals		\$ 4 7.00
(12)	Leaving keys in parked or unattended vehicle		\$ 6.00
(13 9)	Parking in designated accessible space for handicapped	up to	\$ 15 500.00

By motion duly made and seconded, the Commission approved the proposed amendments as presented.

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

The proposed regulation and notification of public hearing will be submitted to the State Registrar for publication in the June 23, 2023 State Register. The public hearing will be held during the August 4, 2023 Commission Business meeting.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

On behalf of Ms. Robin Crawford, Legislative Liaison, Dr. Bank gave a legislative update. Following are highlights from the report:

- The House passed S.399, but not before replacing the Senate language with the language from H.4124. The version of the bill passed by the House splits DHEC into two new agencies: the Department of Environmental Services and the Department of Public Health. The bill also transfers the state's veterans' nursing homes from DMH to the South Carolina Department of Veterans Affairs. The contracted homes will be removed by July 1, 2024. There was discussion. The bill also creates a study of the state's healthcare services agencies. The Department of Administration will prepare a final report and recommendations to the House, Senate, and Governor's office by April 1, 2024. The Department of Health and Human Services will give support to the Department of Administration in the study.

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- The House and Senate have agreed to go with the Senate’s version of state employee salary raises, giving \$2,500 raise to employees making less than \$50,000 annually and a 5% raise for employees making over that amount.

Chairman Pearce commended Ms. Crawford for her outstanding work. Dr. Levy said that Dr. Bank’s involvement and establishing relationships with the legislators have been significant.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

DEPARTMENTAL OVERVIEW AND UPDATE

HR Report

On behalf of Ms. Eleanor Odom-Martin, Human Resources Director, Dr. Bank presented the HR report, copies of which had been provided to the Commission. Below are highlights from the report:

- Calendar Year Comparison of Filled FTEs:
 - April 2021 – 3,893
 - April 2022 – 3,788
 - April 2023 – 3,554
- In FY22 the Department had a total of 800 FTE hires and 1,080 departures; thus far in FY23 the Department has 757 FTE hires and 711 departures.

Dr. Levy asked if the Department continues to advertise through media and billboards as part of HR’s recruiting initiatives. Ms. Calcote said those efforts continue as well as the development of a strategic marketing plan for the entire Agency, which she anticipates will be launched soon.

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.
- Ms. Blalock announced that May is Mental Health Awareness month. All the mental health centers are engaged in multiple fun activities to increase awareness of the importance of mental health and the impact it has on individuals, families, and communities.
- The final two Mobile Response RVs have been procured and are in the process of being wrapped. Every mental health center in South Carolina now has an RV.
- DMH was invited to participate in a policy academy for employment for youth. DMH has invited staff from the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), and the Department of Education (DOE) to participate. A team of eight will be going to Maryland to learn about how to better develop employment opportunities for youth.
- Ms. Blalock announced there is a potential for a residency program in Orangeburg County with the Tri-County Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse. If funded, DMH stands ready to provide residency program rotations. There was discussion.
- Ms. Blalock said there has been discussion around the idea of creating a statewide behavioral health triage call center. A meeting will be held in the next two weeks with leadership from DMH, DAODAS, HHS, DDSN, DAODAS, PRISMA, & MUSC to discuss.
- SCHopes has received a total of 8,100 callers since inception in June 2020 through yesterday. That grant ends on May 31, 2023. Ms. Blalock said she hopes to convert the SCHopes telephone number to the potential statewide behavioral health triage call center.

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- DMH and DSS are collaborating on creating three positions. Two positions are child related for Richland County and Greenville areas. DMH and DSS are cost sharing those positions which will be housed in the DSS office. The third position will be in Adult Protective Services and will be a liaison to DSS. The position will be fully funded by DSS for one year.
- Ms. Blalock reported DMH has a total of nineteen clinicians embedded in law enforcement agencies; requests for more are received weekly. There was discussion.
- Ms. Blalock said she anticipates the 988 second call center will begin taking calls by the end of this month, which will help increase the in-state call answer rate currently at 57%.
- The renovations for jail-based restoration at the Al Cannon Detention Center in Charleston should be complete by the end of May. The Charleston program will serve those defendants in the county jail, currently about 8-10 individuals.
- Entry level MHP salaries in May 2022 was \$36,000. After June 1, 2023 entry level MHP salaries will be \$45,150.

Dr. Jones said that we need to be very proud of the system of care that we have in South Carolina, a very comprehensive and integrated approach to service and delivery from inpatient all the way to the community. Dr. Jones said this needs to be promoted. He also talked about a report he recently viewed about current relationships with ministerial alliances or clergy and the significant increase in antisemitism in the state of South Carolina versus previous years. He talked about the importance of communicating the readiness to respond when there is trauma anywhere in the community. Ms. Blalock said she will provide a list of what is happening and how the mental health centers are responding in the communities at the next Commission meeting.

Administrative Services & Financial Status Update

Ms. Debbie Calcote, Deputy Director, Administrative Services, presented the Administrative Services and monthly financial report, copies of which had been provided to the Commission. As of March 31, 2023, the Department is projected to end FY23 with a balance of approximately \$9.2 million. Ms. Calcote noted this is an increase from February 2023 by approximately \$221,000 and is a reflection of conservative revenue projections primarily from the mental health centers and a slight reduction in payroll. She noted the Department has expended 78.52% of state appropriations as of March 31, 2023.

Major Construction/Renovations Update

Ms. Calcote gave an update on major construction projects:

- Bryan Hospital – Hall Institute Lodges C and D renovations
 - Lodges C and D renovations consist of replacing standard hospital wall, flooring and other surfaces with more damage resistant materials.
 - Original timeline for completion for Lodges D and C was May and mid-July respectively.
 - Current timelines are extended to mid-July for Lodge D and the end of September for Lodge C. Delays in securing a qualified bid for the project lead to latest completion timelines.
 - Work began on April 26, 2023 and by May 1, 2023 demotion of sheetrock and flooring was completed. The construction was one week ahead of schedule at that point.
 - A moisture problem caused by water intrusion under a wall onto concrete floor base was discovered in part of the lodge once the flooring was removed. The added step of sealing the wall and concrete may change the completion schedule.
- Bryan Hospital – Lodges E and B (Adult Lodges)
 - Bryan Hospital opened in 1978. Over time, the 1970's era construction has led to maintenance issues. Replacement of the lodge roofs in 2007-2009 is one example. Bryan was built on top a watershed for the lake shared by Bryan Hospital and Morris Village. Construction of the facility did not address the ground water. Consequently, water intrusion issues arise periodically.
 - Every lodge is affected by damage caused by water seeping through the exterior wall into interior walls.

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- Most recently, Lodge E damage was mitigated by coating the exterior wall with a sealant, drying the interior masonry wall, and reapplying plaster and paint. Subsequent repairs to other lodges to address water intrusion will include the installation of French drains by DMH Physical Plant Services, most of which will be dug by hand to prevent damage to the utility and fiber optic lines.
- Lodge E was completed in late April.
- Lodge B residents moved into Lodge E in late April 2023 so that 11 windows on the lodge damaged in January/February 2023 could be replaced. Supply chain delays for the custom windows left patients on the lodge until the move in April.

Ms. Calcote introduced Ms. Tracy Turner. Ms. Turner began her responsibilities as Assistant Deputy Director, Administrative Services, effective May 2, 2023. She previously served at DMH from 2008 to 2021 in multiple capacities, including program manager in Financial Services, Columbia Area Mental Health Center's Administrator and Agency Controller. She most recently served as assistant bureau chief of Medicaid Policy at HHS.

Issue Action Paper – Columbia Area ATM License & Credit Union Lease

Ms. Turner reported DMH and the South Carolina State Credit Union have a lease agreement for a one-acre parcel located at the intersection of Farrow Road and Beckman Road for the Credit Union, and a lease agreement parcel of property of approximately .2582 acres located at 2711 Colonial Drive, Columbia for an ATM. The initial lease for the Credit Union started on July 1, 2011, and the ATM started on July 20, 2012. Both leases expired in 2022. DMH has no plans for the property that they occupy. The South Carolina state Credit Union is requesting a 10-year license/lease on both properties. At the suggestion of the Department of Administration Real Property Services, the ATM will become a licensed property of the South Carolina State Credit Union. Entering into the two agreements will extend the presence of the Credit Union until June 30, 2032, and the ATM until September 30, 2032. Those agreements have been signed as of April 2023. This was received as information.

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:

- Dr. Bellamy reported as of May 11, 2023 one facility reported one patient COVID positive. The Viral Disease Taskforce is no longer holding weekly meetings but will meet as needed. On behalf of the Commission, Chairman Pearce expressed appreciation to Dr. Breen and the taskforce for their good work.
- The March 2023 overall Average Daily Census (ADC) reflects a four-point gain compared to February 2023.
- As of April 21, 2023, there was a total of 147 individuals on the Forensic Ready for Admission Waitlist. There was discussion which included training and educating stakeholders on mental health law and jail-based restoration.
- Dr. Bellamy presented the BPH and Harris Bed Turnover Report for October 2022 through April 2023, a copy of which is filed with the minutes in the Office of the State Director.
- National Nurses Week is May 6-12, 2023; National Nurses Day was May 6, 2023; and International Nurses Day is today, May 12, 2023. Dr. Bellamy expressed appreciation for the nurses at DMH and Inpatient Services and for their dedication and contributions to support the recovery of persons with mental illness, and for their great work in healthcare delivery. On behalf of the Commission, Chairman Pearce joined Dr. Bellamy in honoring the Department's nurses, their dedication, and commitment.

Approval of Minutes of the Governing Body for Inpatient Facilities of February 8, 2023

Dr. Bellamy presented the February 8, 2023 quarterly Inpatient Facilities Governing Body minutes, copies of which had been provided to the Commission.

By motion duly made and seconded, the Commission approved the Inpatient Facilities Governing Body minutes from the February 8, 2023 meeting.

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

OTHER BUSINESS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

On behalf of the staff at Bryan Hospital, Dr. Bellamy expressed appreciation to Dr. Evans for her service to the Commission and DMH, and said it was always a joy when the students from the Governor’s School visited the facilities.

Dr. Bank introduced Dr. Ralph Pollock. Dr. Pollock joined DMH in 2020 at Bryan Psychiatric Hospital. Effective May 2, 2023, Dr. Pollock assumed the role of Acting Director of Medical Affairs. He will continue to serve as medical director of the civil, adult, and child and adolescent divisions at Bryan.

Dr. Evans thanked Ms. Valarie Perkins, Director of Internal Audit, and Mark Binkley, Director of Executive Projects, for all their support and keeping her well informed during her time on the Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

At 12:40 p.m., by motion duly made and seconded, the Commission adjourned the Business Meeting and entered into Executive Session to discuss personnel, legal, and contractual matters. Upon convening in open session at 2:10 p.m., Chairman Pearce noted that only information was received; no votes or actions were taken.

Dr. Evans made a motion to adjourn, which was duly seconded. The motion was approved.

The May 12, 2023 meeting of the South Carolina Mental Health Commission adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Commission Members

Mr. Greg Pearce, Chair	Dr. Carl Jones
Dr. Elliott Levy, Vice Chair	Mr. Bobby Mann, absent, excused
Dr. Alison Evans	Dr. Crystal Maxwell, virtually via Zoom

Visitors/Staff

	<i>present virtually via Zoom</i>	<i>present virtually via Zoom</i>	<i>present virtually via Zoom</i>
Dr. Robert Bank	Julie Bird	Marie Green	Darius Myers
Dr. Versie Bellamy	Dr. Robert Breen	Jeffery Ham	Linda Palmer
Mark Binkley	Patrick Bresnan	Laura Hare	Sylvett Porter
Deborah Blalock	Bailey Bridges	Ashlei Hart	Matthew Pressley
Debbie Calcote	Cristal Brown	Dr. Maryjane Hicks	Dr. Lynelle Reavis
Elizabeth Hutto	Jackie Brown	Kathy Hugg	Vicki Redding
Valarie Perkins	Mirtha Brown	Keith Jackson	Shawnta Reeder-Locks
Tracy Richardson	Jennifer Brush	Louise Johnson	Dr. Kimberly Rudd
Chaplain James Stokes	Peter Camelo	Charice Jones	Angie Salley
Tracy Turner	Donnie Campbell	Tracy LaPointe	Carline Samuels
Brett Williams	Belinda Caudle	Bill Lindsay	Omega Smalls-Francis
	Leigh Ann Chmura	Sarah Main	Jessica Suber
	Gail Cordial	John Magill	Irene Thornley
	Matthew Dorman	Kathy Martin	Dr. Rebecca Tummons
	Lainey Fenn	Brooke McCarthy	Susan von Schenk

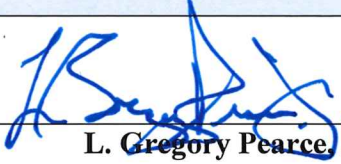
S. C. MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING
MAY 12, 2023

present virtually via Zoom
Allison Findley
Melanie Gambrell
Dr. Marie Gehle
Dr. Kelly Gothard

present virtually via Zoom
Wanda McMichael
Margaret Meriwether
Frances Moody
Denise Morgan

present virtually via Zoom
Tamarah Williams
Dr. Sheena Willis
Kevin Woods

APPROVALS



L. Gregory Pearce, Jr.
Chair



Kim Ballentine
Recording Secretary

