

**ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
STATE INSTITUTIONAL SYSTEM BOARD**

Division of Behavioral Health Services  
Arkansas Health Center  
6701 Hwy. 67  
Benton, Arkansas 72015

Thursday, April 9, 2009

Members Present: Micheal Burden, Chairman  
Carlton Jones, Secretary  
Bonnie Coates  
Stephen Foti  
Toyce Newton

DHS Staff Present: John Selig, DHS Director  
Steven Jones, DHS Deputy Director  
Rich Rosen, Attorney, DHS Office of Chief Counsel  
Ron Angel, Director, Division of Youth Services  
Doyle Young, Program Administrator, Division of Youth Services  
David Laffoon, Director, Division of Behavioral Health Services  
Charles Smith, Administrator, Arkansas State Hospital  
Glenn Sago, Division of Behavioral Health Services  
Ed Hood, Administrator, Arkansas Health Center  
Gary Gipson, Nursing Home Administrator, Arkansas Health Center  
Jay Hill, Assistant Nursing Home Administrator, Arkansas Health Center  
David Donham, Special Projects Coordinator, Arkansas Health Center  
Allen Rushing, Director of Maintenance, Arkansas Health Center  
Monica Moore, Business Manager, Arkansas Health Center  
Susan Carson, Assistant to the Administrator, Arkansas Health Center  
Scottie Leslie, Admin. Assistant, Division of Behavioral Health Services

Chairman Micheal Burden called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m.

Mr. Burden recognized and thanked Mr. Ed Hood for hosting the meeting at the Arkansas Health Center (AHC) and providing a tour of the facility and lunch before the meeting. Mr. Burden noted a marked improvement at the facility and credited Mr. Hood.

Chairman Burden recognized a new board member, Toyce Newton. Ms. Newton fills the position of Trudi Ramsey who passed away.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JANUARY 8, 2009 MEETING**

**Ms. Bonnie Coates made a motion that the minutes of January 8, 2009 meeting be approved.  
Mr. Carlton Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed.**

Mr. Burden acknowledged DHS Director, John Selig. Mr. Selig began by welcoming Ms. Newton to the SIS Board and offered an open invitation to visit any of the facilities. Mr. Selig also introduced Mr. David Laffoon, the new Director of the Division of Behavioral Health Services. Mr. Laffoon has a background in running hospitals with extensive knowledge in commission accreditation and the mental health system.

Mr. Selig reported during the 87<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session there was little legislation that would directly affect the way DHS operates the Division of Behavioral Health Services (DBHS) and the Division of Youth Services (DYS) with the exception of legislation to put a new education system into DYS.

Mr. Selig reported on the Economic Stimulus Projects. He explained a couple of months ago the Governor's office requested a list of projects that could start immediately. DHS submitted a large list but it turned out the State Governors will have very little discretion over any money. The money will come for specific items such as highways, child care, educational facilities and Medicaid. Mr. Selig said DHS will have discretion over the funding that will come through Medicaid. The State's required Medicaid match rate will be reduced from 27 cents to 20 cents for every dollar that is spent for Medicaid services. Mr. Selig stated this is worth hundreds of millions of dollars to Medicaid over a twenty-seven month window from October 2008 through December 2010. The Governor has approved the use of some of these funds for capital projects. Mr. Selig noted DYS and DBHS will have millions of dollars for new capital projects. Mr. Selig said it doesn't begin to touch all of what the institutions need but it does cover the most pressing needs. Mr. Selig said the Divisions will present these projects to the SIS Board and request the Board's approval. Mr. Selig added that while the Governor has approved these projects they have not been publically announced.

#### DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES REPORT

The Division of Behavioral Health Services' (DBHS) report with attachments had been previously distributed and is attached to the meeting minutes.

#### Arkansas State Hospital

Mr. Charles Smith reported ASH completed a request for proposal for a campus-wide HVAC system contract. Mr. Glenn Sago reported five different companies submitted proposals. The committee reviewed the initial proposals and questions have been sent back to the companies. A selection should be made by next Friday.

Mr. Smith noted the one-year warranty walk through inspection has been completed on the new hospital. Contractors are taking care of several minor items that need correction. Mr. Sago reported the main problems are leaks in the roof where equipment was installed. There is a five-year warranty on the roof and the contractor will make repairs. Ms. Toyce Newton questioned liability of the warranty on the roof. Mr. Sago stated the roof leaks will be fixed even if a new roof has to be installed. Mr. David Laffoon added we are documenting and we will hold them accountable beyond the five years if the roof is not repaired to our satisfaction.

In regard to ASH's economic stimulus projects, Mr. Smith requested the SIS Board's approval to continue processing the three projects listed below.

- Replace HVAC system for Forensic Units 5 & 6 - \$1,300,000
- Seal and tuck-point Forensic Units 5 & 6 - \$300,000
- Seal and tuck-point Court Building - \$125,000

Pending the Board's approval these projects will be sent to the architects to be prepared for bids. The current plan is for the call for bids on these projects to be sent to contractors in six to eight weeks.

**Mr. Stephen Foti made a motion to approve the presented request. Ms. Bonnie Coates seconded the motion. Motion passed.**

#### Arkansas Health Center

Mr. Ed Hood reported on the tree management program. The planting of pine trees on the 69 acres has been completed. The newly planted timber is projected to net the facility \$276,000 over the 30 year management plan. Also trees have been removed from the water plant area.

The roofing on Buildings 16, 7, 10 and 18 has been completed. The tuck-pointing and sealing should be completed in the month.

Mr. Hood stated carpet has been replaced with tile in the Maple Court Building. This project was completed in-house by AHC maintenance employees at a cost of \$9,500.

Mr. Hood reported the TV Dish satellite system has been installed and is fully functional in the resident buildings on Building 70 and Building 80.

The employee gym/fitness area has been relocated to Building 70 and which is more accessible for the male residents. Employees still have access at the non-resident designated times.

In January 2009 SIS Board meeting Mr. John Selig announced the Governor had released 4.6 million dollars for three major capital improvement projects at AHC. Mr. Hood provided an update on these projects.

Underground Utilities: Mr. Hood said 1.5 million of the capital funds were allotted to repair the underground utilities at AHC. An extensive field study was initiated which will include cleaning certain drainage areas and conducting an underground camera study of the sewer system to determine the level of deterioration and help identify the most viable areas on the large campus to begin repairs.

HVAC Upgrades: Mr. Hood noted 2 million of the funds were allotted to overhaul the entire heating and air system of Building 80. This will include replacing three large air handling units on the roof as well as 300 in-room water source heat pumps. Architects and engineers will start a design plan. The construction will be strategically planned during the fall when you don't need as much heating or cooling during that time.

Flooring: \$1,160,000 has been allotted to replace floor covering throughout Building 80. Three different types of flooring surfaces have been identified for different areas of the building. The type of flooring for durability, safety and maintenance had been considered.

Mr. Hood noted many of these projects will be very complex in undertaking in order to make the improvements while the residents are still living in these areas and the facility remains fully operational.

In regard to AHC's economic stimulus request, Mr. Hood requested the SIS Board's approval on the following projects:

- Upgrade Dietary Equipment in Central Kitchen
- Replace Food Transportation Carts
- Replace Resident Beds

Pending the Board's approval these projects will be evaluated and put out for bid as soon as possible.

Ms. Bonnie Coates questioned if there is a preventative maintenance system in place. Mr. Hood confirmed there is a very extensive ongoing weekly preventative maintenance plan in place. AHC is in a constant state of upgrade. Mr. Micheal Burden acknowledged the facility looks cleaner and shows a lot of effort is being made to maintain the facility. Mr. Allen Rushing stated the architect and contractor will be giving AHC maintenance staff in-service training on preventative maintenance for the roofs.

**Ms. Bonnie Coates made a motion to allow AHC to proceed with these projects. Mr. Carlton Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed.**

#### Arkansas Services Center – Jonesboro

Attorney Rich Rosen stated the appraisal of the Arkansas Services Center property in Jonesboro is still being worked on. This will determine the value of the property.

#### Ray Winder Field

No developments at this time. Mr. Rich Rosen reported we do not have any plans at this time; we are waiting on the city of Little Rock.

#### DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES REPORT

The Division of Youth Services' (DYS) report has been previously distributed to the Board and is attached to the minutes. Mr. Ron Angel stated he would address the stimulus; then Mr. Doyle Young would present the facility report.

Mr. Ron Angel stated the Board made a valid point regarding preventative maintenance. DHS has an employee whose job is to visit all DHS facilities quarterly to inspect for future and immediate needs in order to prevent costly repairs. Mr. Angel stated he appreciates the Board's support of this.

Mr. Angel stated the Governor signed a law last Monday that gives DYS the authority to be an educational system. This will ensure that credits the children receive while at DYS can be passed on to the school districts. DYS will be allowed to issue diplomas if needed. Mr. Angel noted under the stimulus package DYS submitted they remain committed to community-based projects and keeping kids at home. DYS is also committed to provide an adequate education for children and to give them the best opportunity during the short time they are at DYS.

Mr. Angel noted DYS will not build any additional beds. Mr. Angel stated Mr. John Selig and Mr. Steven Jones supported DYS's infrastructure expenditures for the following stimulus package:

- Arkansas Juvenile Assessment and Treatment Center: Mr. Angel stated DYS is looking at constructing a 5.8 million dollar facility at Alexander. This 21,500 square foot building will contain special education classrooms and a multipurpose room which will replace the old dining facility. Mr. Micheal Burden asked where the buildings will be located. Mr. Angel stated DYS will select the architects who will visit each facility and determine the best locations to build. Ms. Bonnie Coates asked if the buildings would be generic. Mr. Angel replied no because the Alexander facility would have a multipurpose room. Mr. Angel stated DYS has sent the concepts of square footage per student to the Department of Education and the square footage has been approved.
- Colt, Dermott, Harrisburg, and Lewisville Juvenile Treatment Centers: Mr. Angel stated at Colt, Dermott, Harrisburg and Lewisville plans are to construct new additional educational spaces at a cost of 3.5 million. These will be cookie cutter type classrooms.
- Mansfield: Mr. Angel noted they want to take advantage of the beautiful site at Mansfield and replace the cottages/building where the children sleep with a state of the art facility at an investment of 7.8 million. They are looking at a bungalow style which will be conducive to treatment. The old kitchen will be demolished. Engineers have said it is not worth the expense to salvage. Mr. Angel stated that after approval to begin the design process the designs will be brought to the SIS Board for review and comments.
- Special Recreational Funding. Mr. Angel informed the Board that during the legislative session DYS was provided \$100,000 in funding to be used at the Arkansas Juvenile Assessment and Treatment Center in Alexander. Projects and purchases proposed for these funds include: a new chain link fence around the ball field; resurfacing the basketball courts; new sport court surface for the gymnasium; and renovation of the music room.

Ms. Bonnie Coates asked if they would have a special recreation teacher. Mr. Doyle Young replied that the Boys and Girls Club of Saline County is under contract with DYS to provide recreation services and professionals to work with the children.

Chairman Burden stated he prefers the concept of education buildings instead of dorms. He noted this is a tremendous improvement that addresses the children's needs instead of the beds.

**Mr. Stephen Foti made a motion to approve the requests presented by DYS. Ms. Bonnie Coates seconded the motion. Motion passed.**

DYS Facility Reports

Mansfield

Mr. Doyle Young reported on the new fire main; the construction company began digging the middle of March. This project is well under way; about 3,000 feet has already been dug and pipe has been laid. Mr. Young stated all T-1 lines (communication and computer lines) are being buried with metal strands. This will allow them to be located if needed.

At the Long Building the installation of the sprinkler system is underway. The next step will be to replace the roof on the Long Building. This involves the complete removal and replacement of the existing roof over the building.

The roofs on the Administration, Kitchen and Education Cottages will be replaced. These buildings will continue to be used after the new construction. The facility will continue to use the existing buildings for administrative, recreational and vocational purposes.

Lastly, the water seepage on the three split-level cottage buildings on the hillside will be addressed.

Arkansas Juvenile Assessment and Treatment Center - Alexander

Mr. Young reported the collapsed main drain in the kitchen area at Alexander has been completed. Final payment is on hold pending some punch list items. This project had a six-week completion time which will be met.

Mr. Young stated DYS purchased two defibrillator units for Alexander, one for the gym and one for JUMP Unit.

Lewisville Juvenile Treatment Center

Mr. Young reported one of the HVAC units in the dorm building was replaced at Lewisville.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held July 9, 2009 at 1:30 p.m., at the Mansfield Juvenile Treatment Center.

**Mr. Carlton Jones made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Bonnie Coates seconded the motion. Motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted:

---

Carlton Jones, Secretary