



211 N. Third Street  
Monroe, LA 71201

There was a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of G. B. Cooley Hospital Service District held on Thursday, May 14, 2020 at 4:30PM in the Training Room of the G. B. Cooley Administration Building located at 211 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Monroe, LA.

**Board Members Present:** Josie Roberts, Jackie S. Slack, Kenneth Wilson, and Taronda Goodin

**Others Present:** Ben Pitts, Connie Page, Jimmy Sanderlin, Lori Woodard, and Carmen Howard

**Board Members Absent:** Dan Sartor

**Call to Order:** Jackie S. Slack, Chairperson, called the meeting to order, there being a quorum present.

**Prayer:** The invocation was offered by Kenneth Wilson.

**Public Comments:** There were none.

**Minutes:** The minutes for March 12, 2020 and April 9, 2020 Board meetings were presented. A motion was offered by Josie Roberts, seconded by Kenneth Wilson, and unanimously carried by the Commissioners present to waive the reading of both the 3-12-20 and 4-9-20 minutes. A motion was offered by Josie Roberts, seconded by Kenneth Wilson, and unanimously carried by the Commissioners present to approve both the 3-12-20 and 4-9-20 minutes as presented.

**New Business:**

(a) Lori Woodard, of Woodard and Associates, presented the auditor's report for years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018. Ms. Woodard's firm presented an unqualified opinion with no findings. Questions and comments were addressed.

(b) The Operating Budget and Capital Outlay Budget for fiscal year ending 6-30-2021 was presented by Jimmy Sanderlin, CFO. Questions and comments were addressed. A motion was offered by Kenneth Wilson, seconded by Taronda Goodin, and unanimously carried by the Commissioners present to approve the Operating and Capital Outlay Budgets for fiscal year ending 6-30-2021, pending no objections at the public meeting scheduled on May 26, 2020 at 11:00am, at 211 North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street; Monroe, LA.

**Reports:**

The Financial Reports for month ended February 29, 2020 and March 31, 2020 were presented by Jimmy Sanderlin. Questions and comments were addressed.

Ben Pitts, CEO, presented the facility monthly report. Client census remains at a total of 173 served. This includes Community Homes, SIL, the TG Home and Employment Program. There were no admits or discharges during the months of March or April. There were no Human Rights investigations during March or April. At the end of April there were 263 employees, with 0% turnover. Mr. Pitts presented an update on the progress of GBC's project to construct two new community homes. Advertisement for bids started May 11<sup>th</sup> and the opening will be June 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm. Hopefully, the official cost of construction can be presented to the Board at the next meeting. He also gave an update on Corona Virus operations. All locations of service are still fully quarantined with no outside visitors. Starting May 18<sup>th</sup> family/loved ones will be allowed to visit, but only outside while exercising social distancing and wearing mask. Still no outside visitors will be allowed. We will reassess at the end of May and continue to phase out restrictions if possible. At this time, there have been (3) confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 among service recipients all living on the same group home. One staff was first confirmed then entire home was tested. (3) of (8) clients and (2) staff were positive on the same home. To date there have been several staff test positive at different areas, staff are not allowed back to work until they have tested negative (2) times and quarantined at least 14 days. Currently, GBC has sufficient supplies, PPE's which were a challenge for about a month. GBC has paid an additional \$1 per hour for staff working with service recipients since late March. We are reverting back to regular hourly rates next pay period. In addition, we have paid a "show up to work" bonus at two locations where COVID case(s) were positive with staff or with staff and service recipients. This has seemed to help mitigate some potential staffing issues. Most of our staff have been steadfast through the pandemic. Staffing issues have not been too severe but certainly not as stable as we would desire. The return to "normal" is not expected to return until perhaps July. Then we will regroup and prepare for the possibility of another upsurge this fall/winter. The financial impact has not been too severe. There has been an increase in expenses for supplies that GBC would not normally buy or buy in large quantities, such as PPE's, disinfectant products, paper products and some food products. The increase in payroll has not been as severe as expected. To date, payroll is up approximately 5% but will return to normal levels in June. There have been no billing issues for services delivered, revenue receipts, or disruption in cash flow. Questions and comments were addressed.

**Unfinished Business:** Election of 2020-2021 Officers was discussed. A motion was offered by Jackie Slack, seconded by Kenneth Wilson, and carried by the Commissioners present to table the election of Board Officers until a later date.

**Public Comments:** There were none.

**Commissioners' Statements/Discussion:** There were none.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, a motion was offered by Josie Roberts, seconded by Taronda Goodin, and unanimously carried by the Commissioners present to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 5:45 PM.

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Jackie S. Slack, Chairperson  
G. B. Cooley Board of Commissioners

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Ben Pitts, Hospital Director  
G. B. Cooley Hospital Service District