



Georgia Department of Behavioral Health &  
Developmental Disabilities

Kevin Tanner, Commissioner

**D·B·H·D·D**

Office of the Commissioner

**Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities  
Meeting Minutes  
February 9, 2023  
1:00 p.m.**

*This meeting was conducted via WebEx with video connection for Board Members.*

*There was no in-person attendance at the Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities.*

---

**Meeting Called By:** David Glass, Chair

**Recording Secretary:** Courtney Gay (DBHDD)

**Board Members**

- **In-person Conferencing:** David Glass, Ellice Martin, Ed.D., Lasa Joiner, Jimmy Thomas, Deb Bailey, and Bubber Epps
- **Virtual Conferencing:** Jan Ligon, Ph.D., Jean Sumner, M.D., and Amanda Owens

**DBHDD Leadership:** Kevin Tanner, Commissioner  
Ashley Fielding, Assistant Commissioner  
Brenda King Woodard, General Counsel

**Agenda**

**Call to Order:** Chair David Glass; 1:00 p.m.

Chair David Glass welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked David Sofferin to conduct the roll call.

**Recovery Presentation**

David Sofferin introduced guest speaker Kenneth Pinion, AUD Peer Recovery Coach of the Georgia Council for Recovery. Mr. Pinion shared his journey of recovery.

## Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Tanner opened his report by welcoming new DBHDD Board members Deb Bailey and James "Bubber" Epps, Jr. He gave accolades and well wishes to them both.

Dr. Emile Risby, M.D., *director of Division of Hospital Services*, provided a presentation on violence and on the workforce in DBHDD hospitals.

Michael Polacek, *director of Legislative Affairs*, presented a legislative update.

Christopher Hamilton, *chief financial officer*, gave presentation on AFY 2023 and FY2024 budgets.

Ashleigh Caseman, *director of Office of Waiver Services*, provided presentation on IDD waiver rates.

Sarepta Archila, *CCBHC state project director*, gave presentation on the certified community behavioral health clinics in Georgia.

Commissioner Tanner closed his report giving recognition to DBHDD staff, encouraging words, and gratitude for all the hard work.

## Action Items

Two action items were approved:

1. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – December 16, 2022: Chair David Glass asked for a motion to approve. Lasa Joiner made the motion, which was seconded by Jimmy Thomas. The motion was passed unanimously.
2. Approval of Request to Surplus Approximately 0.65 Acres of Parking Lot at Central State Hospital Adjacent to The Kidd Building: Chair David Glass asked for a motion to approve. Jimmy Thomas made the motion, which was seconded by Ellice Martin, Ed.D. The motion was passed unanimously.

## Chair's Report

Chair David Glass gave brief remarks, commended the agency for its great work, and gave admiration to Commissioner Tanner.

## Public Comment

No public comment was given.

## Adjournment

There was no further business. Chair David Glass asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Lasa Joiner and was seconded by Jimmy Thomas. The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

## Special Notes


The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities will be held on **Thursday, April 13, 2023**.


*\*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all Board meetings will be held virtually until further notice. Otherwise, Board meetings are held at 2 Peachtree Street, 24<sup>th</sup> Floor, Board Room, Atlanta, GA from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted.*

## Respectfully submitted by:

Courtney Gay, recording secretary

## Signatures:

  
Chair

  
Secretary