

# Advantage

## Behavioral Health Systems

### MENTAL HEALTH, DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, AND ADDICTIVE DISEASES SERVICE BOARD MEETING #136

March 27, 2007

#### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mary Jo Matthews – Madison  
Carter Smisson – Jackson  
Ralph Danson - Greene  
Donald Hector – Walton  
John Davis – Athens-Clarke

Linda Vinson – Walton  
Pat Ellis - Jackson  
R. Charles White – Walton  
Emma Evans – Barrow  
Douglas Bower – Oglethorpe

#### **BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

Vacant – Morgan  
Vacant – Athens-Clarke  
Mae Davis – Elbert

Shirley Segars – Barrow  
Mary Gannon Gunn – Athens-Clarke  
Katie McDaniel - Oconee

#### **ADVANTAGE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEMS STAFF PRESENT**

Brenda Smith  
Linda Hazinski  
Larry Gabriel  
Cindy Darden  
Fred Eckhardt

Terry Tellefson  
Terry Frazier  
Scott Clark  
Laurie Wilburn  
Liz Leyton

#### **GUESTS**

Boyd McLocklin  
R. Stan Baker

Michael Daniel

**The meeting was opened by Linda Vinson, Community Service Board (CSB) Chairperson at 5:00 p.m.**

#### **1.0 ACTIONS**

- 1.1 Motion to accept the agenda as amended. Moved (Pat Ellis); Seconded (Carter Smisson); Passed (Unanimously).
- 1.2 Motion to accept the minutes of the February 27, 2007 CSB Meeting. Moved (Ralph Danson); Seconded (John H. Davis); Passed (Unanimously).
- 1.3 Motion to accept closed session for discussion of a legal matter and the Executive Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Search Committee address the Board regarding appointment/employment. Moved (Carter Smisson); Seconded (Mary Jo Matthews); Passed (Unanimously).
- 1.4 Motion to return to open session of the meeting. Moved (John H. Davis); Seconded (Carter Smisson); Passed (Unanimously).
- 1.5 Motion to adjourn the meeting. Moved (Ralph Danson).

## **2.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**2.1** The Board had privileged consultation with legal counsel pertaining to pending or threatened litigation, settlements, claims, administrative proceedings or settlements. The CEO Search Committee addressed the Board regarding the appointment and/or employment of a CEO for Advantage.

## **3.0 NEW BUSINESS**

**3.1** Pat Ellis, CEO Search Committee stated, “The CEO Search Committee feels that Advantage has viable candidates for the position of Executive Director, and we want to encourage all eligible candidates to consider applying for the job.”

### **3.2 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**3.2.1** Cindy Darden, Clinical Director reported on subpoenas issues. 92% of the subpoenas are being initiated from the Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS). Mr. Tellefson negotiated with David Kelley, DFCS, for ABHS to submit an evaluative summary in lieu of appearing in court. Dr. Darden noted that ABHS would probably request the attorney to attend all other court hearings and recommend quashing which means staff will not have to attend.

**3.2.2** Ms. Ellis said a word of appreciation to all managers and requested that it be shared with staff. “We appreciate you very much. We read in the reports how you do having to deal with these challenges, and you just keep going. I know we must have the best Management Team.” John Davis, Athens-Clarke CSB Representative recommended that the Board schedule a tour of ABHS sites. This gives the Board direct insight of day-to-day operations of programs.

**3.3** Fred Eckhardt, Director of Operations, noted that staff has been preparing for the transition to the State’s Fee-For-Service methodology for reimbursement for services being rendered. This will require a high volume of productivity. In-service has been conducted at ABHS sites for providers and operation staff focusing on the Client Service Rate requirements in order to be successful in the fee-for-service environment. Board members were distributed a copy of the Client Service Rate Tool Kit. The Tool Kit consists of the incentive plan, billing codes, Calculate Advantage Success Habits (CASH) Register, rolling three (3) month averages, and working with operations. Elizabeth Leyton, Operations Secretary conducted a concise presentation of the CASH Register training.

**3.4** Mr. Tellefson introduced Boyd McLocklin. Mr. McLocklin is the former Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for Georgia Mountains CSB, Gainesville, Georgia. He is retired and conducts volunteer duties with the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI). Mr. McLocklin noted on the series of articles published in the Atlanta Journal Constitution (AJC) begin to focus on the hospitals in Georgia. The coalition for the State Mental Health is made up of four (4) major advocacy groups (Mental Health Association,

Child & Youth Advocacy Group, NAMI, and the Substance Abuse Group). Their priorities for this year's legislators were to get a bill passed on advanced directives, introduce a bill to appoint a committee to study the State system and develop an ongoing oversight of the system in the future, and fund the OMBUDSMAN bill. NAMI national along with the Department of Justice noted that the Georgia system has a crisis and it needs a thorough examination which they are in the process of doing. Mr. McLocklin reported that NAMI Georgia met with the CSB Association earlier this month and offered their assistance. NAMI contacted the Division and Governor's offices and requested delaying the implementation of fee for services.

#### **4.0 OLD BUSINESS**

- 4.1 Mr. Tellefson reported on the Athens Holiday Lights. ABHS is moving forward with the project.
- 4.2 Mr. Tellefson reported that ABHS will meet with an Administrative Law Judge regarding the mediation with the Department of Community Health (DCH).

#### **5.0 BOARD REPORTS**

- 5.1 Finance Committee – Larry Gabriel, Chief Financial Officer presented the financial report. He and staff are continuing to work with programs with budget issues. ABHS has been approved for a line of credit with the bank in case they (ABHS) need it for cash purposes.
- 5.2 Membership & Nominations Committee – Dr. Davis, Committee Chairman reported that he and Mr. Tellefson met with Dr. Derrill Gay, Consultant for the GA Association of CSB. They reviewed amendments to the law for appointments to the Board. ABHS originally had eighteen (18) members but with the new law, it will decrease to thirteen (13) and possibly three (3) additional members who will serve in an ex officio capacity. It has been a change in the way the CSBs determine what constitutes a quorum and who wins in terms of voting issues. Dr. Gay suggested for ABHS attorney to draft the bylaws amendments due to this being a legal document. Michael Daniel, Attorney will follow up.
- 5.3 Legislative Committee – no report requiring an action.
- 5.4 Bylaws and Policy Committee – no report requiring an action.
- 5.5 Rights of Persons Served Committee – no report requiring an action.
- 5.6 Ad Hoc Awards Committee – the meeting was cancelled.
- 5.7 Ad Hoc Public Relations Committee – no report requiring an action.

#### **6.0 REPORTS FROM THE CSB EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

- 6.1 Mr. Tellefson reported that Commissioner B. J. Walker called a special meeting with the CSB Directors to address issues regarding fee for services. The major areas of concerns were no change in the Medicaid rates and the Multipurpose Information Consumer Profile (MICUPS).

**7.0 REPORTS FROM THE CSB CHAIRPERSON**

**7.1** Ms. Vinson thanked the CEO Search Committee for their hard work in getting prepared for interviewing candidates for the CEO position.

**7.2** Ralph Danson, Greene County CSB Representative reported that the GA Association of CSBs fall conference will be held September 23-25, 2007 in Chattanooga, TN.

**8.0 PUBLIC ACCESS**

**8.1** No one present to address the Board.

**8.0 ADJOURNMENT**

---

DATE

---

APPROVED BY: RALPH DANSON  
SECRETARY

---

SUBMITTED BY: BRENDA SMITH

---

APPROVED BY: LINDA VINSON  
CHAIR PERSON