



ALABAMA SICKLE CELL OVERSIGHT AND REGULATORY COMMISSION

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MINUTES July 18, 2023

Presiding: Dr. Felicia Wilson
Called to Order: 11:20 A.M.
Adjourned: 1:01 P.M.

Members Participating

Dr. Felicia Wilson, President
Ms. Katherine Long (virtual)
Mr. James Belton
Ms. Linda Garrett
Dr. Julie Kanter
Mr. Larry Moorner (virtual)
Dr. Jacqueline Williams (virtual)
Dr. Lee M. Hilliard
Dr. Ardie Pack-Mabien
Ms. Leah Wiggins

Members Absent

Ms. Janet Martin (virtual)

Others Present

Mr. Keith Warren, Executive Director
Ms. Sara Rogan Assistant Attorney General and Commission's Legal Counsel
Ms. Renee' Reames, Recorder
Ms. Monica Van Diver, Great Montgomery Sickle Cell Chapter
Mr. James Arrington, Southeast Alabama Sickle Cell Chapter
Ms. Pam Thompson, North Alabama Sickle Cell Chapter
Ms. Aleida Johnson, Mobile Sickle Cell Chapter
Mr. Anthony Wright, Central Alabama Sickle Cell Chapter
Ms. Sonya Smith, UAB Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center (virtual)

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The Sickle Cell Oversight and Regulatory Commission met on Tuesday, July 18, 2023. The meeting was held at the Commission's office located at 2777 Zelda Road in Montgomery. The meeting was called to order at 11:20 a.m. by Dr. Felicia Wilson, Commission President. Mr. Warren conducted the roll call of members and indicated that a quorum of the Commissioners was present to conduct business.

Oath of Office

Mr. Warren administered the oath of office to the following members that had received Senate confirmation of their appointment/reappointment to the Commission: Dr. Jackie Williams, Dr. Julie

Kanter, Ms. Linda Garrett, Mr. James Belton, Dr. Lee Hilliard, Dr. Ardie Pack-Mabien and Ms. Leah Wiggins.

II. Approval of Agenda

President Wilson presented the agenda for July 18, 2023, meeting for the Commissioners' approval. Mr. Warren requested that the Legal Counsel Report be moved on the agenda and presented after the approval of Board Minutes.

MOTION 2023-09: Ms. Garrett made a motion to accept the meeting agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wiggins and unanimously approved by the Commission.

III. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes

President Wilson presented the minutes from the May 3, 2023, meeting for the Commissioners' approval. A copy of the minutes was provided to the Commissioners for their review prior to the meeting.

MOTION 2023-10: Dr. Kanter made the motion to approve the May minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Garrett and unanimously approved by the Commission.

IV. Legal Counsel Report

Ms. Rogan commented on a complaint that had been received regarding the activities by a Chapter. She reported that the Chapter had responded to the complaint and the Commission had not received any additional response or an appeal from the respondent concerning this matter. Ms. Rogan reported that, with no additional activities in a timely manner, the case had been closed.

Proposed Rules for Final Adoption

Ms. Rogan reported that the following proposed rules had been published for public comment:

Rule 825-X-1-.04 Committees

Rule 825-X-1-.06 Other Provisions

Rule 825-X-2-.04 Complaint Process

Mr. Warren reported that no comments had been received from the public and there were no corrections from attendees at the meeting. Ms. Rogan provided an overview of the proposed rules and copies of the published rules were provided to the members for their review prior to the meeting. President Wilson indicated that a copy of the Commission's rules and statute would be published on the Board's website when it was launch for public access.

MOTION 2023-11: Ms. Garrett made the motion to adopt as Final Rules 825-X-1-.04, 825-X-1.06 and 825-X-2-.04 as published. The motion was seconded by Mr. Belton and unanimously approved by the Commission.

V. Executive Director Report

A. Benevolence Fund: Mr. Warren reported that the voluntary contributions from the Commissioners, in memory of Dr. Johnson Haynes, had been finalized and sent to the Johnson M. Haynes, Jr., M.D. Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center in his memory.

Mr. Warren also reported on the new balance of the voluntary benevolence fund, and he would send an email to the Commissioners with the updated information.

B. Commission Appointments and Confirmation: Mr. Warren reported that Senate confirmation of the Commission-member appointments had been received and the new appointment from the Mobile Chapter remained outstanding.

C. Update on Commission's Website: Mr. Warren reported that work was continuing in launching the Board's website to include adding maps of the Chapter's service areas,

contact information of the Chapters and Centers, and links to promote the service entities. He also asked the Commissioners to submit a copy of their bio or similar summary to post on the Commission's website.

D. Other Updates: Dr. Kanter commented on her meeting with Senator Linda Coleman-Madison regarding sickle cell services and request for additional funding. She reported that Senator Coleman-Madison was receptive to assisting in the upcoming fiscal year. Mr. Warren commented on supplemental funding opportunities, in addition to the Commission's budget, for the next fiscal year and offered to assist with any data to support the funding request.

VI. CBO Reports

Southeast Alabama Chapter: Mr. Arrington commented on recent activities by the Chapter, e.g., student testing related to sports, walk-a-thon, working with Mobile Chapter grant services, along with participating in Dr. Kanter's outreach program.

North Alabama Chapter: Ms. Thompson reported on recent activities by the Chapter, e.g., walk-a-thon, writing several grant proposals, student testing related to sports, etc.

Mobile Chapter: Ms. Johnson reported on recent activities by the Chapter, e.g., update on educator/counselor certification attendance, walk-a-thon, blood drive, baby shower celebrating 2020-2023 births, and other educational activities for families. Ms. Johnson and Dr. Kanter discussed developing a partnership to provide transportation opportunities for clients and families from Mobile to Birmingham to receive services.

The Commission discussed transportation services as part of the client support services outlined in the quarterly performance reports, along with services for utility assistance, medication assistance, dental care assistance, ophthalmology care assistance, referrals, consultations, and financial assistance.

Central Alabama Chapter: Mr. Wright reported on recent activities by the Chapter, while in the process of hiring new staff, that included a walk-a-thon and grant writing activities, etc.

Greater Montgomery Chapter: **North Alabama Chapter:** Ms. Van Diver reported on recent activities by the Chapter, e.g., working to re-establishing the radio-thon, working on small grant writing opportunities, staff training, Wellness Coalition-health fair participation and developing additional walk-a-thon fund raisers.

Dr. Kanter offered to assist in printing sickle cell stroke posters. Mr. Warren reported that printing opportunities may be available through the state vendor system.

VII. Committee Reports

A. CBO Standardized Core Educational Committee: Dr. Kanter reported that she and Mr. Arrington had meet and discussed outreach to pediatric and family practice physicians to disseminate information to patients and families about sickle cell services and recommended the use of the CDC tool kit as an educational resource, including information about transitioning adult programs, and posting information on the Commission's website when launched.

B. Performance Goals Committee: Mr. Arrington reported that the Committee had not met, but meetings were held with other CBOs to provide resources and networking.

VIII. Old Business

A. Proclamation honoring Lynne Eskridge: Mr. Warren indicated that he would like additional information regarding Ms. Eskridge's work at UAB regarding the Sickie Cell program and it was recommended that he contact Dr. Townes to assist in the writing of the Proclamation.

B. Site Visits and Reports: President Wilson reviewed the current site visit schedule. The upcoming site visit for the Central Alabama Chapter was discussed and Mr. Wright requested a delay to August 25th due to his recent employment as Interim Executive Director and recruitment of new staff. The Central Alabama Chapter visit would begin at 10:00 a.m. and the UAB Comprehensive Center/Children's Hospital visits would begin around 12:00 Noon on August 25, 2023.

Mr. Belton agreed to provide the final site visit report on the Southeast Alabama Chapter site visit that occurred in 2021.

The Commission discussed the 5-year site visit cycle and agreed that it would be determined at a later time about whether to repeat the site visits in 2025.

IX. New Business

A. Approval of Final Rules: President Wilson reported that approval of Final Rules had been addressed earlier in the meeting.

B. Approval of FY 2024 Budget: Mr. Warren presented a list of the funds to be allocated for FY 2024. Dr. Kanter explained that the percentage of allocation needed to be reviewed due to the funding needs of Children's Hospital based on the population being served. The Commission discussed the continued practice in the State's Annual Budget to proportionately distribute funds as had been in FY 2003.

MOTION 2023-12: Dr. Kanter made a motion to approve the FY 2024 Budget and allocation of funds as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hilliard and unanimously approved by the Commission.

C. September – Sickie Cell Awareness Month: The Commissioners discussed activities planned by the Chapters and Centers in promoting Sickie Cell Awareness during the month of September. Public Service Announcements (PSA) were discussed, and Mr. Belton indicated that he would assist by speaking to representatives with the Alabama Broadcasters' Association about scheduling PSAs.

X. Other Business and Announcements

Next Meeting: President Wilson reported that the next meeting of the Commission was scheduled August 29, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. She encouraged the members to attend this meeting.

IX. Adjournment

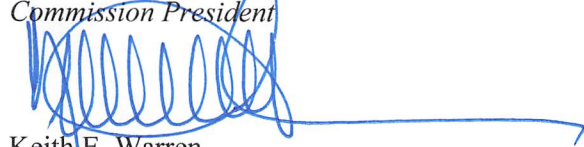
There was no further business and President Wilson called for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION 2023-13: Mr. Belton made the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Garrett and unanimously approved by the Commission. President Wilson adjourned the meeting at 1:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Felicia L. Wilson, MD

Felicia L. Wilson, M.D.
Commission President



Keith E. Warren
Executive Director

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