

MINUTES
STATEWIDE HEALTH COORDINATING COUNCIL
September 10, 2024

The Statewide Health Coordinating Council (SHCC) held its quarterly meeting on Tuesday, September 10, 2024, virtually by web conference. The minimum number of council members, required by law, was present in room 387 of the RSA Union building at 100 North Union Street in Montgomery, Alabama.

Council Members Present

Chairman Elaine Beech
Ms. Brenda Carlisle
Mr. Ralph Clark
Ms. Terri Connell
Mr. Harold Crouch
Mr. Mark Edwards
Ms. Barbara Estep
Mr. Keith Granger
Mr. Dean Griffin
Mr. David Hunt
Hon. Stephanie Kemmer
Mr. Carey McRae

Ms. Dare Underwood Meeks
Senator Tim Melson
Dr. David Montiel
Mr. Don Owens
Mr. Simeon Penton
Mr. Danny Rickert
Mr. J. Tuerk Schlesinger
Dr. Wilburn Smith
Ms. Lisa Teel
Mr. Mark Traylor
Dr. Mickey Trimm
Mr. Gregg Waycaster

Council Members Not Present

Hon. Jeremy Gray
Ms. Marcilla Gross
Dr. Carol Ratcliffe
Mr. Hodges Washington
Dr. Scott Harris

SHPDA Staff Present

Emily T. Marsal
Toni L. Ferguson
Jelena Magallon
Kristin F. Norman
Melissa Trehern
Bradford L. Williams

Legal Representative

Mark D. Wilkerson, Esquire

Court Reporter

Greta Duckett

A copy of the register of others participating, physically and virtually, is on file in the office of the State Health Planning and Development Agency.

Chairman Elaine Beech called the meeting to order at 2:59 p.m. Mrs. Emily T. Marsal, Executive Director of the State Health Planning and Development Agency, performed a roll call and confirmed a quorum. Chairman Beech requested a motion to adopt the agenda. Ms. Terri Connell made a motion to adopt the agenda, seconded by Ms. Barbara Estep. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Beech requested a motion to adopt the minutes from the April 11, 2024, meeting. Mr. J. Tuerk Schlesinger motioned to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Mr. Keith Granger. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair's Report

Chairman Beech welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Statewide Health Coordinating Council and thanked the Council Members and State Health Planning and Development Agency Staff for their attendance and participation.

Ms. Emily Marsal informed the board that the *2024-2027 Alabama State Health Plan* took effect on June 14, 2024, and provided a brief update on the work being performed by the State Health Planning and Development Agency because of its implementation.

New Business

Plan Adjustment:

PA2024-002, St. Joseph Hospice, Baldwin County, proposes to adjust the Inpatient Hospice Services section of the 2024-2027 Alabama State Health Plan, Ala. Admin. Code § 410-2-4-.15, to add ten (10) inpatient hospice beds to Region XIII. **Opposition: Saad Enterprises, Inc.**

Mr. Stephen D. Preston, Mr. Matthew Brown, Dr. Craig Dowden, and Ms. Sophie Plott spoke on behalf of the plan adjustment.

After all comments were made and questions were answered, Ms. Lisa Teel made a motion to approve the plan adjustment adding ten (10) inpatient hospice beds specifically to Baldwin County within Region XIII, seconded by Mr. Simeon Penton. After a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Certificate of Need Review Board (CONRB) Directive Discussion:

Chairman Beech explained that the Certificate of Need Review Board (CONRB) has requested that the Statewide Health Coordinating Council assist the CONRB in defining a 'rehabilitation facility.' It was further explained that a Task Force would be created to research and work through this task, Chaired by Ms. Barbara Estep. Anyone interested in joining this Task Force is asked to email SHPDA with their intent.

Ms. Emily Marsal explained that a Declaratory Ruling had been filed with the Certificate of Need Review Board regarding rehabilitation facilities. The current *Alabama State Health Plan* does not

specifically define a rehabilitation facility, therefore, the CONRB has requested that the SHCC assist in creating a definition that will assist the CONRB in its current and future rulings.

Chairman Beech announced that the next quarterly meeting of the Statewide Health Coordinating Council would be announced.

There being no further business, Ms. Terri Connell motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Gregg Waycaster. Chairman Beech adjourned the meeting at 3:50 p.m.

PREPARED BY:

Toni Ferguson

Date

APPROVED:

Chairman Elaine Beech

Date

DRAFT