

**LOUISIANA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL  
JULY 21, 2011  
MEETING SUMMARY**

8:30 A.M.

Holiday Inn South  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**1. GREETINGS AND INTRODUCTIONS**

- A. Sam Beech, Chair of the Council, welcomed everyone to the meeting. She stated there are forms on the table for anyone who would like to address the Council. Time is allowed at the end of the meeting for people to speak for five minutes each. Ms. Beech reminded those present that Council Bylaws do not allow for proxy voting; anyone representing a Council member cannot vote on any issue.

B. MEMBERS PRESENT  
Sam Beech  
Sue Berry, CSHS  
Donna Breaux  
Brandon Burris, GODA  
Lynn Cannon  
Mary Elizabeth Christian  
Brenda Cosse'  
Hugh Eley, OAAS  
Rocky Fuselier  
Reginald Garey  
Don Gregory, BHSF  
Julia Kenny, OCDD  
Kay Marcel  
Mark Martin, LRS  
Chasedee Noto  
Michelle Octave, GOEA  
Nanette Olivier, DOE  
Phil Wilson, HDC  
Stephen Yazbeck

C. MEMBERS ABSENT  
Pranab Choudhury  
Laura Head  
Val Hiser  
Andrew Merlin  
Heather Mobley  
Bambi Polotzola  
Olantha Scott  
Lois Simpson, AC  
Nicole Soileau

D. STAFF PRESENT  
Shawn Fleming  
Robbie Gray  
Derek White  
Sandee Winchell

E. GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE  
Martha Whitlock  
Justin Ward, Guest of Reginald Garey  
Cindy Ardoin, FHFGBR  
Morgan Gray  
Stephanie Mire, Transcriptionist  
Rebecca Ellis, LaCAN/LaTEACH  
W. Alan Coulter, LSU-HDC  
Jennifer Koehler  
Brandon Richard  
Holly Paczak

## **2. SUMMARY OF APRIL MEETING**

Ms. Beech requested a motion to accept the summary from the April meeting.

Nanette Olivier stated that on page 5 it should state "Data Analysis Summit" instead of "Hope Davis Summit".

Motion passed. Motion to accept the April summary with correction made by Chasedee Noto. Second by Lynn Cannon. Passed without objection.

## **3. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT –Sam Beech**

On May 2<sup>nd</sup>, Ms. Beech testified before the Appropriations Committee to request that no cuts be made to the Department of Health and Hospitals' (DHH) budget and to accept the Governor's proposed budget.

On June 6<sup>th</sup>, Ms. Beech testified before the Senate Finance Committee asking them to restore the DHH budget cuts the House made. The budget cuts were restored.

The Council's biggest advocacy success was the passage of SB59, regulating the use of restraint and seclusion in schools.

Ms. Beech attended several meetings on the Resource Allocation Model presented by the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD).

Ms. Beech, Sandee Winchell, Barry Meyer of the Arc-Baton Rouge, and several others were interviewed by Kendra Chamberlain about services in Louisiana for people with developmental disabilities and the cuts to the budget by the House for an article in the June 8<sup>th</sup> issue of DIG magazine in Baton Rouge.

On July 13<sup>th</sup>, Ms. Beech attended the LaCAN/LaTEACH Legislative Debriefing.

On July 19<sup>th</sup>, Kay Marcel, Ms. Winchell, and Ms. Beech met with DHH Secretary Bruce Greenstein, Julia Kenny, Kathy Kliebert and Anita Milling. The discussion was on the use of the New Opportunities Waiver (NOW) Trust Fund and eligibility criteria for the Cash Subsidy Program.

### **Executive Committee Decisions**

The Council's Plan includes sending a team to the Alliance for Full Participation Summit on Employment in Maryland this November. The Council wants to target a team of self-advocates who are employed or who want to be employed, parents of adult children who are either employed or want to be employed and individuals who are already leaders in the state who will make the commitment to make Louisiana an Employment First State. Some of these people may or may not be on the Council. There is \$7,000 available that will support four to five people to attend this conference.

Council staff has proposed that the Council begin the Council's planning process in January. This will allow more time for ideas to be researched and developed into Solicitation of Proposals.

A discussion followed.

Motion passed. Motion to accept the Council staff proposal to begin the planning process in January made by Chasedee Noto. Second by Lynn Cannon. Passed without objection.

The Executive Committee also discussed the reason for including the "Council Representation on Other Disability Groups" in the packet and updating it at each meeting. The Council's Five Year Plan includes Council representation on multiple disability workgroups and committees and advocacy for systems change. The staff reports to the federal government about Council members' activities that affect systems change. Ms. Beech will begin asking at each meeting for members to report meetings attended and the critical decisions that are made and are a result of their advocacy.

#### **4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Sandee Winchell**

Ms. Winchell welcomed Mark Martin, the new Director of Louisiana Rehabilitation Services (LRS), to the Council.

As Ms. Beech mentioned in the Chairperson's report, the success of SB59, now Act 328, was definitely one of the Council's two huge successes of the legislative session. Ms. Winchell recognized Shawn Fleming's efforts in passing this piece of legislation and shared how through his leadership and direction in working with Senator Donahue and our parent leaders that the Council was able to succeed.

Ms. Winchell stated the Annual Report is in members' packets. She recognized Derek White for his work on the report and for all the work he did on the Council's new Five Year Plan.

Ms. Winchell reported on a couple of updates to the Legislative tracking chart since the mail out:

- HB1 has been signed by the Governor and is now Act 12.
- HB233 status needs to be changed from "never heard" to "failed in committee."
- SB67, which was supported by the Council, was vetoed by the Governor.
- HB477 was signed by the Governor and became Act 378.
- HB536 became Act 398.
- SB269 became Act 408.

The other huge success in the legislative session was that the cuts to DHH in HB 1 were restored. Ms. Winchell believes that was in part due to the Council and LaCAN's advocacy efforts. Some state funded services on the chopping block were cuts to OCDD, Children's Special Health Services, Office of Aging and Adult Services, and community services for people with mental illness.

Ms. Beech, Ms. Marcel and Ms. Winchell met with DHH Secretary Greenstein, Ms. Kliebert and Ms. Kenny regarding the use of the NOW Trust Fund. The purpose of the Trust Fund was to establish a source of revenue for additional waiver slots to address the waiver waiting list. Money was deposited in the trust fund in May 2011 to be available the fiscal year that began July 1<sup>st</sup>. It is the Secretary and DHH's position that the original slots funded with trust fund money in 2007 and 2008 will be sustained by the trust fund forever – resulting in no new slots funded. A compromise position was offered by the Council that the trust fund would pay for new slots when they are phased in for one year with a full fiscal year of sustainability after that. Secretary Greenstein understood that the waiting list needed to be addressed. It was decided the Council leadership would meet with Ms. Kliebert and Ms. Kenny to try and reach a compromise.

The other issue discussed was the Cash Subsidy Program. Currently, the program has no income criteria for families and DHH would like to change that by adding means testing for recipients. It was agreed upon that DHH would develop a proposal for the Council to consider and they would meet and try to reach a compromise.

A one page summary of the survey results on the Cash Subsidy and Individual and Family Support Program both from the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities and the Office of Behavioral Health was included in the Council members' packet handed out this morning. More detailed survey results are on the Council website under "Council Initiatives."

The Council is very excited about OCDD's Employment First position statement and looks forward to working with them and all the agencies involved in developing and implementing a plan to make Louisiana an Employment First state. Mr. White and Ms. Winchell are participating on the workgroup and were involved in drafting the position statement. The Human Development Center is writing a proposal for an Employment Systems Change grant to the Administration on Developmental Disabilities on behalf of all the key agencies involved in employment for people with developmental disabilities. The grant is very competitive, but the workgroup is optimistic because all the key agencies are on board. If the grant is awarded, the Council will be a part of the management team.

A discussion followed.

## **5. BUDGET REPORT – Shawn Fleming**

The Council is on track with expenditures. Mr. Fleming discussed the handout regarding the breakdown of expenditures.

## **6. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Ms. Beech deferred the Chairing of the meeting to Nanette Olivier.

A. NOMINATING COMMITTEE – Nanette Olivier

The Nominating Committee consisted of Phil Wilson, Heather Mobley, and Ms. Olivier. Nominees for the officer positions are Sam Beech, Chairperson, Rocky Fuselier, Vice-Chair, Kay Marcel, Chair of the Self-Determination/Community Inclusion/Housing Committee, Bambi Polotzola, Chair of the Health/Education/Employment Committee, and Chasedee Noto, Executive Committee Member-at-Large.

Motion passed. Ms. Olivier asked the Council twice if there were any nominations from the floor. There were none. The motion to accept the Nominating Committee's Slate of Officers as follows: Sam Beech, Chair, Rocky Fuselier, Vice-Chair, Kay Marcel, Chair of the Self-Determination/Community Inclusion/Housing Committee, Bambi Polotzola, Chair of the Health/Education/Employment Committee and Chasedee Noto, Executive Committee Member-at-Large passed without objection and with one abstention.

Ms. Beech resumed the Chairing of the meeting.

B. ACT 378 SUB-COMMITTEE – Kay Marcel

The decisions made at the meeting are as follows:

- Staff in OCDD Regions/Districts/Authorities will be trained on how the Act 378 funds can be used. This will help address reports of inconsistencies in how regions administer the program.
- The Committee will work with OCDD to hold forums around the state to determine if Individual and Family Support Services are meeting needs and if the program can be improved to better meet needs. This is also being done to help address inconsistent practices across regions.

All agencies with control of Act 378 monies were asked to provide the Committee with a final budget at the October meeting.

The Arc of Louisiana reported on the Supported Living Program they administer for the Office of Aging and Adult Services (OAAS). The Committee recommended that they ensure OAAS staff are all familiar with the program.

The Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) presented the committee a recommendation for the \$278,000 to provide supports for adults statewide. As of now, those funds have only been available to people in Regions 7, 3 (South Central), Metropolitan and Capital Area. OBH would like to change the distribution of the funds and make them available statewide. The committee agreed.

In its quarterly reports, OCDD will provide the number on the waiting list by region for the Cash Subsidy and the number of people receiving Individual and Family Support Services by region. During the discussion about the Family Support Policy and its implementation it was reported that there are historical problems in Region 6 and the South Central Louisiana Human Service Authority (Region 3) with how funds were spent and how the program has been administered. Those two Regions are under a corrective action plan to better ensure that all Family Support dollars are spent within guidelines of the policy.

The Cash Subsidy program is now the Flexible Family Fund program. The Notice of Intent incorporating changes that the subcommittee and workgroup developed was published in the June 2011 Register. A public hearing is on July 27<sup>th</sup> in the Bienville Building.

A discussion followed regarding means testing for the Flexible Family Fund Program. It was shared that the Act 378 Sub-Committee was against including means testing in this program and many on the Council expressed the same opinion. Ms. Kenny shared that DHH feared the program may be vulnerable to cuts and elimination without the means testing.

Ms. Beech stated that in order for all items related to the Plan to be considered together, a motion needs to be made that the Council suspend its rules on considering items as they are discussed. The motion is for any committee recommendations regarding the Plan to be held until the Plan is up for discussion. All plan related matters will be considered and voted on at the same time.

Motion passed. Motion for any committee recommendations regarding the Plan to be held until the Plan is up for discussion and all Plan related matters to be considered and voted on at the same time made by Nanette Olivier. Second by Brenda Cosse'. Passed without objection.

#### C. HEALTH/EDUCATION/EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE – Donna Breaux

Ashley Serrett from the Arc of Louisiana did a presentation on the initiative of Transportation in Louisiana. The website, [www.transportationla.org](http://www.transportationla.org) has all the latest information on transportation plans across the state. The Arc is working within each of the state Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) regions to ensure advocates and providers of people with developmental disabilities are sitting at the table as regional plans are developed.

The Committee also viewed a video presentation from the Arc of St. Charles in reference to employment and recommend all Council members view it at some point.

The Committee is recommending accepting a proposal from the Arc-Baton Rouge for the Employment Education Initiative in the amount of \$40,000. This is related to Activity 9.4.2 in the Plan.

The Committee is also recommending accepting the Pinecrest Developmental Center as the contractor to replicate the Positive Behavior Support (PBS) Inclusive Recreation Project for \$50,000. This will affect Activity 10.1.1.

The Committee recommends changes to the Child Care Initiative by accepting a proposal to work with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) for \$32,500 annually. This will be a two-year project to use inclusive day care settings to support staff training. Those modules will be available and be used across the state and it will allow DCFS to provide more training and technical assistance. It is Goal 11, Objective 11.1, Activity 11.1.1.

**D. SELF-DETERMINATION/COMMUNITY INCLUSION/HOUSING COMMITTEE – Kay Marcel**

Previous Plans included an outcome for People First to become self sustainable. However, this was not discussed at the April planning meeting and therefore it is not included in the Plan. A recommendation to include this outcome in the Plan was not made one way or the other by the Committee. The Committee wanted the full Council to decide to either add it in this year's Plan or it can be included in the future.

The other recommendation is related to Activity 3.3.1 which is about pursuing a Money Follows the Person policy. The Committee is recommending that the Council pursue Money Follows the Person legislation in the upcoming legislative session. Such legislation would allow residents of private ICFs/DD to obtain waiver services using the funds that are currently paying for their bed in the facility.

Ms. Kenny shared that 70 percent of people leaving developmental centers are choosing waiver services which means the process of sharing information and educating individuals and families on community services is working. OCDD will start offering Residential Option Waiver (ROW) slots. There are 200 ROW slots funded. Some slots are currently committed to children to transition out of nursing homes, but OCDD plans to start offering the remainder to people on the Waiver waiting list that are currently residing in private ICFs/DD.

## **7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. Five Year Plan**

Motion passed. Motion for People First to become self-sustainable within the next five years made by Lynn Cannon. Second by Kay Marcel. Passed without objection.

Motion passed. Motion to accept the change of language regarding the Childcare Initiative Activity 11.1.1 as provided by staff and funding reduced from \$75,000 to \$32,500 for the first year made by Kay Marcel. Second by Mary Elizabeth Christian. Passed without objection and one abstention.

Motion passed. Motion to change the amount for the Employment Education Campaign in Activity 9.4.2 from \$9,427 to \$40,000 made by Donna Breaux. Second by Lynn Cannon. Passed without objection.

Motion passed. Motion to award contracts to the Arc of Baton Rouge for the Employment Education Campaign at \$40,000; the Department of Children and Family Services for the Child Care Initiative at \$32,500; Pinecrest Developmental Center for the Inclusive Recreation Initiative at \$50,000 and to advocate for Money Follows the Person policy changes through legislation made by Donna Breaux. Second by Nanette Olivier. Passed without objection and five abstentions.

A discussion followed. Ms. Marcel suggested the Council's new Mission Statement be included on the front page of the plan. There was no objection.

## **8. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS**

### **A. HUMAN DEVELOPMENT CENTER (HDC) – Phil Wilson**

HDC developed a project with funding and support from the Council for an Employment Consortium. The current phase of this project has trainings being held statewide. When people complete training or even if they don't complete training, they may take their board exam to become nationally certified.

One project HDC has put a lot of effort into this summer is the Post-Secondary Education for All Collaborative (PEAC) with Delgado Community College. Students with disabilities have been identified, person centered planning has been conducted and the students will start enrolling in Delgado this fall.

In collaboration with the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, HDC provides interdisciplinary training of people in University Career Development. Last year a small pilot was very successful with four trainees: a Speech Pathologist, Audiologist, Special Educator, and a family leader.

HDC has been in recent talks with Dr. Sue Berry about potentially working in collaboration with one of the Children's Special Health Services' clinics to do a play-based arena assessment that would augment or compliment the work that Dr. Berry is doing around assessment.

A discussion followed.

## 9. STATE AGENCY REPORTS

### A. LOUISIANA REHABILITATION SERVICES (LRS) – Mark Martin

In the legislative session this year, LRS was very successful getting HB502 (Act 291) passed. This allowed the Second Injury Board to give LRS one percent of their annual budget which was approximately \$46 million. These funds can be matched to federal funds and draw down almost \$4 for every one put in.

Fortunately, there were no budget cuts due to the consolidation with Louisiana Workforce Commission (LWC). That's one example of how LWC has taken the LRS program and embraced it because they also run the Second Injury Board. LWC is helping LRS leverage funds so people with disabilities can be served by integrating Rehabilitation Counselors into the One Stop Career Solution Centers. Having people out in the field, keeping personnel and training personnel correctly are Mr. Martin's major goals.

Because LWC is almost 100 percent federally funded, there were some very significant budget cuts. Instead of having a layoff, they introduced an early retirement incentive program for the month of June 2011 that resulted in LRS losing 19 employees.

A discussion followed.

### B. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF ELDERLY AFFAIRS (GOEA) – Michelle Octave

GOEA administers the Title V Senior Community Employment for individuals 55 and older, so Ms. Octave will explore the possibility of integration of trainings with Employment First. This could benefit the Title V contractors as it relates to being inclusive of training individuals who have a disability but yet at the age of 55 are back into employment.

Louisiana LAW HELP ([www.lawhelp.org](http://www.lawhelp.org)) is a grant administrated by Louisiana Civil Service that provides free legal service to any resident in Louisiana.

GOEA administers the Long-term Care Investment Program, that in collaboration with the DHH Money Follows the Person program, helps transition and identify individuals wishing to relocate or transition back into a community living setting.

Elderly Protective Services (EPS) is available for individuals or community persons who want to report suspected abuse or neglect.

The Aging and Disability Resource Centers refer or assist individuals with any type of supportive services they may need to give them long-term care options available throughout the state.

GOEA also has a Nutritional Meal Program as well as other services for those who are 55 and over as well as individuals 18 or older who have a disability.

One of the new initiatives GOEA is working with through the Veterans Administration is to assist veterans in options where they can purchase supportive services through GOEA and the Caddo Area Council on Aging.

**C. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF DISABILITY AFFAIRS (GODA) – Brandon Burris**

Beginning March 1, 2013, the federal government will no longer send any federal benefit checks out by mail. They will all be electronic. The information is at [www.GoDirect.gov](http://www.GoDirect.gov). Recipients can sign up for direct deposit into their account or, if they do not have a bank account, recipients can establish a debit card and have FDIC funds provided on the card.

GODA has sent out packets for this year's Inclusive Art Contest with 22 more art programs wanting to be involved this year than last year. The projected numbers of art would be somewhere around 190 to 230 pieces. If the numbers are high enough, GODA will have regional competitions.

Due to the 2010 census removing questions and data about individuals with disabilities GODA is trying to professionally develop a survey and collect information through various channels, state departments, and universities.

Packets for the Governor's Awards will be going out this week. Deadline for nominations are the first week in November. All of the information is on the website at <http://www.gov.state.la.us>.

**10. RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION – Dr. Alan Coulter, LSU-HDC**

Dr. Coulter presented on the Response To Intervention (RTI) Model.

**11. STATE AGENCY REPORTS CONTINUED**

**D. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DOE) – Nanette Olivier**

Ms. Ollie Tyler is now the acting Superintendent of Education.

DOE is in the process of adopting national standards for education in the area of English Language Arts, Math, and Science. The Special Ed Consortium is called National Center and State Collaborative General Supervision Enhancement Grant (NCSC GSEG) project. The purpose is to look at the common core standards and how to interpret those for children who participate in alternate assessment, particularly kids with significant disabilities.

The three big focus areas of this project are:

- Look at the standards and come up with strategies for assessing children's progress.
- Have an outcome that by the time children with significant disabilities are five years old or in kindergarten, they have a communication system in place. This will address the tragedy of children with significant disabilities, in a high school class, who still do not have a systematic means of communicating.
- College and career readiness.

A discussion followed.

E. CHILDREN'S SPECIAL HEALTH SERVICES (CSHS) – Sue Berry

HB1 restored \$600,000 for CSHS to support respiratory therapists, social workers, nutritionists, nurses, and psychologists that makes care more comprehensive in those clinics.

CSHS has contracts with Families Helping Families in Region 6 to provide stipends to families for transportation to medical appointments. The contract will expand to Families Helping Families in other regions of the state.

Another project is to expand the Care Coordination Program (CCP) to three additional practices this year. CCP helps those practices make appropriate referrals to health programs, to some specialists and to coordinate those referrals in a way that is helpful for families and to provide family support for those families.

Another grant, which is a telemedicine grant, went to DHH Information Technology. These funds will put telemedicine equipment in parish health units so families do not have to travel from their parish health unit to the regional health unit to get a medical consult if the transportation would be a barrier for them.

F. OFFICE FOR CITIZENS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (OCDD) – Julia Kenny

OCDD is examining Licensing Regulations to consider improvement upon things like payment methodology for home and community based services.

OCDD is excited to be working on the Employment First initiative with the Council. A meeting will be held August 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Iberville Building.

A group is being formed that will look at the Residential Options Waiver (ROW) to make sure providers are incentivized. The ROW was supposed to be a conversion model but has not worked out as one. OCDD will need some family members and people with disabilities to serve on that group. OCDD is also starting to use the ROW as a crisis diversion to keep kids out of group homes.

The Money Follows the Person (MFP) rebalancing demonstration focuses on getting children out of nursing homes and hospitals. MFP is addressing babies in NICUs by paying for a ventilator that is not covered by Medicaid. It also pays for intensive parent training allowing moms and dads to learn some of the medical complexities and how to take care of their children. OCDD has about 60 people using MFP to move out of public ICFs/DD. This year 194 people transitioned out of Northwest, Pinecrest, and Northlake.

Ms. Kenny wants a standing group within state offices, with quarterly meetings to find out if Resource Allocation is working out and determine what the problems are. The hard thing is where to draw the line with families as caregivers. Even with the 8.3% growth last year in numbers of waiver recipients, there was only a 0.48% growth in expenditures as a result of Resource Allocation.

OCDD has also engaged the assistance of Dr. Wilson for training to encourage employment and not day programs.

OCDD will be expanding self-direction in the NOW program this year. Due to funding restoration, about 250 more people will be served within the NOW.

The Children's Choice Waiver is being amended. It took forever just to get approval for the 425 additional slots.

Along with self-direction, OCDD is enlisting the Council's help for outreach and to see if people will become certified in the horse therapy, music therapy and Yoga as well as other therapies.

A discussion followed.

G. OFFICE OF AGING AND ADULT SERVICES (OAAS) – Hugh Eley

OAAS just finished the process of retraining and implementing certification of support coordination programs and waiver programs using common based evaluation and testing certification. This certification is key to implementation of the new Community Choices Waiver.

A new contract has been issued for the toll-free number for the Louisiana long-term care options. People call to access long-term personal care services and the various waiver programs. ACS was awarded the contract with different expectations in the contract in terms of how quickly they will respond to people and the kind of information and referral they will provide when someone may not qualify for OAAS services.

The Permanent Supportive Housing Program provides services to people across all disabilities (developmental, physical, mental health, and aging). It provides affordable housing with support services for people and has been a very effective program. OAAS will be taking over operation of it for the Department of Health and Hospitals.

Even with budget cuts and staff reductions, OAAS programs are serving over 5,000 more people with home- and community-based services than they were two years ago. That's a 35 percent increase in the number of people receiving home- and community-based services through waiver programs or long-term personal care. This was done while reducing spending by eight million dollars. Two years ago four percent of people in the Elderly and Disabled Adults (EDA) waiver and three percent of people receiving Long Term Personal Care Services went into a nursing home in any 90 day period. Today the number in both programs is two percent. OAAS is serving 5,000 more people, spending less money and had no increase in institutionalization.

A discussion followed.

#### H. BUREAU OF HEALTH SERVICES FINANCING (BHSF) – Don Gregory

The New Opportunities Waiver (NOW) has been renewed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for five more years.

Overall Medicaid enrollment has gone flat compared to adding people at the rate of three to four percent a year throughout the recession. This may be a sign the recession has faltered out in Louisiana.

Mr. Gregory will be watching the Revenue Estimating Committee to see how much revenue Louisiana will have. The problem is not expenditure so much as the revenue to support the expenditure. It's been revenue dropping from under the programs that's caused infidelity for the last two or three years. BHSF is watching utilization and enrollment very carefully. Ph.D. economists who forecast the Medicaid budget will release the first forecast in October, a month earlier than ever before so they will have less information than usual to make a forecast.

There have been personnel management changes within Medicaid. Long time Waiver Compliance Manager Randy Davidson moved to take over the Nursing Home Rate and Audit section. The supervisor over that section has moved toward retirement. Courtney Phillips who used to work in Medicaid and was in the Secretary's office has returned to Medicaid to work in the unit.

The announcements for the Coordinated Care Network (CCN) awards will be Monday, July 25<sup>th</sup>. BHSF is working full steam ahead for the parallel behavioral health initiatives going on. The payment system is a very large and complex 30 plus million dollars a year contract to manage, paying \$62 million claims a year. Due to the complexity it takes three years to build the system.

National Healthcare Reform brings a new standard in play and BHSF has to revamp to do a modified income eligibility process.

HB1 authorized expanding varnish treatment for children. Now pediatricians will be able to provide fluoride treatment, not just dentists.

A discussion followed.

## **12. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Based on the outcome of the elections and then the vacancies that the Council expects at the end of the year, recruiting of applicants for membership on the Council will take place in regions 7, 6, and 3. Ms. Winchell will send members an e-mail with the details.

The next Council meeting will be October 19-20, 2011.

## **13. ADJOURNMENT OF BUSINESS MEETING**

Motion passed. Motion to adjourn made by Lynn Cannon. Second by Chasedee Noto. Passed without objection.