



Georgia Department of Behavioral Health
& Developmental Disabilities

Judy Fitzgerald, Commissioner

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Office of the Commissioner

**Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities
Meeting Minutes
June 10, 2021
1:00 p.m.
2 Peachtree Street, 24th Floor Boardroom
Atlanta, Georgia 30303**

Meeting Called By: David Glass, Vice Chair

Recording Secretary: Courtney Gay (DBHDD)

Board Members

- **Conferencing:** David Glass, Ellice Martin, Jan Ligon, Justine Welsh, Laura Whitaker, Jean Sumner, Amanda Owens, and Lasia Joiner
- **Absent:** Jimmy Thomas

DBHDD Leadership: Judy Fitzgerald, Commissioner
Jeff Minor, Deputy Commissioner/COO
Ashley Fielding, Assistant Commissioner
Brenda King Woodard, General Counsel

Agenda

Call to Order: Vice Chair David Glass; 1:02 p.m.

Chair David Glass welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Recovery Presentation

Jeff Breedlove of the Georgia Council on Substance Abuse introduced Nikki Sharpton to the members of the board. Nikki is a CARES Warm Line Peer Recovery Coach at the Georgia Council on Substance Abuse. She shared her personal story of recovery.

Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Fitzgerald provided brief update on the block grant mental health, substance and Jackson Healthcare and staff augmentation, and other key notes about the continuous works in the agency.

Commissioner Fitzgerald introduced Eric Jacobson, *executive director of the Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities*, who presented an informative film: *6,000 Waiting*.

Ron Wakefield, *director of the Division of Developmental Disabilities*, Ashleigh Caseman, *director of Waiver Services*, and Jeffery Thompson, manager of *Statewide Admission Services* worked in junction with Eric Jacobson, Naomi Williams, mother, and Nick Papadopoulos, applicant of waiver services, as panelists to answer any questions or concerns post viewing media presentation.

Commissioner Fitzgerald closed her report by informing the board of the continuous efforts and hard work the DBHDD staff strides to provide.

Action Items

Two action items were approved:

1. Approval of the April 15, 2021, board meeting minutes: Chair David Glass asked for a motion to approve. Jan Ligon made the motion, which was seconded by Laura Whitaker. The motion was passed unanimously.
2. Consideration of Issuance of General Obligation Bonds: Commissioner Fitzgerald recognized LaSharon Johnson, Engineer for the *Office of Facility Management and Support Services*, to present a resolution for the issuances of general obligations bonds in the amount of \$5,000,000.00 for State Fiscal Year 2022 for the purpose of financing projects. Chair David Glass asked for a motion to approve. Ellice Martin made the motion, which was seconded by Jean Sumner. The motion was passed unanimously.

Chair's Report

Chair David Glass gave brief remarks and commended the agency for its great work.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Adjournment

There was no further business. Chair David Glass asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Dr. Jan Ligon and was seconded by Laura Whitaker. The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Special Notes

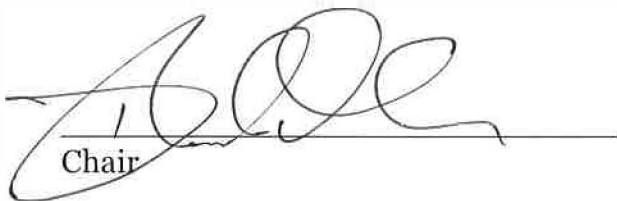
The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities will be held on **Thursday, August 12, 2021**.

**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, 24th 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