



Georgia Department of Behavioral Health
& Developmental Disabilities

Judy Fitzgerald, Commissioner

DBHDD

Office of the Commissioner

**Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities
Meeting Minutes
December 12, 2019
1:00 p.m.
2 Peachtree Street, 24th Floor Boardroom Atlanta,
Georgia 30303**

Meeting Called By: Kim Ryan, Chair

Recording Secretary: Courtney Gay (DBHDD)

Board Members

- **Present:** Kim Ryan, Ellice Martin, Justine Welsh and Jan Ligon
- **Conferencing:** David Glass, Jimmy Thomas, Laura Whitaker, Jean Sumner and Lasa Joiner
- **Absent:** No Absentees

DBHDD Leadership: Judy Fitzgerald, Commissioner
Jeff Minor, Deputy Commissioner
Amy V. Howell, Asst. Commissioner/General Counsel

Agenda

Call to Order: Chair Kim Ryan; 1:02 p.m.

Chair Kim Ryan welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Recovery Presentation

Beverly Ragland of the Georgia Council on Substance Abuse introduced Abby Kice to the members of the board. Abby is a certified addiction recovery empowerment specialist

(CARES) at the Georgia Council on Substance Abuse. She shared her personal story of recovery.

Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Fitzgerald introduced members of her team to provide an update:

Ronald Wakefield, *director of the Division of Developmental Disabilities*, provided an update on IDD Connects, including an overview of DBHDD's partnership with Beacon Health Options.

Dr. Karen Bailey, Ph.D., *director of the Office of Forensic Services*, provided a broad overview of forensics services with detailed statistical information.

Commissioner Fitzgerald closed her report by informing the board that the Behavioral Health Innovation and Reform Commission will hold its first meeting on December 16, 2019, and several DBHDD staff members will be presenting.

Action Items

Three action items were approved:

1. Approval of the October 17, 2019, board meeting minutes: Chair Kim Ryan asked for a motion to approve. Justine Welsh made the motion, which was seconded by Jan Ligon. The motion was passed unanimously.
2. Approval of the Proposed 2020 DBHDD board meeting dates: Chair Kim Ryan asked for a motion to approve. Jan Ligon made the motion, which was seconded by Justine Welsh. The motion was passed unanimously.
3. Lasa Joiner provided the recommendations of the Nominating Committee. The Committee recommended Chair Kim Ryan, Vice Chair David Glass, and Secretary Ellice Martin remain in their current positions for another 2-year term. Chair Kim Ryan called for the nomination for the proposed slate. Chair Ryan requested a motion to accept the proposed slate. Jean Sumner gave a motion to approve, which was seconded by Jan Ligon. The proposed slate was approved, and the current officers were re-elected to serve on the board for a 2-year term.

Chair's Report

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

Public Comment

Betsy Bickert gave 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 Jean Sumner. The meeting was adjourned at 2:28 p.m.

Special Notes

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities will be held on **Thursday, April 16, 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