



Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities
Meeting Summary
June 10, 2021
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.*

Chair David Glass called the meeting to order. Board members David Glass, Ellice Martin, Jan Ligon, Justine Welsh, Laura Whitaker, Jean Sumner, Amanda Owens, and Lasa Joiner joined by WebEx. Jimmy Thomas did not attend the meeting.

Chair David Glass opened the meeting by recognizing Jeff Breedlove of the Georgia Council on Substance Abuse to introduce the guest speaker Nikki Sharpton. Ms. Sharpton shared her story of recovery.

There were two action items on the agenda that were approved:

1. April 15, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes
2. Approval of Bond Resolution

Commissioner Fitzgerald provided a brief update on the block grants for mental health and substance abuse, and Jackson Healthcare, and other key information about the continuous work of the agency.

Commissioner Fitzgerald introduced Eric Jacobson, *executive director of Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities*, who introduced a film titled, *6,000 Waiting*.

Ron Wakefield, DBHDD *director of the Division of Developmental Disabilities*, Ashleigh Caseman, DBHDD *director of Waiver Services*, and Jeffery Thompson, DBHDD *manager of Statewide Admission Services* worked in junction with Eric Jacobson, Naomi Williams, mother and film participant, and Nick Papadopoulos, applicant of waiver services and film participant as panelists to answer any questions Board members had following the presentation of the film.

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

David Glass provided brief remarks, commended the agency for its great work, support, and continuous efforts.

There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 pm.