



Georgia Department of Behavioral Health
& Developmental Disabilities

Judy Fitzgerald, Commissioner

D·B·H·D·D

Office of the Commissioner

Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities
Meeting Minutes
October 8, 2020
1:00 p.m.

*This meeting will be conducted via WebEx with video connection for Board Members.
There will be no in-person attendance at the Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities.*

Meeting Called By: Kim Ryan, Chair

Recording Secretary: Courtney Gay (DBHDD)

Board Members:

- **Conferencing:** Kim Ryan, Ellice Martin, Jimmy Thomas, Laura Whitaker, Jean Sumner, Lasz Joiner, Justine Welsh and Jan Ligon
- **Absent:** David Glass

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

Agenda

Call to Order: Chair Kim Ryan; 1:00 p.m.

Chair Kim Ryan welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Recovery Presentation

Jeff Breedlove of the Georgia Council on Substance Abuse introduced Deb Esposito to the members of the board. Ms. Esposito is an Emergency Department Recovery Coach with the Georgia Council on Substance Abuse. She shared her personal story of recovery.

Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Fitzgerald gave an update of the DBHDD hospital co-existence with COVID-19, future plans for the co-existence with COVID-19 and behavioral health COVID-19 co-existence. Commissioner Fitzgerald also provided information about Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) co-existence with COVID-19, an update about support coordination agencies, and internal DBHDD procedures.

Jill Mays, *director of the Office of Behavioral Health Prevention & Federal Grants*, provided a 2020 Prevention update with detailed information concerning the suicide prevention strategic plan, COVID-19 crisis, opioid epidemic, and media initiatives.

Commissioner Fitzgerald closed her report by thanking DBHDD staff and providers. She is optimistic about the pathway ahead and the agency's continued efforts.

Action Items

There was one action item approved:

1. Approval of the August 25, 2020 board meeting minutes: Chair Kim Ryan asked for a motion to approve. Ellice Martin made the motion, which was seconded by Laura Whitaker. The motion was passed unanimously.

Chair's Report

Chair Kim Ryan gave brief remarks and commended the agency for its great work.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Adjournment

There was no further business. Chair Kim Ryan asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Jimmy Thomas and was seconded by Laura Whitaker. The meeting was adjourned at 2:19 p.m.

Special Notes

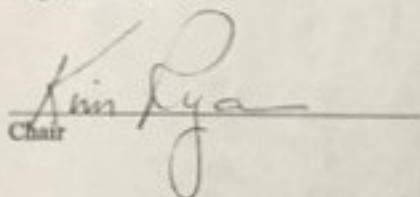
The next scheduled meeting of the Board of the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities will be held on **Thursday, December 10, 2020**.

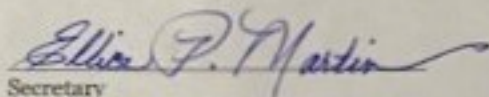
The meeting will be held at 2 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, Georgia 30303, in the 24th floor Boardroom.

Respectfully submitted by:

Courtney Gay, recording secretary

Signatures:


Chair


Secretary