



# ALABAMA SICKLE CELL OVERSIGHT AND REGULATORY COMMISSION

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## MINUTES October 19, 2021

Presiding: Dr. Felicia Wilson  
Called to Order: 1:35 P.M.  
Adjourned: 3:14 P.M.

### **Members Participating**

Dr. Felicia Wilson, President  
Ms. Katherine Long, Vice President  
Ms. Eleanor Barnes, Secretary  
Dr. Thomas Howard  
Dr. Johnson Haynes, Jr. (joined at 1:41 p.m.)  
Ms. Linda Garrett  
Dr. Jacqueline Williams  
Dr. Julie Kanter  
Mr. Larry Moorer

### **Members Absent**

Mr. James Belton  
Ms. Janet Martin

### **Others Present**

Mr. Keith Warren, Executive Director  
Ms. Sara Rogan Assistant Attorney General and Commission's Legal Counsel  
Ms. Yvonne Saxon, Assistant Attorney General and Commission's Legal Counsel  
Ms. Renee' Reames, recording secretary  
Members of the Community-based Organizations

### **I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 p.m. by Dr. Felicia Wilson, Commission President. The meeting was held at the Commission's office located at 2777 Zelda Road in Montgomery, Alabama, and Mr. Warren conducted the roll call of members and indicated that a quorum of the Commissioners were present, attending virtually, to conduct business.

### **II. Approval of Agenda**

President Wilson presented the agenda for the October 19, 2021 meeting for the Commissioners' approval. The following additions to the agenda were recommended: Acknowledgement of Ms. Lewis and Representative Buskey, Review of Performance Goals, Update on Commission Terms, and CBO Insurance.

**MOTION 2022-01:** Dr. Kanter made a motion to accept the meeting agenda as modified. The motion was seconded by Dr. Williams and unanimously approved by the Commission.

Dr. Haynes joined the Commission meeting at 1:41 p.m.

### **III. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes**

President Wilson presented the minutes from the August 19, 2021 meeting for the Commissioners' approval. A copy of the minutes was provided to the Commissioners for their review prior to the meeting.

MOTION 2022-02: Mr. Moore made the motion to approve the August minutes with the correction to removing reference to Ms. Long joining the meeting later. The motion was seconded by Dr. Williams and approved by the majority of the Commission and Dr. Haynes abstaining to vote.

### **IV. Executive Director Report**

**A. Letters to Legislators:** Mr. Warren reported that, following the Sunset Committee meeting, a letter had been sent to Senator Coleman about increasing the administrative budget, and reminded the Commissioners about earlier letters to Senator Orr and Representative Poole about increasing the allocation to the Commission. The Commissioners discussed obtaining Senator Coleman's support of allocation language changes in 2022 and increase in 2023 budget.

**B. Update on State of Emergency:** Mr. Warren reported that the COVID-19 State of Emergency was scheduled to be lifted October 31, 2021, which could result in a quorum of the Commission physically onsite to conduct business.

**C. Benevolence Fund:** The Commissioners extended their condolences to Ms. Martin about the passing of her father. Mr. Warren indicated that some members had participated in the voluntary Benevolence Fund and President Wilson encouraged the other members to participate.

**D. Update on Acknowledgement of Service:** Ms. McFarland indicated that she would contact Ms. Sharon Lewis' family about attending a ceremony at the Central Alabama Chapter office. Ms. Johnson indicated that she would coordinate with Representative Buskey. The Commissioners discussed having the ceremonies on separate dates and the option of attending virtually.

### **V. CBO Report**

**A. Central Alabama Chapter:** Ms. McFarland reported that the tag revenue had been resolved as reported by Mr. Arrington at the last Commission meeting. She indicated that the Alabama tag program was mentioned at the recent SCDA national conference. She reported that the Chapter had added a mental health program and nutrition program and commented on the transition program for young adults and teens.

**B. Mobile Chapter:** Ms. Johnson reported that the staff had been preparing for the counseling training program and working on developing funding request proposals. Mr. Moorer reported that Ms. Johnson was now the full-time Executive Director.

**C. Greater Montgomery Chapter:** Ms. VanDiver reported that the staff had been busy in restricting some computer data and had experienced some cuts in other funding and were continuing in providing services.

**D. Southeast Alabama Chapter:** Mr. Arrington reported that transportation services had increased, and staff were being trained by a mental health representative toward a 3-year certification and commented on services continued to be provided.

**E. West Alabama Chapter:** Dr. Williams reported on behalf of Ms. Harris about the successful fundraising and speaking engagements during Sickle Cell month and other services provided.

**F. North Alabama Chapter:** Ms. Thompson reported on continued counseling services, marketing tag sales, fundraising support and planning Christmas celebration.

## **VI. Old Business**

**A. Committee Report - CBO Standardize Core Educational Program:** President Wilson requested that the CORE information be redistributed to the committee members (Dr. Haynes, Dr. Howard, Mr. Arrington and Dr. Wilson), and a virtual committee meeting be coordinated before the next Commission meeting.

**B. Update on Proposed Rule – Complaint Process:** Mr. Warren reported that the proposed Complaint Process rule had been updated based on discuss at the last Commission meeting. Ms. Rogan reviewed the updated proposed rule. The Commission discussed the complaint process relevance to Center-related services or only to CBO-related services. Mr. Warren reported that one Commissioner would be appointed to the Investigative Committee and investigation services were provided through the management contract. The Commissioner discussed having the authority to make allocation decisions since the funding flowed through the Commission.

**C. Review of Performance Goals:** President Wilson requested a committee meeting be scheduled (comprised of President Wilson, Dr. Kanter, Dr. Williams, Mr. Arrington and Mr. Belton) to make recommendations on performance goals.

**D. Commissioner Terms:** Mr. Warren reported that Mr. Belton's request for reappointment had been resubmitted for Senate confirmation in 2022 and he would check with the Governor's office about status and work with the CBOs about reappointments.

## **VII. New Business**

**A. CBO Insurance:** President Wilson inquired about CBO coverage for offsite activities and health fair activities, etc. She encouraged the CBO directors to have adequate insurance and certified staff providing services. Dr. Haynes commented on resources for health fair partnerships.

The Commission discussed newborn screening services and database records. Ms. VanDiver reported that the Montgomery Chapter was actively working toward establishing a database. Dr. Kanter commented on the importance and power of a national SCD Surveillance system that would benefit health providers and all stakeholders and that a national system was not available.

The Commission also commented on establishing a statewide education and awareness campaign implemented during Sickle Cell Awareness month (September each year) and President Wilson asked that this subject be placed on the next meeting agenda.

## **VIII. Other Business and Announcements**

**A. Next Commission Meeting:** The Commission considered proposed meeting dates in 2022. President Wilson asked that the Commissioners be polled about which day of the week was better to meet and to schedule a meeting in January 2022.

**IX. Adjournment**

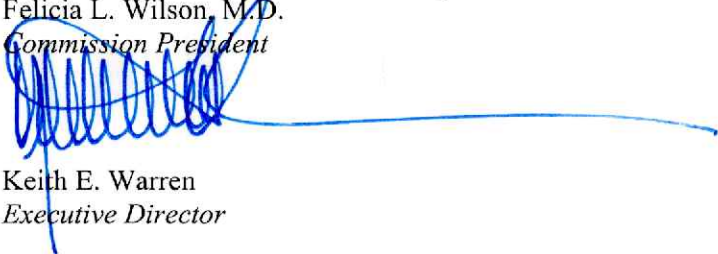
There was no further business and President Wilson called for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION 2022-03: Mr. Moorer made the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Howard. President Wilson indicated that the motion was unanimously approved and adjourned the meeting at 3:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Felicia L. Wilson, MD*

Felicia L. Wilson, M.D.  
*Commission President*

  
Keith E. Warren  
*Executive Director*

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