

S. C. MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING
SCDMH Administration
2414 Bull Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201
Called Meeting
July 26, 2023

A called meeting of the S.C. Mental Health Commission was held virtually via Zoom at the S.C. Department of Mental Health Administration Building on Wednesday, July 26, 2023, at 11:00 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 11:10 a.m. (Note: there was a delay in calling the meeting to order due to technical difficulties).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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

ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairman Pearce made the following statement: *“At the last meeting, July 14, 2023, of the Commission, the item came up as per our bylaws to elect officers. At that time, there was some discussion and question about the method of which we use to select officers. After discussion the Commission decided to defer the election of officers until the September 2023 meeting. The September meeting was selected because I will be out of town for the August 2023 meeting. After we passed that motion, our attorney reviewed the bylaws and contacted me on Monday following the meeting on Friday and stressed the fact that the bylaws clearly says the election shall be held in July and that her recommendation was that we have a special called meeting and proceed with the election of officers in order to comply with our bylaws and also protect ourselves in the event that there is an audit or something would come up we would be in violation of our bylaws. So, with that in mind, I then tried to do the best I could to expedite a review of what has been historically been done and how elections have been held. I did send out an email to everyone on July 18, 2023 with my preliminary findings; following that I talked with two more people about it and historically there has never been a situation where there has been a nominating committee; it has always been nominations from the floor and it has generally followed the procedure which I outlined in my email that the existing chair will either retire or step down or someone serving would request an opportunity to serve and generally would defer to that person. With all of the people I've talked to, going back to the 1970s there was only one instance that I could identify where there was a contested election. Most of the time it has all worked out in advance. With that in mind, in order to proceed today, we need to agree just to follow course of having nominations from the floor, so without objection, if there is an objection, I'd like to hear it now before we proceed with just having nominations from the floor. I do have Roberts Rules of Order here with me. Just quickly, that when we nominate from the floor, any member can make a nomination, a person can nominate him or herself. Nominations do not require a second. So, are there any objections to proceeding with having nominations from the floor and electing a chairman at this time.”*

There were no objections. Chairman Pearce opened the floor for nominations.

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Mr. Bobby Mann nominated Dr. Elliott Levy as Chair. Dr. Crystal Maxwell nominated Dr. Carl Jones as Vice-Chair. There were no further nominations. There being no further nominations, Chairman Pearce moved the nominations come to a close and to elect Dr. Levy and Dr. Jones by acclamation. The motion was duly seconded.

All voted in favor to the motion. Dr. Levy was elected by acclamation as Chair and Dr. Jones was elected by acclamation as Vice-Chair. The action from the Commission today will take effect at the adjournment of the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Pearce thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve the Commission as Chair for the past four years.

At 11:22 a.m. by motion duly made and seconded, the Commission adjourned the called meeting.

ATTENDANCE

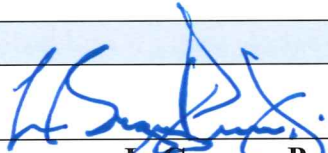
Commission Members

L. Gregory Pearce, Jr. Chair Dr. Crystal Maxwell
Elliott Levy, Vice Chair Mr. Bobby Mann
Dr. Carl Jones

Visitors/Staff

Dr. Robert Bank	<u>present virtually via Zoom</u>	<u>present virtually via Zoom</u>	<u>present virtually via Zoom</u>
Elizabeth Hutto	Janet Bell	Dr. Patricia Handley	Sylvett Porter
Brett Williams	Dr. Versie Bellamy	Keith Jackson	Tracy Richardson
	Jackie Brown	Tracy LaPointe	Janie Simpson
	Jennifer Brush	Bill Lindsay	Jessica Suber
	Robin Crawford	Kathy Martin	Irene Thornley
	Matthew Dorman	Allen McEniry	Susan von Schenk
	Dr. Kelly Gothard	Margaret Meriwether	Lindsay Walker
	Jeffery Ham	Dr. Ralph Pollock	Dr. Sheena Willis

APPROVALS



L. Gregory Pearce, Jr.
Chair



Kim Ballentine
Recording Secretary