

Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council
7/16/20

SHAWN FLEMING: Randall, I don't see you, but you need 13 members. I think you're close. I think if everybody popped up on screen that is 12. You need 13 members for a quorum.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you, sir. I should be on your screen now. I see Michelle said she's trying to get video.

SHAWN FLEMING: I am on the phone with Jill trying to get her connected. Randall, you have a quorum, sir.

RANDALL BROWN: Okay. Thank you, sir.

SHAWN FLEMING: Hannah is prepared to do roll call.

RANDALL BROWN: Great. Thank you, Hannah. And so good morning everyone. Welcome to the quarterly Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council meeting this morning. I am your chair, Randall Brown. I want to welcome you all today. Thank you all to our members who are present. And for those that are trying to get on, hopefully they should join us soon. Thank you to all our guests and visitors. And Hannah, would you please begin the roll call for us.

HANNAH JENKINS: Yes. Dr. Patti Barovechio.

PATTI BAROVECHIO: Here.

HANNAH JENKINS: Ms. Basile.

KIM BASILE: Here.

HANNAH JENKINS: Ms. Bayham. Mr. Billings. Ms. Cetnar.

CARMEN CETNAR: Here.

HANNAH JENKINS: Ms. Cosse. Ms. DeJean.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Here.

HANNAH JENKINS: Ms. Guillory.

MICHELLE GUILLORY: Here.

HANNAH JENKINS: Ms. Hagan.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Here.

HANNAH JENKINS: Ms. Hano. Ms. Hymel. Mr. Iddins

MITCH IDDINS: Here.

HANNAH JENKINS: Ms. Katzman.

JEN KATZMAN: Here.

HANNAH JENKINS: Dr. McKee.

HYACINTH MCKEE: Here.

HANNAH JENKINS: Mr. Nguyen.

STEVEN NGUYEN: Here.

HANNAH JENKINS: Mr. Paddy. Ms. Polotzola. Ms. Preston.

KRISTI-JOE PRESTON: Here.

HANNAH JENKINS: Mr. Rodriguez. Mr. Rovira.

MATTHEW ROVIRA: Here.

HANNAH JENKINS: Ms. Sonnier.

TEMISHA SONNIER: Here.

HANNAH JENKINS: Ms. Tarver. Ms. Wagner. Ms. White. Dr. Wilson. Mr. Brown.

RANDALL BROWN: Present.

HANNAH JENKINS: And I believe Ms. Bayham.

MELISSA BAYHAM: Sorry. I am here.

HANNAH JENKINS: And Ms. White just called me. So, I will help her get on.

EBONY HAVEN: Dr. Wilson is here as well, Hannah.

RANDALL BROWN: Welcome everyone. Again, good morning. Would our guests like to introduce themselves quickly?

MARY TARVER: Hey Randall. It's Mary Tarver. I just got on.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you. Good morning. Welcome.

LIZ GARY: Liz Gary. parent from region nine.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you Liz. And good morning.

SUSAN REEM: Good morning. Susan Reem. Families Helping Families Southwest Louisiana.

RANDALL BROWN: Good morning Susan.

CHARLIE MICHEL: Good morning. Charley Michel Bayou Land Families Helping Families.

ANNI CUMMER: Good morning Randall. Annie Cummer from region nine. A parent and a business owner.

RANDALL BROWN: Good morning, Annie.

JIL HANO: Sorry I am late, y'all. I am here.

RANDALL BROWN: Good morning Jill. If that's all the introductions we have at the moment are we ready to go over the procedures for today, Shawn?

SHAWN FLEMING: Yes, sir. Can y'all see them?

RANDALL BROWN: Just so everyone knows, these are our procedures and protocols today because usually we have our ground rules, but today is, of course, a bit different being our first ever online meeting. So, these are our established protocols that we have been following since the beginning of the pandemic. So, this will be the rules for today's meeting as well. There for everyone to take a look at quickly and familiarize with. And I do ask your patience today as well being the first time we have ever done this there will be some glitches and things we have to work out as we go. Please, everyone be patient and we thank you for bearing with us today.

SHAWN FLEMING: Randall, if I may for the participants who have not tried to electronically raise your hand. If you go in the bottom of your scroll bar a little box that says participants, and pardon me what I see is sometimes different. If you click that box it will open up another box and then you can on the bottom right of that box, there is three little dots. If you click that there is a way for you to raise your hand within there. There is also a chat feature which if you click chat, and then we recommend you make sure you click you are sending it to all panelists and attendees, all the chats so everybody can see what is publicly presented. Staff will be monitoring the hands that are raised electronically and be queuing Chairman Brown who will be monitoring comments and providing him of indications when there are comments. And also, being broadcast on YouTube. We have staff who are monitoring YouTube as well. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to seek guidance. As Randall said, we are trying to figure this out so everyone can participate. Thank you.

RANDALL BROWN: And Shawn, we are streaming live on YouTube.

SHAWN FLEMING: Thank you. I have other screens open. I don't see.

RANDALL BROWN: I thought that was the case. We

are showing live at the moment. Has everyone had time to familiarize yourself with the procedures today? Or do we need another minute or two? And throughout the day you will see me take a delay when I ask a question and that is to allow time for people to unmute. I am sure everyone is pretty familiar with zoom and how it works by now, as far as that goes. Just want you to know I am not ignoring you or the schedule. I am simply allowing at each point for us to have time for anyone who wishes to speak to unmute to do so. If you see me, throughout the day, take a little more time than I would normally that's what I am doing is allowing time for people to be able to unmute to speak. Steven, are you prepared to read our mission statement for us, sir?

STEVEN NGUYEN: I am. The council's mission is to increase independence, self-determination, productivity, integration and inclusion for Louisianians with developmental disabilities by engaging in advocacy, capacity building, and systems change.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you, sir. And since I do have a quorum and we are, this meeting has begun, do I have a motion to approve the January 2020 meeting summary? I don't know if everyone had time to review that, but it has been up for some time on the website. And I had a copy in my packet, so I assume everyone did as well. I will give a moment for everyone to review that. If someone would be willing to make a motion, I would be grateful.

MARY TARVER: I make a motion to approve. Still looking for the little hand to raise. But I will figure it out.

RANDALL BROWN: Okay. So, Mary has made a motion to approve. Do I have a second to Mary's motion?

RANDALL BROWN: Mitch said he seconds.

STEVEN NGUYEN: I will second. No, this was Steven.

RANDALL BROWN: That was in the chat box. Do I have any objections to the motion? Do I have any

abstentions from the motion? Hearing none, this motion has carried. Thank you. Before I begin my chairperson's report for today, I would like to take a brief minute to acknowledge the passing of our former beloved chair April Dunn due to covid 19. That happened March 28th. So, I became your chair at that time, and I wanted to talk a moment to acknowledge April's service and her passion for advocacy. And we certainly greatly miss her already and her wonderful spirit. But we wanted to take a moment of silence to commemorate April before we begin today. She certainly leaves us with a lasting legacy that we all can be proud of and work toward implementing being more like in our work in advocacy together.

I will also want to say today taking over as chair in this environment of the pandemic and all the fear and angst and things that our society both as the DD community and all of us, the whole community are going through, I acknowledge that this is a very difficult time for a lot of us. A lot of emotions. And I want to thank everyone for being here today and being engaged and being part of our process as we struggle to move forward in a new way. And I want to be clear that yes, I am the chair of the council, but it's very important for my council members to know and my community to know that I consider myself your chair. I am here to serve you and help you to be able to carry out our duties and mission as council members. And to the community to know that I am sensitive to your points of view. I am listening. I do care what everyone has to say and what your opinions are. So, everyone, it's very important for you to know that I hear you. I want to encourage everyone to let's work together in a spirit of unity. There is a lot of work that has to be done today. Our agenda is pretty packed with very important information and very important things we need to do to ensure the council functions and continues to carry out its mission during this difficult time as we move forward. Please let's remember to be respectful and kind as we discuss the

issues and move through business of today and I encourage our guests to please respect the rules. And we're glad you are here and certainly your opinion and your feedback certainly matters greatly. Want to go ahead and say that to all of you so that hopefully we all feel comfortable and can get on with today's business. And it's very important that we work together as a team on these issues. And all our business is very important for us to start this chapter with a spirit of unity and understanding that we work not just for ourselves, but for the good of the entirety of our community.

Having said that, I thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving as your chair. It's not particularly an easy job at any point in time. I have a great respect for April and all who serve in this role prior to me. Having served now for about a few months now. It's been quite a learning experience. I am not saying I have it all figured out. Bear with me as I learn along with you.

Having said that, let me move into my chairperson's report. It is divided into two parts. April, of course, was the chair until her death and so she had made several appointments to committees. And they are all listed in my report. Which I believe you all have a copy of. But I will name the council members that she appointed to serve on committees. She appointed Ms. Kim, Mr. Mike, myself, Ms. Mary and Crystal White. As well as non-council members Ms. Liz and Ms. Natalie. Charlie, Susan and Jamie were all appointed to serve on the grievance ad hoc committee which will have its first meeting after being delayed due to covid, next week. So, for all you who serve on that committee we will be meeting and beginning our work next, the middle of next week, I believe. Next Wednesday that first meeting is scheduled. Those members are on the ad hoc grievance committee. And then she made appointments to serve on the fiscal year 2021 planning ad hoc committee and those members were myself, Ms. McKee, Bambi, Chris and Mr. Phil Wilson.

And Ms. Dunn also appointed Phil Wilson, and Adrian Wilson and Dellary Rice to the executive director search committee. Her appointments prior to her passing. Just for your knowledge. She attended several meetings. I believe three. One being the lifespan conference, navigating the system across the lifespan on November 18th of last year. And the executive director search committee meeting for January 29th and February 11th. As well as executive committee meetings February the 5th and March the 16th. And of course, tragically she passed away due to complications from covid 19 on March 28th, 2020. And that is where you got stuck with me as your chairperson on that day. So since then I had to make the appointments to fill my seat as vice chair and Dr. Hyacinth McKee accepted my invitation to be appointed as vice chair of this council. And Mr. Steven accepted my appointment to serve as member at large. Which was Dr. McKee's former position prior to April's death. I want to thank them both for taking on that role at this very difficult and challenging time. They both rose to the occasion and I thank them very much. That was a very difficult decision. It was one of the first decisions I was required to make, and it was very difficult to have to fill the seat that I held knowing I hold the seat that April did. Extraordinarily hard for me and I know hard for them as well. We were still grieving. And I know even now. It was a very, very difficult thing for me. And they have been phenomenal in support of me in my new role and I want to thank them both.

SHAWN FLEMING: You have two people with their hands raised. Crystal White on the council and Corhonda Corley as a guest.

CRYSTAL WHITE: I just wanted to clarify for the grievance committee. I believe they had already met one time. And I wasn't going to be able to fulfill the commitment due to other commitments I had so I asked to be, I had resigned from the grievance ad hoc committee. So, I just wanted to make sure you are aware of that. Cause I did that at the first meeting.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you for letting me know. I was not aware of that. So, thank you for that clarification. And Ms. Corley you have the floor.

CORHONDA CORLEY: Great morning chairman. I greatly appreciate you for allowing me the opportunity to speak. And I am just inquiring on the email I sent to the entire DD Council on yesterday. Inquiring on if those issues will be addressed. Those emails were in regards to the oversight that the membership committee made in wanting to appoint Liz Gary when we actually had a Hispanic individual as a parent advocate that should have been recognized according to our federal order we are in. As well as the letter that I submitted for the immediate removal and resignation of Ms. Basile.

RANDALL BROWN: We are going to address your issues and if you would permit me when we have our next break, I would like to talk with you as to how we are going to go about getting those issues addressed.

CORHONDA CORLEY: Thank you so much Mr. Chairman.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you.

SHAWN FLEMING: You also have Tory Racca with Disability Rights Louisiana.

TORY RACCA: Not sure if my camera is working. Just wanted to let you know Chris Rodriguez won't be on until about 10:00 a.m. We had a finance meeting he has to attend to.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you, sir. And welcome. Good morning. If there are no other comments or questions. Trying to see where I left off. I think we're on my appointment of the federal fiscal year 2021 planning committee. So, the 2021 planning committee consists of myself, Ms. Kim, Ms. Brenda, Dr. McKee, Steven, Bambi, Chris, and Dr. Phil Wilson. And then I also had to give appointments to fill the council's five-year planning committee which will be 2022 through 2026, are the years that plan will cover. And that committee consist of myself, Ms. Kim, Ms. Lillian, Ms. Michelle, Mr. Steven, Mr. Chris, Ms. Bambi, Ms. Temisha and Ms. Mary have agreed to serve on those committees. And I

thank you all for your willingness to serve. And we have already met for both of those committees and I thank you all for your service and input there. We will continue that work. Full list of committee appointments is available on the council's website. If you need reference beyond this point, the committee appointments list is always available on the council website.

A very important thing happened and that is regarding the NOW fund. The Louisiana Department of Health and Office of Citizens with Developmental Disabilities sought council input with me and with our interim executive director Mr. Shawn F, on input to use the NOW fund. The council has a standing request to maintain at least 1 million-dollars in the NOW fund to ensure adequate resources are available to have waiver slots available to offer to people in need throughout the year. Agreement was reached on using the NOW fund to avoid reductions to services during this fiscal year during this pandemic. Is Julie Foster Hagan with us this morning yet?

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Yes. I am here.

RANDALL BROWN: Would you like to speak on this at all at this point?

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: I can provide the information that I have available and if there are questions there are some I may be able to answer, and some I can take back to our fiscal, or Medicaid, or Division of Administration team. I know Jen Katzman is on as well and can help me either with answers or to take back questions. I will share what I have, but I will also want to make a note that there was request for some detailed information that we don't have available yet.

What happens with our budget is that once the legislative session is complete, which I think many of you may know with the special session that we had we didn't receive our budget until the session was over. And so, we really didn't have information until the end of June. And the next process that happens we take the budget that we have, and we do what's called spread the

budget across the different budget categories. And so that is not due until August 7th. What a lot of folks are doing is taking the information we have about the budget, what is available and then figuring out the details of it. I can provide you what I have. But again, some of that more detailed information may not be available until the next meeting. Or if folks need some sort of report we can look once it's available. Once we have more information about what the specific details are for the spread.

So, what I can share with folks is that so at the end of this fiscal year, so that would be as of June 30th, 2020 there was 18.8 or 18,872,130-dollars in the NOW fund. The calculation for that comes from there was a balance at the beginning of the year of well, let me start over. In fiscal year 20 there was 19 million-dollars that was appropriated from the NOW fund. So, what that means is when we looked at the activities in place for fiscal year 20, which was the IFS night rate increase, the 650 waiver slots, and the complex care. Which I can give an update on as well cause we are delayed in the complex care. There was an estimate we would spend 19 million-dollars in fiscal year 20. Of that we only spent 8.3 million. So, 8,359,218-dollars is what was actually spent on those three activities as well as a bit of carryover.

So, there was discussion about the rate restoration and the final outcome of that last year was that the NOW fund would be used just for the six months in the previous year to go back and use the NOW fund for that. So, because that NOW fund was used for January 1st through June 30th of the previous year there was a little bit of spillover, but not much. So those expenditures were on, again, the IFS night rate and the 650 slots. We thought we would need money for complex care, but because of the complications getting it approved and implemented we did not start that yet. So that left us a difference of from the 19 million that was appropriated you subtract the 8.3 million that we spent and that left 10.6 million that was not used

out of the NOW fund. And then in addition to that 10 million there was a previous balance of 8,188,781-dollars. So, for the beginning for July 1, 2020 what that left in the NOW fund was 18,872,130-dollars. In previous discussions with the DD Council we had looked at previously not using the now fund except for one year's worth of annualization of the approved activities. However, the discussion that we had with Shawn and Randall after having further discussion with fiscal administration and fiscal office we would need to use the NOW fund for an additional year for annualization of those because of the current budget situation that we are in and not having enough state general fund dollars to cover that and to shift those costs to what we call the base of our Medicaid budget.

And so, the council did continue to request that at a minimum we keep a million dollars in the NOW fund. And so, the division, through their letter, indicated they agreed with that and would continue to keep at a minimum a million in the NOW fund. So if in the future we do come to a point we are not able to have enough budget to cover new waiver slots for those people who have urgent and emergent needs, we would be able to use the NOW fund for that. So, the division has committed to maintaining at least that amount. That being said, they did appropriate. And so again, in an appropriation that really is not, that money is not pulled out of the NOW fund until you actually use it and account for it. So, what was appropriated was 17,534,367-dollars. Some of the requests have been what are the details of what that 17 million is that is being appropriated. And what the assumptions are about what that money will be expended on this year. That level of detail I don't believe is available yet and won't be able to provide until we are able to look at how the budget got spread. That is a whole lot of information that is complicated. Again, I will try to answer any questions I can. Or if not, I am happy to take back questions to get the appropriate answer from

folks.

SHAWN FLEMING: Randall, you have two people with hands raised, Crystal White and Jill Hano.

RANDALL BROWN: Jill, you have the floor.

JIL HANO: Crystal's hand was up first.

CRYSTAL WHITE: Is any of those numbers you talked about, I am sorry, that was a lot of numbers that you just gave out over several periods of time. Do you have that on paper to give to us, was anything prepared.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Sorry. I didn't see your email last night. I just sent you an email with those numbers and sent it to Randall and Shawn this morning as well. And they can send it out. They may not have seen it yet. The numbers I read off can be shared.

CRYSTAL WHITE: I also have a question for Randall. Whenever you guys were in that meeting at the beginning of June what was your understanding these dollars were going to be taken out to be used for? Was it just to fund new waiver slots so there wouldn't be a waiting list?

RANDALL BROWN: That was the primary discussion. And we knew initiatives we had already agreed to, she just outlined would be possibly included in that as well. But as she said, we don't know how the budget will be spread from legislative session. But they committed to all the initiatives we had previously agreed to as well as a complete funding of waiver annualization. Which is new waivers for this entire fiscal year. Was my understanding.

CRYSTAL WHITE: So, this is my thing. The only reason I asked for a breakdown on where the money is going is because by law the council is to be consulted and a part of decision making on the removal and where the NOW fund dollars go. And I wasn't in that meeting, so whenever I am told hey, there is only a million left in this fund, we're taking the money out. I wasn't told what we are using it for. Just a logical question. Where we need to know where these dollars are going to be allocated. Not a trick question. Not

a question to cause any angst for anyone. Just to say we are doing our due diligence as a council who is supposed to be consulted on these things.

And a part of that decision that we know where we're using 18 million-dollars and only leaving a million left in a fund. I think it's important to know. That's why I have been asking for these things before the council meeting so it could be reviewed and then I could ask logical questions from there based on what I am seeing. But I haven't seen anything on paper. And I know Randall said he was going to do everything to get that information to us before the council meeting, which didn't happen. I am going to kindly ask that we have another meeting on this, Randall. I would like to make a motion that we have a NOW fund committee formed, please. That is the motion that I am putting on the floor.

RANDALL BROWN: Okay. Do I have a second to Crystal's motion for the creation of an ad hoc NOW fund committee?

KRISTI-JOE PRESTON: Second that.

CRYSTAL WHITE: I believe Kristi-Joe seconded that.

RANDALL BROWN: Sorry. I didn't hear her. So, I have a motion to create a NOW ad hoc committee. And I have a second to that motion from Kristi-Joe. Do I have any discussion?

HANNAH JENKINS: You have two hands raised. Matthew and also Corhonda.

MATTHEW ROVIRA: Not that I disagree with Crystal in forming or the intent of getting information in advance so the council can consult as the intent of the trust fund law. I guess my own reluctance is this knee jerk reaction on forming a full committee to overview the trust fund when that is the role of the executive committee. That is my only thing. I am open to getting the information, understanding where the money went. Obviously, I know from my prospective there was a huge budget shortfall that had to be plugged. I guess my only reluctance in supporting this motion is that it's sort of a knee jerk reaction into not getting

the information that was requested. And that surely can still be done. I am not opposed to the motion, only on those grounds. Seems like it would be logical to get the information out to everybody as oppose to forming a committee.

RANDALL BROWN: As soon as I get the information it will be given. And Julie sent some information I have not seen this morning cause I was preparing for today's meeting fairly early today. So, I have yet to see that. But of course, I will share that with everyone that it has been provided. And we can ask questions not only this meeting, but next meeting when they know more how it was spread out across the budget once they had a chance to look at it all and break it out.

I have also asked her to invite to Mr. Mark Thomas, the assistant secretary for the Department of Health to brief us and address us on those efforts as well. So, he was part of the meeting we had, and he is not able to be here today. But I asked her, I believe yesterday, to ensure that Mark is available for the October meeting to give us a full breakdown of how those dollars are being spent. As she said, appropriated or allocated. That doesn't mean they are spent yet. Earmarked, if you will, for those purposes or categories. We will certainly, as soon as we get any information on those categories, those expenditures will go out to the council. But the motion is on the floor. Do I have any more discussion of the motion?

SHAWN FLEMING: Crystal White's hand is raised as well as Corhonda.

CORHONDA CORLEY: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would strongly encourage the council to do a motion against the motion that Ms. Crystal White suggested in regards to actually creating another ad hoc committee. We already have several ad hoc committees that are taking place. And unfortunately, a lot of the members on the ad hoc committees do not seem to know a lot of the information that has been presented at other ad hoc committees. So, then they end up putting motions to create more ad hoc committees. Which is again,

hindering our productivity. I want to piggyback off of what Mr. Matthew stated, that this is an executive committee decision. So, the executive committee should actually make the decision in regards to anything dealing with any moneys that are actually being dispersed or earmarked for anything. If we are going to create an ad hoc committee in regard to the NOW waiver then what would be suggested next by Ms. White. For us to commit an ad hoc committee in regards to children's choice waiver? An ad hoc committee in regards to the ROW waiver? We don't need all these different ad hoc committees when this is purely a decision for the executive committee. I just urge every member of the council to strike that motion just like Mr. Matthew suggested and we allow this executive committee to actually address this. As far as in the money being earmarked, et cetera with the money. I greatly appreciate you Mr. Chair.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you for your comment Corhonda. Crystal, you now for the floor.

CRYSTAL WHITE: According to law it says the council is to oversee these dollars. And I understand Mr. Rovira would want, is probably interested in these dollars because these dollars do go towards provider rates in some way shape or form as Julie said and have in the past. So, I understand. But the only thing I am saying is that we need to have all the information upfront whenever we are consulted on this. I am fine with the executive committee being a part of that decision, but we only had one person in the meeting. So, I am just confused as to what happened and I am confused as to how it's taking so much time to get the information. That is the only reason for wanting to make a onetime committee that anybody who is interested can review everything. That's the only reason that we need to oversee these dollars by law. And I just like to make sure we know where they are going and when they are coming out. But we can vote on it. Go ahead.

RANDALL BROWN: Your motion is on the floor. I will say I am committed to having an executive

committee meeting for the purpose of as soon as we have all the relevant information for the purpose of addressing and getting that information out to the council. If you are agreeable to that we could go that route as well to just having the executive committee meeting. Which, of course, any council member, any member of the public could attend and ask any number of questions they want if you like to do that.

CRYSTAL WHITE: Absolutely. That sounds great. You are cutting out just a little, so I didn't hear all of that. But yes, absolutely.

RANDALL BROWN: You would be agreeable having executive committee meeting I would call just for the purposes of laying out where these expenditures went and how they are being allocated and such.

CRYSTAL WHITE: Absolutely. That sounds wonderful.

RANDALL BROWN: You withdraw your ad hoc committee motion?

CRYSTAL WHITE: Yes. And replacing it with your motion to do the executive committee meeting on it.

RANDALL BROWN: Correct.

HANNAH JENKINS: You have three hands raised and seven public comments.

RANDALL BROWN: Dr. McKee, do you have something you want to say or add.

HYACINTH MCKEE: Sorry. Can you hear me? I hope I am not on mute. Okay. So, I want to get clarification. Is the motion to call for an executive committee meeting for the purposes of only discussing the NOW waiver concerns, the budget? Is that the motion?

RANDALL BROWN: It would be to share any information shared with us by LDH and the Office of Developmental Disabilities.

HYACINTH MCKEE: Would that be the only purpose of the executive committee meeting, that emergency executive committee meeting?

RANDALL BROWN: I have committed to that when we get that information, I would call for that meeting and the body would gather to discuss and share that

information, whoever wishes to attend.

HYACINTH MCKEE: For the purposes of managing time appropriately, I do not feel comfortable with putting forth that motion to cause an emergency executive committee meeting just to speak on that topic. If we are calling the executive committee meeting to speak on other topics as well and we want to add that to the executive committee meeting agenda I will be okay with that. But I am not entertaining calling an executive committee meeting just to speak on one topic for the purposes of time and scheduling. So maybe we should reword that motion to just state we are calling the executive committee meeting. But it will be inclusive of other pertinent information as well. Not just specifically for that motion.

RANDALL BROWN: That's fine. We almost always have other information we can add on. I try to make it where we do have productive use of time and do put as many things on the agenda we can safely and logically cover. I would remain committed whenever we have business as soon as we have information on the NOW fund, I would call the executive committee and it would contain more than just the NOW fund information. Have whatever pertinent discussions we would need to have as it relates to council business in conjunction with that. But I still remain committed to getting information out through the executive committee meeting so anyone who wants to attend from the council members as well as public can do so.

SHAWN FLEMING: You don't have a second on that substitute motion. Crystal withdrew her first motion. The other motion did not get a second. You have three people with, well two people now with hands raised, Phil Wilson and Kody Wilson. I would like to also share a prospective on that. The council chair is charged with being the spokesperson for the council. There are times in the executive committee, when available, when time permits makes decisions aligned with the DD Act and previous council decisions. I think other people have brought this point up, but I

want to be clear. I am glad it's not ad hoc. Understanding the NOW fund might help you with that, but I won't go into details since it has shifted. But requiring the executive committee to meet to put input into the NOW fund. So, if OCDD and LDH ask for input and the chairperson, be it Randall or the next chairperson is constrained to require the executive committee in its entirety to have a meeting to decide on what to do. And the motion is in play. And mind you this decision, I can't remember the date, Randall. But it was mid-June, right. The budget.

RANDALL BROWN: June 16th when I got the letter.

SHAWN FLEMING: The Division of Administration, Louisiana Department of Health are under time constraints to make decisions about what is going into a budget. There will be a window when the council does not offer its input, no input will be given. And my concern that I will share with you, putting those constraints on your chairperson or the executive committee would potentially decrease the ability for y'all to have input that is required by law. Your bylaws specify and give, I guess, certain authorities. And you give your trust in your chairperson. And so, it should be the chair, to me the chairperson's discretion when it's feasible to convene such meetings and when it is not. By making this motion I fear y'all would lose your voice.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you for that prospective. I will say I don't intend to cede my authority as chair of the council to speak on matters on behalf of the entire body. I am just committing to in place of an ad hoc, since we have people wanting information as it is released, I am just committing to making that part of an executive committee meeting where anyone who wants the information we are given and wants to give input to us can certainly do so. And I will use that input in decisions I am asked to make on behalf of this body. But I do appreciate your concern, Shawn.

SHAWN FLEMING: You still need a second, sir, for the motion. And Kody Wilson and Phil Wilson have their

hand raised.

RANDALL BROWN: Before I ask for my second, Kody, you have the floor.

KODY WILSON: Can you hear me. My comments about this is the 18 million-dollars is a lot of money and the council you guys vote on your own budget, only 2 million. So, I think it is important to have the full executive committee involved in that decision. And I think the concern here is that we want to ensure that we know what we are saying yes to. It's my understanding, Randall, as you stated you thought it was simply to fund new waiver slots, 650 new waiver slots.

However, as we are backtracking finding that is not where that money is going. And I have huge concerns about that money going to provider rates. I have a personal testimony that no matter how much you increase provider rates we have access; my family has access to its very own rate. And that rate is not passed down to my workers and not creating the full intent of what some of these dollars are intended for. If it's not passed down to the worker then we don't get the quality workers we are looking for. Instead we are lining the pockets of these agency owners. And I am not okay with that. The money needs to go to help the families. That is what the money is for. I just wanted to also remind you that as I was reviewing notes from last July the Division of Administration and OCDD had moved those funds without consulting the council. And Ms. Bambi had requested you guys formulate a letter that would be sent out saying in the future you guys needed to be consulted. And it doesn't seem like you guys were given appropriate timeline in order to get the full executive committee participation. Thank you so much for your time.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you. And I see Bambi's point of order. Before I call on Dr. Wilson do, I have a second to my motion?

HANNAH JENKINS: Mitch wrote in the comments that he seconds.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you Mitch. I have this motion and Mitch has seconded. Do I have any discussion of the motion?

SHAWN FLEMING: Phil Wilson has his hand raised and you have a number of comments in the chat box.

RANDALL BROWN: Any discussion as it relates to the motion.

HANNAH JENKINS: Yes, a hand raised from Dr. Wilson and about 10 or 11 comments.

PHIL WILSON: I hope this comment isn't off track here, but I am very troubled by our governance, or what appears to be our governance structure. When I hear people talking about the executive committee is going to make decisions and that is the only body that is going to be involved in this decision making I think that flies in the face of what a council is supposed to do. I thought the executive committee would make a recommendation that needs to be approved by the committee, the council as a whole. I understand Shawn's point earlier and other people's points about timelines. But at the very least there has got to be a way to put something out, people choose not to vote, they miss it, that's on them. There are some very legitimate concerns have been raised in this discussion that I don't know are going to be represented within an executive committee. Which is closed to even the membership. Let alone the public. I am very uncomfortable with our governance right now. And I think it's gotten this council into a lot of trouble historically. That is my comment.

RANDALL BROWN: I will say the executive committee is not closed and will not be closed. Both the public and any member of the council can attend and give input at any time.

PHIL WILSON: That is fantastic and that needs to be stressed. When people are talking about the executive committee is going to make the decisions and only them, I think that we need to be educated. If that really is how our DD Council is going to operate then I think we have a major problem.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you, sir, for that input. But I will say again, all executive committee meetings we have are public meetings and any member of the council can attend anytime. As well as any member of the public. Thank you. Your concern is noted, sir.

SHAWN FLEMING: There are a number of public comments.

HANNAH JENKINS: Would you like me to read those Randall.

RANDALL BROWN: Yes.

HANNAH JENKINS: Some may not be relevant with these changes. Bambi said she concurs with Matt. From Kody Wilson, I would like to remind you last July when the Division of Administration and OCDD moved the NOW funds without even consulting the council nor the executive committee. You were promised the council would be properly informed. This year the same thing is happening, the entire executive committee was not part of this decision. Would you like me to keep going or stop after each one?

RANDALL BROWN: You can keep going.

HANNAH JENKINS: From Liz Gary, she said I think it is important for people to know the history of the NOW trust fund, why it was created, when it was created, and what has occurred over the years since inception. As a parent I have followed and been a part of this since its inception of 2007. Liz Gary said the NOW trust fund covers all DD waivers. And Mitch Iddins said I propose we strike the motion and allow the executive committee to address. Katie Corkin said it's not about a specific waiver, therefore no need for specific waiver ad hoc committees. It funds waivers and their services. As a parent the majority of people do not understand the NOW fund, its utilization or its purpose. Corhonda said it's important for the council to adhere to the law that Ms. White just read for the entire council, not an ad hoc committee. Ms. White named a specific waiver. Bambi said maybe it shouldn't be restricted to only that issue. Which I believe was addressed. Sharon Dufran said as a community member I

am opposed to the executive committee having yet another focus of power in control of NOW funding. It should be an ad hoc. And let's see, the rest, let me make sure I am not missing something. Hyacinth said we have a motion that was covered. Sorry, I am making sure I am catching everybody. Michelle said the executive committee should review the NOW and bring the information to the full council. Sharon Dufran said I agree hundred percent with Phil Wilson. Attending an executive committee meeting does not mean we can vote. That is all.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you. And thank you all for your comments.

HANNAH JENKINS: And Bambi has her hand raised.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: So, I think the purpose of the executive committee is to, well part of the purpose, is to be able to call that group of leaders in to make decisions between our full council meetings. That is why we elect you to be able to be decision makers. And so, I don't think that it's practical to call back the full council every time there needs to be a decision made. Y'all need to have that authority to make those decisions in between council meetings and then report to the council at the council meetings. Or whatever appropriate manner you think should happen. Not to make the decisions for the council necessarily, but to do so whenever you have to do it in between our quarterly council meetings.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you.

SHAWN FLEMING: If you like I can provide a very brief overview of the history of the NOW fund. A NOW fund was created a few years back and what it does is when the revenue estimating conference doesn't predict the right amount of money, they under predict and there is more funds brought in than they had estimated. Twelve percent of the 50 million dollars gets deposited into the NOW fund. The amount, those can change overtime. For years there was no money put in. I want to say about three or four years ago we started getting rather large deposits because the estimates were off

and off in our favor. In the law it does require for the council to be consulted with the use of it. I think the comment, Kody Wilson's comment is correct. Last year the council was not consulted in the use of it. I think that was just an oversight. I don't think intentional undermining.

But this year, I do want to give credit to the Department of Health, Julie Foster Hagan and Mark Thomas with LDH for reaching out to the council. And they had actually a number of different proposals and they had to go back to Division of Administration and come back to us and say they wanted to do other things. Because of the budget situation Division of Administration said it was basically telling them, and Julie you can acknowledge if y'all want to do that, there will be other cuts to these other programs because they were uncertain how much money was coming in. This was all happening in mid-June y'all. During that time, I just want to give a prospective now of the executive committee process. I had been surveying the executive committee multiple times to try to convene meetings in June. Multiple times. Could not establish a date through the entirety of June. I asked after Julie and Mark reached out to us, I requested that they put it as a standing item on their report. And I appreciate Julie having put that on there. I understand, being your budget director, not having all the details of everything at this time. I do understand that. But moving forward, I think it would be in everyone's ability to see where everything stands. And the council will be able to make decisions about what it intends to do.

This year was certainly not typical in any sense of the word. I will just go back, I thought Randall made the wisest decision. He was put in a position of being asked and I think he spoke to what was consistent with what was passed by the executive committee prior. Which was to try to avoid cuts to services. But moving forward, what you have to realize money may be deposited into that fund this fall. And then the

council will have the ability as a full council to get a report on whatever the new balance is and make those determinations. And so just so y'all know this request to have this NOW fund report added to the OCDD report was not a onetime deal because of this issue or this year. It was requested as a standing item. Make sure you were all clear with that request. And Julie has honored it today.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you for making that clear. I am committed as chair of this council to getting all information I receive, that we receive, out to our council members as soon as we get it. It was not a decision I made lightly. Not one that I took any pleasure in doing. I was advised it was necessary due to the pandemic to maintain services. And as Shawn said, having difficulty getting any form of executive committee to meet for the entirety of June and a decision needed to be made. Mr. Thomas and Julie reached out to us and requested that meeting. I did what I felt was in the best interest in alignment with the executive committee decisions up to that point. And I adamant the million dollars remain.

LIZ GARY: Good morning. I just wanted to add to some of what Shawn was saying that the NOW fund was actually created in 2000 at the time Senator Shedler from St. Tammany Parish. And he said he decided he wanted that fund because he said he could fill a bathtub with the tears he had heard from families who continually come into his office claiming they needed supports and those NOW waivers would help. As time went on money was deposited into that account cause after Katrina an influx of state revenue. In 2007, 2008, 2009 a lot of waivers were being served. I think around 3,500 around a couple years. Overtime that fund was depleted, and the original fund said new NEW opportunity waivers only. Only could use that fund to fulfill new NEW opportunity waivers. When the Jindal administration took over, unfortunately that fund was depleted, and it wasn't used on just new NEW opportunity waivers. It was used on analyzing and that

kind of thing. It sat pretty much dormant with very little action until 2018 when the revenue estimating conference, like Shawn said, realized there was going to be an increase between what they had estimated and what was actually coming in. Approximately between 18 or 19 million put into that. At that same time, during that same year I had met with several other advocates with Senator Hewitt asking her to please change the verbiage in the NEW opportunities waiver because, sorry the verbiage in the NOW trust fund because it said only new NOW waivers. And we knew that we were moving forward with more appropriate waivers ultimately to a tiered approach. We knew we could no longer just say that money could only go to new NOW waivers. So, in 2018 when we met to discuss that. It wasn't going to change. And then all of a sudden when the revenue estimating conference recognized money, we knew we had to jump. So, Ashley McReynolds and I met with Senator Hewitt, and Sandee came and joined us, and that is when we discussed changing the language to basically be home and community-based services. With still an emphasis on new waivers, but no longer did it say only new waivers. At that same time in 2018 when we added that with the guidance of the Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council. So, in 2018 got a deposit and in 2019 got a deposit. Whether or not that will again occur. I know may be a difference with covid and revenue, who knows. I wanted to give you a backdrop because I've literally been a part of it since 2007. Watched the changes, watch what happened with that. I wanted to share that. Thank you.

RANDALL BROWN: Thanks Liz. I appreciate that feedback. Anyone else have anything to add?

HANNAH JENKINS: There are a few comments in the chat. Mitch says thank you Randall. Corhanda says thank you Mr. Director and chairman for working for all individuals with disabilities. And Sharon Dufran says why is the ability to chat between members and the community no longer available. We are being denied the ability to participate as we normally do.

HYACINTH MCKEE: I really would like for us to be mindful of the time that we are spending on each topic. I recognize all comments are valuable. We do have a motion. It has been seconded. We have to get back to the business of this agenda. I am asking if public comment is allowed that we put a timeframe on that. One minute, two minutes because what happened now, we have so much to cover today and I think we need to be mindful of the use of time. At this point can we get back to the agenda and make sure that we use our time wisely moving forward chair. Thank you so much.

RANDALL BROWN: Yes. And I share your concern. I do know we have a lot to cover today. The reason I gave so much time to this issue is because I understand how important it is and a huge decision we made. And I wanted to be sure everyone had the opportunity to be heard. Hearing no other public comment, I would like to conclude my report.

SHAWN FLEMING: You have a motion on the floor.

RANDALL BROWN: Yes, sir. So, I need to vote on the motion before us. Do I have any abstentions to this motion?

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Did you ask for abstentions? I abstain. This is Julie.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you. Julie abstains.

JEN KATZMAN: I abstain as well.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you.

PATTI BAROVECHIO: I abstain.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you. So, Julie, Jen and Patti. Do I have any other members who abstain?

HANNAH JENKINS: Roslyn has her hand raised.

RANDALL BROWN: Any other people who abstain from the motion?

HANNAH JENKINS: Roslyn has her hand raised.

ROSLYN HYMEL: I have a comment.

RANDALL BROWN: We'll get you in a minute. Let's finish voting. Does anyone else abstain from the motion? Any member of the council object to this motion? Again, calling for objections to the motion. Any objections to this motion? Hearing no objection,

this motion carries. Thank you, ladies and gentlemen. And this concludes my chairman's report.

ROSLYN HYMEL: I was lost because I was looking through my paper and I didn't understand where everybody was going with it.

HANNAH JENKINS: I think you have YouTube open. If you mute it or turn it off. What were we voting on?

SHAWN FLEMING: I am going to call you up and try and get you to deal with that and then we will have you enter in the conversation later, okay.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you Shawn. So, in the interest of time, we'll continue to move forward. I concluded my chairperson report. So next on our agenda is the executive director's report. If he is available, Shawn do you want to do that now or working with Roslyn.

SHAWN FLEMING: I have the motion of the executive committee up for you. I am on the phone. I might be a little delayed.

RANDALL BROWN: We have the executive committee motion which states the executive committee recommends the reinstatement of the annual orientation of new council members and refresher for existing council members. We made the motion not realizing the bylaws didn't need to be changed. Simply know if we pass this motion today that it will replace the motion or the bylaw that allowed for us to skip orientation unless we had, I believe it was four or five members. This would carry us back to what we previously did. Which is to have trainings and orientations annually. We all felt that was a necessary component again. I think even more so as I hear discussions from this morning. I think it's important for us to all have understanding and training in what our role is, how to best carry it out. I encourage passage of this motion. And it's from your executive committee. It doesn't need a second. I am going to ask do I have any abstentions to this motion by our committee members? Does anybody abstain? Hearing no abstains, do I have any objections to this motion? Hearing no objection, this motion

carries. Thank you.

SHAWN FLEMING: Randall, I am sorry I was distracted. Were there any abstentions?

RANDALL BROWN: No, sir. I didn't receive any.

SHAWN FLEMING: And Randall, can I bring you back up to the budget that was the first motion.

RANDALL BROWN: The executive committee recommends the council adopt the state fiscal year 2021 council plan as presented. So that is linked there. Do we have that to show on screen, Shawn?

SHAWN FLEMING: Can y'all see it?

RANDALL BROWN: I cannot.

SHAWN FLEMING: Do y'all see it now. Okay.

RANDALL BROWN: So, this before you is the recommended fiscal year 2021 budget from your executive committee. Any questions or comments? Again, this does not need a second for passage. So, it comes from your executive committee so we can go straight to a vote. Do I have any abstentions from this motion? Does any council member abstain from this motion? Hearing none, does any council member object to this motion? Hearing no objections this motion has carried. Thank you. No, I believe that was all of our recommendations from executive committee.

SHAWN FLEMING: No, sir. Sorry I am distracted. I am catching up.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Jill has her hand up.

JIL HANO: Y'all bear with me. I was just looking in my binder of handouts. I think I have the wrong budget. I received the wrong budget. Wait, never mind. So, we are doing state financial year 20, correct?

RANDALL BROWN: 2021. It just started July 1st; I believe.

JIL HANO: Cause mine says state financial year 20. Okay, this is correct cause it says through June 20. Never mind.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you. Shawn, we have other motions to entertain?

SHAWN FLEMING: Yes, sir. Y'all discussed diversity and equity and made a recommendation for an

ad hoc committee. And that is up on the screen right now. And following that, y'all had discussed making a position statement and so I have that from there as well, sir.

RANDALL BROWN: It's not showing on my screen. Thank you, sir. All right, so the executive committee recommends the council to convene an ad hoc committee to discuss diversity, equity, inclusion practices and draft antiracism statements and positions for the council's consideration. It doesn't require a second. So, do I have any abstentions to this motion? Does anybody abstain from this motion? Any council member. Does anyone object to this motion?

HANNAH JENKINS: You have a public comment regarding this motion. From Sharon Dufran, said please include geographical representation in that discussion. We have lost sight of this.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you for that suggestion.

SHAWN FLEMING: Sorry, trying to get Roslyn back on. Did y'all change the motion?

RANDALL BROWN: Want to add geographical regions to the motion as well.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I totally agree with geographical, that we need to do outreach geographically, but I feel like this motion is addressing a particular issue and I don't feel comfortable with adding that to this motion.

RANDALL BROWN: Noted.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: We already have to do the geographic outreach and we are within the federal compliance of what the geographical representation is. The issue we have been out of compliance with, what the feds deem as appropriate membership on the council in regards to race and gender. So, I think this is what this addresses?

RANDALL BROWN: Any other discussion?

SHAWN FLEMING: If I may, Bambi this is not specific to the council membership, is my understanding. It was larger than just the membership. I think looking at all practices.

RANDALL BROWN: Yes. We are committed to all areas of the bylaws we are required to cover. That would be committed to having that in mind in any decision we make in this regard as well.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: So, I don't think that we need to, diversity, equity. Diversity would mean geographical diversity, gender diversity, racial diversity.

RANDALL BROWN: I agree. I am just stating for people to know that we are committed to that, as part of our bylaws and part of our mission at all times. Having said that, this is the motion before you. Does anybody abstain? Does anybody object to the motion? Hearing none, this motion has carried. Thank you.

SHAWN FLEMING: During the discussion y'all had mentioned wanting to do a mission statement and Hyacinth submitted that. Now would be the time to consider that. You are on mute, Randall.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you. We are committed to the motion that just passed with the diversity ad hoc committee. But we, as the executive committee, also felt with the current environment and the state of things in the world that we needed to make a statement now with regard to our values on these issues. So, this was our attempt to do that. And I ask Dr. McKee to draft it and we both together drafted this at the executive committee's direction. And it's here for your consideration now. It doesn't need a second. Please review it. If you have anything to add or change let us discuss it. If not, then we will vote.

SHAWN FLEMING: It does need a second, Randall.

RANDALL BROWN: Sorry. You are right. So, I actually do need a second to this motion. I apologize. And Mitch says he seconds. So, thank you, sir. A motion from Dr. McKee and seconded by Mitch. Do I have any abstentions to this motion? Anybody abstain from this motion? Does any council member object to this motion? Hearing no objection, this motion carries. Thank you.

SHAWN FLEMING: You have one more on

confidentiality.

RANDALL BROWN: This is from your executive committee. Recommends the council consider having members to sign confidentiality agreements and require applicants for council membership to sign consent release information for discussion of the applications. We offer this motion for your consideration. Hearing no questions or comments do I have any abstentions? Does anybody abstain?

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: So, I am wondering was there discussion in the executive committee in regards to, I feel like it could detract someone from wanting to apply if they don't feel comfortable with having their personal information, and maybe I am misreading this. Is this so this could be discussed publicly? There may be people who have reservations about having their personal information shared by other people. Many people feel comfortable with them sharing their personal information, but don't feel comfortable with a body of people talking about their personal information to the public. Was that discussed and am I understanding this motion correctly.

RANDALL BROWN: It was or has been discussed. This stems from we want to ensure that when we do any work with regard to collecting people's information that we do protect that information as we are required to do based on HIPPA because we are housed within the Department of Health, technically. As it relates to HIPPA information and the recent legal opinion we received from the membership committee stating not to divulge disability, I believe was the main factor there. This was our attempt to try to make sure that we ensure that we do maintain confidentiality and they do give consent if any of the information should be shared.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: They sign it and they are giving us authority to share that information in a public meeting?

RANDALL BROWN: They would be. Essentially, yes. Giving us permission to share the information they

provided publicly.

SHAWN FLEMING: Bambi, I don't think they discussed it at length the concern. I have heard that concern. The quandary the council is in is needing to provide recommendations for the governor's consideration of appointments to the council. And even requiring certain council members to be either a self-advocate or a parent and yet the guidance we got, LDH legal shared it within themselves. But is consistent with HIPPA privacy laws is you can't discuss someone's personal health information. We are an agency of Department of Health. And bound by open meetings law. Even in this meeting today, I will tell y'all, I do encourage y'all to look at the membership summary and there is that guidance. Y'all have to be careful with sharing information that is actually necessary to make a consideration. It's a very tricky situation. On the consent to release information it can be very specific to just that. Just say whether you are an individual with a developmental disability or parent or family member. And then y'all will be, y'all will have to be very careful with just discussing that. It is, I agree with you, it's worth thinking about how it's going to affect applications. But as a public body y'all are in this very difficult position of having to balance open meetings law requirements verses privacy requirements. And striking that balance when you have a whole group of people, it's very difficult.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I am okay with it if it's a limited release of information as you described. A family member, parent or person with a developmental disability like allowing for that. But anything further I would have reservations of having that as a requirement.

SHAWN FLEMING: If that is your concern you can amend the motion.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I think some other people want to make comments so I will wait.

HYACINTH MCKEE: Shawn, you did a really good job explaining that to Bambi because I share those concerns

too, Bambi, when we were discussing this as well. But drafting the consent form to make it informed where we have specific parameters around it, what the information will be used for, the intent of the information, how long we will have the information as well. Actually, put a time on there. And allowing the individual to select what they choose to disclose or will not disclose as well. And adhering to that. I share the same concern as well. I think Shawn did a really good job explaining that. If we are able to draft an informed consent, I think that would help ease some of the concerns that you brought forth.

SHAWN FLEMING: You have Chris, Sharon and Liz.

CHRISTOPHER RODRIQUEZ: I apologize for being late. I had a board issue here at the office. So, as we talk about drafting these documents, and I appreciate Shawn doing a good job trying to explain best as he can, I feel uncomfortable. I don't know how many lawyers are on this thing. I am not a lawyer. Not having some type of legal person, like, address us. I guess the question is, and I don't know how urgent it is to get this stuff drafted, but LDH has an army of lawyers, right. Could we not have one of LDH's counsel like advise us on this? To make sure to let us know what is allowable, what is not, and what levels of risks we may be taking as we nonlawyers try and draft language requesting information that could be inappropriate from a legal standpoint. So, I guess summing that up, do we have access to LDH counsel to ask or to present this type of stuff to us.

HYACINTH MCKEE: LDH actually has an informed consent that is made publicly. So, I want to say to Chris, that is a good idea to have legal counsel on it. But I just want to assure you LDH has informed consent that has already been drafted by LDH that is used. If we do need to have questions about making modifications or adjustments to that document that may be the conversation. But LDH does have informed consent that has been utilized for historically for years. That document is available.

SHAWN FLEMING: Thank you. Chris does that answer your question.

CHRISTOPHER RODRIQUEZ: Yeah. I think so. It does.

RANDALL BROWN: I believe Sharon Dufran was next.

SHARON DURFRAN: Thank you so much for taking my comment. Years ago, the council added something to the member application because the membership application only asked three things related to disability. Do you have a disability, and if so, when did it start. Does your child have a disability, a developmental disability. Let me back track. And when did that start. And the third one is are you eligible for OCDD services, and I am paraphrasing here. So, what happened was if you look at the Itac guidance it gives you a big list of questions that you are able to ask. Very specific to disability and I think very invasive. So, what we did, we balled all that up into one question which is can you get services through OCDD. And that pretty much, if you are eligible for those services, then we assume you have a developmental disability. Personally, as a community member, as a parent who's son's privacy has been invaded in the past. Council members have no business asking questions medically and personally sensitive. Much less writing those down and discussing those in a membership committee. It is not about the person's disability. Whether or not I have autism, all you need to know I have a developmental disability. Whether I am high functioning autistic, whatever. That is none of your business. We assume these family members, like me, and self-advocates understand what developmental disability is. And if someone over shares that is about training your membership committee to not ask or to not write down that information. Because over sharing is one thing. Actually, discussing that in a membership committee whether it's closed to the public or not, that is just wrong. And the last thing I would like to say is something about informed consent. We have had self-advocates on the council in the past who

have had intellectual disabilities. So, will they be able to provide informed consent and is it fair to ask everyone else to sign that and not self-advocates? I have a real problem with that. You do realize, I hope, that a confidentiality clause is already included in our bylaws. The one that I have read that I believe is being presented is on the level of medical doctors. This is overkill. And that is all I have. Thank you.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you for that comment and prospective.

LIZ GARY: Just wanted clarification. Is this for council members or for applicants? Because the bylaws already state council members are already under confidentiality. Sounds like it's for both. Not clear. Looks like you're asking members and then also asking applicants to sign consent. So, I am just curious about that and why you would ask for confidentiality agreements when it's already in the bylaws when they took their oath of office.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you Liz. It is worded, it would cover, we had membership processes in mind. And I can see where it would cover both. But as you rightly stated, we already, as council members, are under confidentiality agreements when we assume our office.

HANNAH JENKINS: You have a comment from Crystal White and Bambi's hand is raised. Crystal would you like me to read it or speak aloud? I am concerned with the sending of this personal private information on membership via personal unsecured Google/Yahoo email addresses to the council members. We also have an obligation to keep information private electronically.

RANDALL BROWN: Noted. Thank you, Crystal. Do I have any other comments with regard to the motion?

HANNAH JENKINS: Liz has a comment and Bambi has her hand raised.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I want to concur with both Crystal's comment and Liz. I do think we maybe need to change that motion. In response to Sharon's comment, I agree with her. But one of the issues that was brought

up at other meetings that I really took to heart was that we have a lack of representation of some disabilities. Particularly, people with significant disabilities or their family members. And so, while it should be that you just have a developmental disability, it is important sometimes that we understand the disability that the person has personal experience with. So that we can have those representatives at the table. So sometimes it may appear the best applicant is someone who responded to LaCAN, been to the capitol on days. But sometimes the best representative may be people who have not done that because they have been caring for a person, usually their child, that has significant disabilities. For us, as a membership committee, being able to have that information is important for us to have to consider so that we can have that diversity and that voice at the council meetings. That is my concern. And why I think that we should have, that sometimes we do need to share some of that information within the membership committee, within the executive, going into executive session so that we can make those right choices and have that diversity. That should be the only time we would be sharing things within the executive session.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you Bambi for that comment and clarification. Do I have any other discussion of the motion?

HYACINTH MCKEE: I want to speak to the comment regarding membership committee members asking information of applicants. I want to make this clear, membership committee members that I have worked with have been very careful and sensitive when they are engaging in conversation with any applicant. I want to also make it known that questions that are asked by the membership committee members are only the questions that are listed on the phone interview. Membership committee members are compassionate, empathic and they do not probe or pry or try to elicit information out of applicants that is not listed on the phone interview.

With that being said, there are times in which applicants themselves feel comfortable with the relationship that they have developed through the interview with the interviewer and sometimes they disclose more information that is sensitive when they are attempting to answer the question. When that happens, it is incumbent upon the membership committee member to utilize judgment and not disclose information that may be too sensitive. And that becomes a challenge. Not all membership committee members are professionals in that type of discipline to know how to gauge and temper the information that is being received to them. And so, in all fairness to the membership interviewer, again, sometimes the applicant discloses information that is considered sensitive under the rules. So, we want to make sure that we are not saying anything, or even receiving anything, or documenting anything from the applicant that may be perceived as sensitive and that can be accidentally and unintentionally shared without that person's consent. That's why we feel it's important to have this consent to mostly protect the applicant. Thank you.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you for that clarification.

JIL HANO: So, did you say Bambi that you mentioned the idea of the membership committee going into executive session or the executive committee going into executive session.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: The membership committee. And at our last membership committee, which I think the report will be given shortly, there was a few times cause we had three different people to select or offer for recommendation. There was three different very brief times that the committee went into executive session and just talk about as I described, is there something that needs to be shared that we need to know as I described that we were concerned about that being made public. It was very brief times, used with a lot of discretion. Membership committee going into executive session.

JIL HANO: I think some really good points and just

wanted to throw that out there too. So, thank y'all.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you Jill. Do I have any other comments with regard to the motion on the floor?

HANNAH JENKINS: From Sharon Dufran, she said I will never allow my son to sign a waiver allowing his personal information to be shared. Executive session being used far too often.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you.

MITCH IDDINS: I am just wondering if we need to include the statement in this motion that the executive committee have members sign confidentiality agreements. Do we need to add that in there cause we are already under confidentiality agreement?

RANDALL BROWN: I was going to ask cause we talked about clarifying it earlier. Does anyone want to make an amendment so that it applies to membership.

MITCH IDDINS: I would just make a motion that we amend it to just say we have applicants for council membership to sign consent. Basically, the second half of the motion take out the part where it says council members sign confidentiality agreements.

SHAWN FLEMING: Once they are a member, not when they are an applicant?

MITCH IDDINS: Well, my understanding it recommends the council consider having members sign confidentiality agreements. Members are already under a confidentiality agreement. I don't believe we need that there. Mostly talking about new applicants and having them to consent to release their information for discussion.

SHAWN FLEMING: Your motion is to strike the first part out.

MITCH IDDINS: Yes, sir.

SHAWN FLEMING: You need a second.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you Mike for seconding. I have a motion by Mitch, seconded by Mike to strike out having member confidentiality agreements from the original motion. The new motion reads, require applicants for council membership to sign consent to release information for discussion of the applications.

So, it's the amendment to the motion by Mitch, seconded by Mike that you are voting on. Do I have any further discussion of the new motion on the floor?

STEVEN NGUYEN: Do we add to that new motion specifically who we can share that information with?

SHAWN FLEMING: That would be in the consent to release information on clarifying all that Steven.

STEVEN NGUYEN: Can you repeat that?

SHAWN FLEMING: Sorry?

STEVEN NGUYEN: What you said, I think I missed it.

SHAWN FLEMING: Just a matter of how specific y'all want to go into. My suggestion would be kind of what the guidance was before. Probably legal guidance and it's clear y'all want to narrowly define what they are consenting to for how long, and to whom, and how it will be revealed. Those are all detailed in the form already. If it were me, I would maybe leave that up to the executive committee to later indicate that. Y'all have a little while before y'all have to do a new member application. Y'all have a little while to do that. My advice would not be to get that specific right now in this meeting. Say y'all want to do confidentiality and work out those details later.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you Shawn. So anymore discussion on the new motion before us? Made by Mitch and seconded by Mike.

HANNAH JENKINS: You have a comment from Sharon Dufuran. We are sending the wrong signal out to potential applicants when we ask them to sign release of confidential information. The council should protect against that. She agrees with what Shawn said.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you Sharon for that prospective. Do I have any more discussion of the new motion?

ROSLYN HYMEL: Can you really catch me up on that because I was trying to get back into the meeting on what was being said.

RANDALL BROWN: Sure. Welcome back. We have a motion on the floor to require applicants for council membership to sign consent to release information for

discussion of their applications.

MITCH IDDINS: I have a comment. This is just in response to Sharon's concern. And I certainly understand and appreciate her concerns here. However, we are only asking for release of applicants to sign release of information to discuss the information they put on their application. No more, no less. Not asking them to allow us to discuss that information amongst the members, just to make sure we are doing the right thing and trying to essentially protect them, protect their information. Not asking them to give us any more information, anymore medical information. Only asking them to allow us to discuss the information that is on their application. Just for clarification on that.

RANDALL BROWN: Correct, sir. And thank you for making that point of clarity.

ROSLYN HYMEL: I do agree with Mitch on it. But how much more information that we can put on that application that could be personal for everybody to really read.

RANDALL BROWN: That is what we don't want to happen. Don't want to disclose any personal information the applicant does not want shared or that we don't have the ability or shouldn't be sharing because it wouldn't be relevant to our work or our discussion. We just want to make sure cause as Hyacinth rightly said, sometimes the interviewer may already know the applicant in some cases. Even if they don't, during the point, excuse me, during the discussion or interview process you might build a rapport where they feel comfortable to share information that would be considered. Either protected health information by HIPPA or would be considered personal in nature that we would not want disclosed. This is our attempt to make sure that does not happen and that any information we do share would only be limited to what they share with us on the application.

HANNAH JENKINS: You have another comment from Sharon Dufran. She says there are no questions on the

applications that deal with sensitive information. Maybe the application needs to be reviewed so the members can know what they are voting on.

RANDALL BROWN: Noted.

SHAWN FLEMING: Randall, if I may, I want to share a different screen. In brief, those few questions that are on the application, when you ask someone if they have a developmental disability, if they are determined eligible by OCDD, Office of Behavioral Health or Office of Developmental Disabilities you basically have, at that point, personal health information. That was basically the legal guidance we had. I could show it to you. It's to not discuss that, sorry for my dog barking, any information related to the developmental disability status of the applicant or applicants relative or child. It puts it in that category. By definition, we have to get that information to see if people are eligible to sit on the council. I guess that's all I have.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you, sir. Any more discussion of the motion before us? The amended motion.

MITCH IDDINS: I agree with Shawn. But again, sometimes on the application applicants will go into greater detail about sensitive information about the nature of their disability. Even though some may feel the questions on there are not sensitive, applicants will quite often share a lot of information that is absolutely very sensitive. This is why we are asking them to sign this consent to release information so that if they are adding all this sensitive information and we are trying to determine the best, review this information trying to determine who is the best applicant and trying to make the best decision about membership we need to make sure we are protecting that additional information that they are sharing with us. All I have to say.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you, sir. Any more discussion of comments on the amended motion.

SHAWN FLEMING: There are a few comments.

TEMISHA SONNIER: I want to make a quick comment regarding the consent for confidentiality. Just keep in mind whenever we are considering this we are looking at backgrounds of people, and say inquiries on the school level or any kind of complaints, most self-advocates and including parents of children with disabilities looking at it from a whole prospective they are asked to sign consents regarding that individual or those people accessing that information. With that in mind, usually they can be tailored to where there is a disclosure period. Those parents are free to put on, not just the parents, but any individual is free to put on that consent that there is an end date to the disclosure as well. Also, the ability to, like we said before, document exactly what you want released. I think it is important because I think we need to take out our individual perspectives of why we feel this should or should not be released. I think we need to look at protecting all individuals. Not just what we would do for our own children, but looking at it from a public prospective. Those things like piggybacking off of what Mitch said. People generally tend to go into a discussion personally so you can understand what they have gone through. Although you try to tailor things a certain way, does not mean it will go that way. And I think it's important to have a prospective on kind of like Ms. Bambi said, we understand what that person wants to provide for the membership committee. Having that consent protects everyone. So, we're looking at protecting everyone as a whole. Not just individualized.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you for your comment and prospective. Mike, you had a question or comment, sir?

MICHAEL BILLINGS: Temisha pretty much covered what I was going to say that sometimes the applicants give you a lot of information and it's the committee member, the membership committee member's responsibility to not pass along every single bit of that information as if it's not confidential outside of the conversation.

With that being said, I would like us to move along and I would like to call the question.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you, sir. The question has been called. Discussion ends and I will now vote on the amended motion.

SHAWN FLEMING: Calling the question is a motion in and of itself.

RANDALL BROWN: I need a second to that, don't I? Do I have a second to Mike's motion to call the question on the amended motion?

ROSLYN HYMEL: I will.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you. Roslyn seconded Mike's motion to call the question on the amended motion. Do I have any objections to calling the question? Hearing no objection, the motion passes. Do I have any abstentions? Hearing none, the motion passes. And so, the question is now called and we will vote now on the motion before us made by Mitch and seconded by Mike. Now have the motion before you to require applicants for council membership to sign consent to release information for discussion of the applications. That is the motion before you now for a vote. So, do I have any abstentions to this motion? Does any council member abstain to this motion?

CHRISTOPHER RODRIQUEZ: I abstain. I wasn't really here for the entire discussion.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you, sir. Your abstention is noted. Does anyone else abstain from this motion?

KRISTI-JOE PRESTON: I am also going to abstain.

RANDALL BROWN: Any other abstentions to the motion? Do I now have any objections to this motion? Do any council members object to this motion?

ROSLYN HYMEL: Is there a purpose again for me to really vote on this one again? Can you remind me on it?

RANDALL BROWN: We are all voting on whether we want to pass this motion that we have to require applicants for council membership. That means people who would apply to become members of the council to sign a consent to release information for discussion of

the applications. You would be voting on yes if you agree with that, or no if you do not.

SHAWN FLEMING: Since your connection had interference what Chris did, because he abstained, because he couldn't participate in the entire discussion.

RANDALL BROWN: I was about to bring that up. She can abstain if she would like to do so.

ROSLYN HYMEL: Then I will. I will do that then.

RANDALL BROWN: Do I have any objections to the motion? Hearing none, this motion has carried. Thank you. I believe that ends the motions, does it not Shawn?

SHAWN FLEMING: Yes, sir. We are about an hour behind schedule or more. Maybe two hours behind schedule. We had a break scheduled at ten. I would recommend us take a ten-minute break. Let everyone run to the restroom, get a sip of water.

RANDALL BROWN: It is currently 10:55. At 11:05 we will reconvene to carry out the rest of our business.

SHAWN FLEMING: I am ready when you are, sir. I am going to hide my screen and ask everyone share their screen to see if we have a quorum. You're good. You can go, sir.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you everyone. Welcome back. Hope you enjoyed that much needed little break there. So, in the interest of time we are going to move as quickly as we can now. And Shawn I am going to give you the floor for your executive director report and our budget report, sir.

SHAWN FLEMING: Good morning everyone. Shawn Fleming, interim executive director. Start off one by thanking our staff during all the covid shutdown. We have been working from home. And I just tell you they have been doing a remarkable job of getting everything running. Express gratitude to all the council members. We had to reschedule every and y'all worked with our staff very well in just making it happen and figuring out how to do these things remotely. I will tell you; we're still learning and trying to figure out the best

way. Open to any suggestions to making these meetings and y'all ability to conduct business as good as possible. Due to the suspension of in person activities a lot of the activities we had running were discontinued during the pandemic shutdowns. Of course, that impacts a lot of budget. Y'all will see that when I do the budget report. You don't have the end of the year report. Thirteen months of state government to get the invoices from June. But a lot of our activities have not made the expenditures anticipated because of the shutdown. Y'all will see more money, I shifted some more money when you talk about next year's plan. With travel reimbursements, I sent out an email, send it out again after the council meeting, when we do begin to travel again, they are going to make electronic reimbursements, electronic fund transfers into your account. No longer send a hard check to you. Only about four or five of y'all have submitted your information to Casey Hickman. I will send a reminder to do that.

Like the rest of y'all, I was devastated with losing April. I do think Randall has stepped in admirably. Her loss is significant on a personal level. I am sure it was with y'all. We did create some resources, covid 19 resources. And Families Helping Families webinars because they moved exclusively to that. I hope y'all keep going to that. We keep that updated with information as much as possible. Also participated in a number of meetings. A lot of these were put on by the National Association for Developmental Disabilities. And have been actually a good thing to connect with the rest of everybody across the nation. Of course, everyone is still just grappling with what to do and how to figure out what to do. Also mirrored that on a LaCAN level and had weekly calls. In this tragedy it has created opportunities for participation. Also just like to give a lot of kudos to Bambi and Julie and Kristi-Joe and the people who have been instrumental in addressing how to shift services very quickly during the pandemic. And for

including stakeholders in that process. I just think the council should recognize there has been a continual effort by all these agencies to ensure stakeholders are at the table while they are making decisions. And sure, they have to make some decisions so quickly. And I am glad they did make some decisions to do the K waivers and all the other waivers to address it. But I do feel like they have really included stakeholders and brought them to the table. And I think the council should recognize them for doing that.

Some of the things we advocated for, which is significant I think, was one for LDH to share data on the impact of covid 19 on people with developmental disabilities. And they do that weekly. I want to thank them for that. Early on there was guidance, I guess, actually from Washington State, but on the LDH website because of the hurry of making it happen on the use of rationing medical equipment when there are shortages. And to me it's kind of spoke to the core of the value of the people with developmental disabilities and our community. I was very happy that LDH responded by issuing multiple memos clarifying they retracted Washington State's guidance and issued a few memos. Encourage y'all to read those and understand the significance of the value of people with developmental disabilities and not discriminating against people with developmental disabilities in providing healthcare. That is the main things. If y'all have any questions I will be happy to entertain those. Are there any questions? I see Jill has her hand raised. Roslyn has her hand raised.

JIL HANO: Thank you, Shawn. I tried a few times, is the 2020 legislative wrap up not on YouTube?

SHAWN FLEMING: It should be. Sorry, I didn't go through all the legislative outcomes. We did put out, per y'all request, it should be on YouTube. And if somebody on staff can put that link in the chat box, I would appreciate it. We can email it out to you. Hannah just put it up there. And Hannah if you could email that link out to everyone.

JIL HANO: Please and thank you.

SHAWN FLEMING: Y'all had requested we do the legislative debriefing about bills relevant to people with developmental disabilities. We do that every year with LaCAN leaders and Families Helping Families. We did it online this year. Hour long YouTube covering some of the issues. Also issued LADDC news with those some links and indicating those significant bills. One thing we did not put in there that passed after I had issued it was that 250-dollar critical, essential. Let me go corral my dogs. There was a 250-dollar supplemental pay for essential workers that also passed, and I think is critical for everybody working with people with developmental disabilities.

ROSLYN HYMEL: For the number of what you kind of mentioned in here, are the dates or something that you was mentioning for every year for the LaCAN. I was trying to follow you and I lost you.

SHAWN FLEMING: For LaCAN we do a number of different meetings with our LaCAN leaders and Families Helping Families directors. And start off the year with a kickoff and we usually have monthly calls. We have been doing them weekly. This was a significant challenge with advocacy as y'all all know. I don't know what other numbers I expressed. I will call you and walk through my report later. Cause I don't know what numbers you are referring to.

ROSLYN HYMEL: From March to June 1st here. From June 1st and June 15th.

SHAWN FLEMING: Well, we didn't have an April meeting. This is going back really, probably missed a few things. In January, February this report is like Randall's was six months of stuff. It does cover a lot of space.

ROSLYN HYMEL: That's what I was trying to get at right there. That's where my question was. Because you have like dates and everything and I was trying to understand even with covid 19 as well. How much did we miss with the covid 19?

SHAWN FLEMING: In what regard?

ROSLYN HYMEL: The months that we have missed, we didn't go to Baton Rouge. Because we always used to traveling to Baton Rouge and have our two weeks.

SHAWN FLEMING: Since March 16th, the executive committee met. Is that right, Randall, was it the 16th? I think that is correct. At that time put in place a suspension of in person activities. And so there have been no meetings in person, there have been no LaCAN action alerts. Or participate in person. There have been no meetings of any contractual activities that were in person since that time.

ROSLYN HYMEL: When are we going to go back doing our two days of meetings after this whole covid 19 event.

SHAWN FLEMING: That would be up to the executive committee. Some of the action alerts I have shared people with developmental disabilities, even children have a high vulnerability of risk. Even when we go through the phases because of co morbid conditions, which are other conditions sometimes related that people have with developmental disabilities, they tend to have more often than people without developmental disabilities. The entire population tends to be at higher risk in general. That would be up to the executive committee. Right now, where the state is, we are actually at the worse place. Worse than we were in April in terms of the number of cases that are coming out. I don't see it happening anytime soon. The budget that y'all passed earlier reflected reductions in travel that I don't anticipate y'all having an October meeting. Kind of wait and see for January is where I am. We're in a tough position with making contracts with hotels. And I am not going to recommend we make a contract with a hotel for even January until we are certain we are going to go in. Which is going to put us in a difficult position because of my fear if we make the commitment to the hotel and everybody knows we are in a pandemic they could charge us even if we don't go. That would be a cost with no benefit.

ROSLYN HYMEL: The cost even if it's going to be

extra cost like extra hundred or two?

SHAWN FLEMING: No. It's more than that. Council meetings cost about 5,000-dollars to run. But that includes y'all travel, hotels rooms and all that. Probably 2,000-dollars, little more than 2,000-dollars for like the room, food and everything else. A portion of that we may be libel for if we write a contract. I am going to wait as long as possible before committing to that.

ROSLYN HYMEL: I wanted to find out where we are. Do your meetings on zoom even October and January as well?

SHAWN FLEMING: In October, for sure, I am anticipating it. I am going to encourage y'all to consider when you do your advocacy agenda in October, consider advocating to revise open meetings law to enable this. If you notice we actually, not necessarily in this meeting cause in our council meetings we always have a lot of attendees. But in a lot of the other meetings actually increased participation and involvement. Which is the purpose of what open meetings law is. I do think you lose something doing it all virtually. But also, an accommodation that could enhance participation. Anyway. Any other questions? Thank you. Do the budget report?

RANDALL BROWN: Yes, sir.

SHAWN FLEMING: In your packet you have the budget report. Trying to find it on my screen.

ROSLYN HYMEL: What packet are you talking about, Shawn.

SHAWN FLEMING: Actually, opening up the hyperlink inside of the agenda. I sent y'all the agenda and it's online. I have most hyperlinked inside of there. And so here are your expenditures through June. Again, to emphasis when we talk about contracts, the invoices for activities that occurred in June did not hit yet. Still probably, I would be guessing, but at least 50,000 dollars maybe of contracts that will come through. Usually it's a lot higher than that. Even

with that, you can see in contracts, what I was referring to, always money left over. Want to be clear with that. Every contract can't go over its budget. We are going to leave a lot more money than anticipated at the beginning of the year. Left on the table in contracts. There is also a huge budget balance in salaries due to the vacancy in the executive director position. I was worried about travel. But, of course, we have plenty of money in there. Any questions on the budget? That concludes my report. Thank you.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you, sir. Okay. So now we move into our standing committee reports. And I believe our first report to be administered today is the act 378 subcommittee report given by committee chair, Bambi. You have the floor.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Give me a second. Trying to find it again. I clicked out of it. So, the act 378 subcommittee met Tuesday and reviewed the fiscal year 20 fourth quarter data for programs within Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities, Behavioral Health and Aging and Adults Services and Arc of Louisiana. Found under the council meeting section if you would like to review. Our committee did not have any recommendations or decisions for the council's consideration. But there are a few updates that I want to share.

So first off at our last meeting we requested OCDD provide an approved pending funding report. Which looks at the individual and family support, or IFS requests. Based on the report there were 81 requests as of June that were approved pending funding in whole or in part. All but one of those came from the capital area. We felt it odd to not have other regions listed in the report and reviewed multiple scenarios that may have caused this. Possible the district or authority did not have funding for priority three or four requests, so not even processed. Asked OCDD to follow up with the districts and authorities to find out their different practices and determine what may have caused the discrepancies in the report. The second thing

wanted to point out that regarding the council's recommendations for updates to the individual and family support or IFS consumer care resource programs Tanya Murphy with OCCD shared the final rule was published and received feedback on the manual from stakeholders. She will review the feedback and submit the manual for final signatures from leadership and hopes to train the district and authority staff in October. The committee also asked updates in the manual including notifying families deemed to have a priority three or four request that their case will not go before the IFS committee in that region. We also discussed some of the eligibility requirements for flexible family fund. There was some concern in the past that to be eligible for the program you had to be enrolled in an approval school setting and documentation from the school that your child met one of the exceptionalities in bulletin 1508. It was discussed this policy was changed to remove the school requirement and allow licensed professionals to submit evaluations saying the child's exceptionality conforms to bulletin 1508. And that concludes my report.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you Bambi. Does anybody have any questions for Bambi on her report?

ROSLYN HYMEL: For the one you was talking about when OCDD is there like for a certain kind of schooling for that, is that for certain kind of students that y'all really have.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: So that has to do with the flexible family funds. Which is a monthly fund that families can receive, believe 258-dollars a month. And the way to determine eligibility for that fund has in the past was, that since it's for 18 and under, based on the education evaluation they met bulletin 1508 which determines a student's exceptionalities. And so since with the changes the policy removed that requirement that you have to have the school system determination to where another option is to have a licensed professional say that child meets that definition and not necessarily have to go through the

school system. Gives another option.

ROSLYN HYMEL: But how much would that really be if you don't go through the system of the school.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Then you can get the determination through a licensed professional, medical professional.

ROSLYN HYMEL: Do you need to have a professional, own professional to do the paperwork or do you need to have certain kind of paperwork.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: You would have to either have the school paperwork that is required, or you have to have it through a medical professional.

ROSLYN HYMEL: What kind of medical professional that is required for that.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Like a doctor, psychologist, psychiatrist. Different type of licensed medical professionals that could provide that.

ROSLYN HYMEL: Okay. That's really what I wanted to know.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Thanks.

RANDALL BROWN: Any other questions for Bambi about her report? All right. Thank you, Bambi. Up next, we have self-determination, community inclusion. That committee chair, Mr. Mike you have the floor.

MICHAEL BILLINGS: Good morning everybody. The self-determination community inclusion committee met on July the tenth and we ended up with four recommendations for the council's consideration. First, the committee discussed ideas for proceeding with future Partners in Policymaking sessions. Due to covid 19 the 2020 class was unable to finish the program. I believe their last session was in March. And there was a lot of uncertainty how to move forward in 2021 as well. Thus, we bring forth the following motion. The self-determination and community inclusion committee recommends Partners in Policymaking ad hoc committee be formed to discuss finalizing the class of 2020 and how the class should look for 2021 and possibly 2022. So, offering that to the full council for consideration.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you, sir. We do not need a second because it comes from a standing committee. Do I have any discussion of the motion? Hearing none, do I have any abstentions to this motion? Does anybody abstain? Any council member abstains from this motion? Hearing no abstentions, do I have any objections to this motion? Does any council member object to this motion? Hearing no objection, the motion has carried. Thank you.

MICHAEL BILLINGS: Next we discussed the current LaCAN leader vacancies. We still have vacancies in region one and region ten New Orleans metro area, and region four the Acadiana area. So, we bring forth the following motion, the self-determination and community inclusion committee recommends including the special education advisory panel and the special education advisory committees in the recruitment of LaCAN leaders and council membership along with Partners in Policymaking.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you, sir. Again, this is from your committee, so it doesn't need a second for your consideration. Do I have any discussion of this motion?

KRISTI-JOE PRESTON: Not discussion, just clarifying question with SEAP and the local advisory committees. Just curious how the word got out about that and what role those groups would play as LaCAN leaders.

RANDALL BROWN: Mike, did y'all have any discussion about that.

MICHAEL BILLINGS: I believe the intent was to utilize a, target is not a good word, but for marketing purposes per say to reach out to these panels and committees and for the recruitment purposes for LaCAN and the council and Partners in Policymaking. Just to see if we can find interested parties within those groups. Does that answer your question? Sorry, I didn't hear it very well.

KRISTI-JOE PRESTON: Yeah. It does. As the staff liaison for SEAP at the department, if there is

anything we can do love to partner and see the ways we can collaborate to support.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you Kristi-Joe.

ROSLYN HYMEL: This is what I want to know. For the two different ones you have up here Mike SEAP, which one is that one? And the other one you have is SEAC. What is the difference in between both of them? Is it different in the two?

MICHAEL BILLINGS: Those are two different panels/committees. They are separate. I can't speak to.

SHAWN FLEMING: The first one is the state level special education advisory panel. This is required by federal law, run by Louisiana Department of Education. The special education advisory committees were committed by law, not this year, last year in every school system is required to have a special education advisory committee. These are local, with your local school system. The second one

ROSLYN HYMEL: I didn't know if it's going to be in two different schools, or if it's in same schooling, or in the same school as in what, if I am reading this right, cause I don't know if I am or not, is one of them for one school and the other one is in another school? If I am reading it.

SHAWN FLEMING: One is at the state level and the other ones are at the local school systems level. Like Jefferson Parish School System has a special education advisory committee.

ROSLYN HYMEL: What kind of committee is that though, Shawn.

SHAWN FLEMING: Comprised of parents and educators. The state one is much more inclusive of a lot of different entities. The local systems are relatively small. It has parents and kids with disabilities on both of them.

ROSLYN HYMEL: What I want to know, because with us being at Magnolia with the community services we have like ISP meetings. Is that considered the same thing as ISP meeting? Or are they different in that outcome of the school.

MICHAEL BILLINGS: Roslyn, what this motion is really looking for is to contact those members of those panels and committees to see if they are interested in being a LaCAN leader or being on the council when there are opening and if they are willing and interested in participating in partners.

ROSLYN HYMEL: That's what I am looking for. I wasn't really sure if I am understanding you and also understanding where Shawn is really coming from.

MICHAEL BILLINGS: I hope we answered your question.

ROSLYN HYMEL: It did. Thank you.

RANDALL BROWN: We have the motion before us on the floor. Do I have any abstentions to the motion? Does any council member abstain from this motion? Hearing none. Does any council member object to this motion? Hearing no objection, the motion has carried.

SHAWN FLEMING: Randall, you have some comments regarding the previous motion. Liz indicated she would like to be on the ad hoc for Partners in Policymaking committee. Jill also indicated she would like to. Kathleen commented that it's not really fair, don't think it should be done like that. Not sure if they want to comment on that. We skipped a step. I just recommend you go back. I started typing them in my notes. Recommend you go back and ask who would like to participate.

RANDALL BROWN: I will do that. The two who already asked we have listed. Would anyone like to serve on the ad hoc committee for Partners in Policymaking?

SHAWN FLEMING: You have a comment from a phone. I don't know who it is. I would like to be on every ad hoc committee created.

RANDALL BROWN: Work to try to figure out who that is and honor their request.

SHAWN FLEMING: Yes, sir.

STEVEN NGUYEN: Can we share this opportunity with members from outside in the community? I had spoken with somebody who is in the current Partners in

Policymaking class and she had expressed interest. I wanted to confirm with her she was still interested before putting her name out there.

RANDALL BROWN: I mean, yes. You can share the information throughout the community. Anyone can request to join. It doesn't have to be today. I would take requests at any time.

STEVEN NGUYEN: Have her just email yourself.

RANDALL BROWN: Yes. My email that is on the website. It's on the DD Council website.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: So, this is something I think needs to be considered. I know it's longstanding practice that whenever we create an ad hoc committee we solicit for volunteers to serve, but I think it also contributes to having kind of the same pool of people being involved and like our outreach. Because there may be people who want to participate who cannot participate in our council meetings. And so, I would like to consider may be another practice of, like to have everyone participate, but sometimes it does have to have a limited number of people. So may be a consideration of another practice of after the meeting where people who couldn't be at the meeting could then there be a volunteer list that people say these are different ad hoc committees being established or formed. And then you can look through and get diversity on all of these committees and make sure we have different voices at the table.

RANDALL BROWN: Good idea. Thank you, Bambi.

SHAWN FLEMING: We can do that easily Bambi. Put it on the website and push it out. We can make that happen.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you. If there is no other comment to this motion, which has already passed, let's move on in the interest of time. We are very much behind schedule. Let's move forward if anybody has any questions or concerns you can always reach out to me and I will hear you.

MICHAEL BILLINGS: Did we finish up with the previous motion?

RANDALL BROWN: I think we need to vote on this motion?

SHAWN FLEMING: I thought you voted. Y'all didn't vote on the previous one?

RANDALL BROWN: I think we did vote. The next one.

SHAWN FLEMING: On your next motion. Still involved LaCAN, but related to all contracts.

ROSLYN HYMEL: Which one is that one that you were just talking about that one Shawn. I am trying to keep up.

MICHAEL BILLINGS: On the screen. We also discussed how important it is that people are informed about LaCAN. We brought forth the motion and the motion reads, self-determination and community inclusion committee recommends all contracts include language and objectives that education and outreach must be provided on LaCAN, the council and Partners in Policymaking membership.

RANDALL BROWN: This does not need to be seconded. In the interest of time, unless somebody has a really pressing issue with this motion, let's try to move quickly to a vote. But I am asking for discussion.

SHAWN FLEMING: I would like to make a point. We will do whatever y'all want if that's what you want your contracts to do. By saying all contracts, sometimes we contract with vendors that are not related to advocacy at all. Just use the example of we provide training on supported employment, about 600 people on web-based system. This would require us to put that in their contract. Any of your contractors could potentially request additional resources to even understand, learn about LaCAN, whatever. I understand the desire to have everybody connected. There could be cost implications to this decision. Make sure y'all are aware of that.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you, sir. Any other discussion of the motion before us? Hearing none, I will proceed with a vote on the motion. Do I have any abstentions to this motion? Does any council member abstain from this motion? Hearing none. Do I have any

objections to this motion? Are there any council members who object to this motion? The motion has carried. Thank you. Was that all you have for us, Mike.

MICHAEL BILLINGS: No. So, the committee's last recommendation deals with act 421 children's Medicaid option, which is Louisiana's proposed version of TEFRA. Information about public information hearings was emailed to stakeholders during the committee meeting and members wanted to ensure this information was disseminated. The motion is the self-determination and community inclusion committee recommends sending the act 421 children Medicaid option TEFRA public meeting information as an action alert to the council list serve and offering this recommendation to full council for consideration.

RANDALL BROWN: Again, we have the motion on the floor from the committee. Doesn't need a second. Do we have discussion on this motion?

HANNAH JENKINS: You have Kody Wilson.

KODY WILSON: Until the host unmutes me, I can't unmute myself. I just wanted you guys to know I would amend it to say TEFRA like. Because it's not a TEFRA program. It's a TEFRA like program.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you for that Kody. Do I need a motion to amend, Shawn? I believe so? Or can we just do it with the committee's agreement?

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I think you need a motion to amend.

RANDALL BROWN: I believe I do. Do I have a motion to amend the motion to say TEFRA like instead of simply TEFRA?

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I will make the motion.

RANDALL BROWN: Do I have a second to Bambi's motion. I am not sure who first said I will second it.

ROSLYN HYMEL: I think that was going to be me.

RANDALL BROWN: So, Roslyn seconds.

ROSLYN HYMEL: Sorry, whoever was trying to beat me.

RANDALL BROWN: So, the amended motion we have

before you now, brought by Bambi and seconded by Roslyn, is to amend the motion to include the language of TEFRA like. Motion would stay the same except TEFRA like. Do I have any discussion of the motion? Hearing none, do I have any abstentions to the motion? Does any council member abstain from this motion? Hearing none. Does any council member object to this motion? Do I have any objections to this motion? Hearing none, the motion has carried. Thank you.

MICHAEL BILLINGS: The committee also received an overview from Chris with Disability Rights Louisiana about their research on existing policy and rules in Louisiana regarding abusing people with developmental disabilities. The council contracted with them to develop a report with legislative regulatory and other recommendations designed help prevent sexual abuse and other abuse of people with developmental disabilities. The report will be made available to the council once completed.

Members were also updated on the state's fiscal year 2021 budget from Jen with Medicaid and Julie with OCDD. Members asked if they could keep the council and committee updated on any possible midyear cuts so people could advocate. Lastly, Julie with Office of Citizens with Developmental Disabilities briefly shared steps the department took to mitigate the risk to individuals and service providers during the pandemic by seeking exemptions to current rules for the four home and community based waivers for people with developmental disabilities. There has been growing discussion about continuing some of the exemptions after the pandemic. Unfortunately, due to the time constraints the committee was unable to delve into the discussion. However, Ms. Hagan shared the department plans to start a workgroup to discuss this topic further in the near future. That is all I have.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you, sir. And so next we have education and employment. So, Mary, you have the floor.

MARY TARVER: Good morning. Our education and

employment committee we don't have any recommendations to the council. We did have some discussion yesterday I had asked Kristi-Joe and Melissa to give us some insight as to what is going on in their areas due to covid and the pandemic. So, I will cover some of that information and I am sure both will have information they will present today for the whole committee. But Kristi-Joe presented information from the BESE board policy that had just passed the day before we met, I think. The policy that passed was regarding safety standards for reopening schools, providing flexibility to students in static groups to ensure service providers would have access to them in the classroom or students with disabilities would have access to services. Also cover exemptions for essential workers and providers to enter schools and daycares to provide services and have exceptions for mass requirements which includes students with disabilities and those with medical exemptions. There was a lot of information shared. Kristi-Joe pulled up the information on the Louisiana believes website. And also asking for public feedback and guidance on the information that is there. She shared with us an email that's spededucation@la.gov and covid19@la.gov. So, they can get feedback. Everything is very fluid with the plans and working with each of the parishes on their specific plans. What we wanted to do was work together to have a joint press release to educate our DD community about how to find the information Department of Education has developed. It was a lot of information. Of course, we didn't have time to cover it all. Looking forward to working with the Department of Education to help get the word out about the information that they already have as guidance on their website. We also got an update from Rosemary Morales from OCDD. She shared information about the ELSAVER online training for supported employment providers. And the council actually funded that, and the program ended in December of 2019. They did have 460 participants who completed the training and that was

with LGEs support coordination and provider agencies statewide. Also said they are working on implementation of home and community-based services setting rule and redesign a vocational or day rehabilitation employment service definitions. But there have been delays due to covid 19. We will get some more updates from her in the future.

And then Melissa Bayham shared some information about the services they have been providing and how some have changed since the pandemic started. Do have staff working virtually and now allowing electronic signature. At the height of covid participation drastically decreased, but that started to improve. They have adopted an emergency rule that expanded the financial need criteria for certain services. And she said on the job training rates has been increased. That was all good news.

One of the other bits of information we got was that the post-secondary inclusive education alliance, we had gotten an update at our last meeting working that they have been working with colleges and universities across the state to help find other colleges and universities that want to participate in the inclusive education alliance. LSUA and Grambling have both said they were interested. And I, actually yesterday after the meeting, I got a notice from LSUA they actually are having an informational meeting starting on August 4th at the campus at LSUA from 6 to 7:30 p.m. So, we will try and get that information out to this group as well. So, they will know they can participate and get education about that.

We had discussion about inclusive childcare and customized employment activities. And they can be found under the 2020 council meeting websites as status of planned activities. And that's it.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you Mary. Any questions for Mary? Please keep in mind we have a lot of ground to cover and we are behind. Any questions for Mary about her report? Thank you. And so now we move into our ad hoc committee reports. And we begin with our

membership committee report. Dr. McKee, you have the floor.

HYACINTH MCKEE: Can you all hear me now? Great. Let me see if I can get the screen to work. So, the membership committee meeting was held on June 24th and 25th. Ask if Hannah could assist putting the names of the six candidates being recommended for appointment to the DD Council so that full screen could be shown. And so, the membership committee met on June 24th and 25th. So far, we have six candidates that will be considered for recommendation to the governor for final appointment for our council. The full council should have received biographical sketches on each candidate that have been recommended for the seats. We will start with North Louisiana. So, in North Louisiana the recommendation was made to recommend Rashad Cristo as a primary candidate for the seat in North Louisiana. And recommend Yolanda Jewit as alternate. It was recognized the Louisiana Developmental Disability Council had no representation from an African American male sitting on the council. Keeping with guidelines and in accordance with administration on community living it was recommended the council consider this motion as it is written. And so, at this time I would like to ensure that the full council has read the biographical sketches on Rashad and Yolanda. If there is any objections to this motion. Looks like Hannah has also placed the bio in the chat box for the North Louisiana region.

So, at this time I want to entertain any objections to this motion that is brought forth by the membership committee for the candidates for North Louisiana vacancy. Hearing no objections. Any abstentions? And so, it is Rashad will be recommended for consideration for the governor to be appointed to hold the seat for North Louisiana and Yolanda recommended for consideration of appointment by the governor for the alternate position.

Thank you. We're going to move right onto Southeast Louisiana candidates. There was a

recommendation made by the membership committee to recommend Ms. Jill Egle and Ms. Liz Gary to fill the seat for the Southeast Louisiana. Ms. Liz Gary submitted a notification to the membership committee that she is requesting to remove her name from consideration. And therefore Ms. Kathleen Cannino was the next individual to be considered.

HANNAH JENKINS: Liz Gary has her hand raised.

HYACINTH MCKEE: Therefore, at this time we are going to ask for any votes that will be made to send these recommendations to the governor. What we are doing this time for the DD Council is ensuring that the governor has the final appointment of the members to the full council. So therefore, we are asking that the full council review the biographical sketches of these individuals and then vote. Vote to submit recommendations to the governor and he makes the final appointment. If we can give the council an opportunity to review the biographical sketches. And then we will ask you all to make a vote. At this time, council, you are going to be voting for the candidate to be recommended to hold the seat. Keep in mind we are required to have a self-advocate to hold this seat. Because by law we are not fulfilling the number of self-advocates that are on our council at this time.

HANNAH JENKINS: Bambi and Liz Gary have their hand raised.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I apologize I may have not have heard a portion of what you said. We made the recommendation of the two candidates to be Liz Gary and Jill Egle. Liz Gary removed, asked her name to be removed. And from that, can you explain again how did Kathleen's name end up. Cause that is not a recommendation from the committee.

HYACINTH MCKEE: Right. Kathleen's name was the next candidate that was, you know, in line for that. We still are going to need an alternate. We recognize Jill is a self-advocate and we need to ensure we have our self-advocates represented properly. This is the membership committee's attempt to keep in line with the

requirements of the DD Act to ensure we have self-advocates, but also recognize we need an alternate as well. That put us in a position to ensure we are following the DD Act to the best, you know, in align with the act.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: This is not a motion from the committee. Just showing who is the next.

HYACINTH MCKEE: No. Showing who is the next person. Absolutely.

SHAWN FLEMING: Three people have their hands raised. Crystal White, Jill Hano and Liz Gary.

CRYSTAL WHITE: So, we are sending in two names to the governor, correct? And he is going to decide. Am I understanding that correctly?

HYACINTH MCKEE: So, Crystal our attempt is to send two names to the governor and allow him his right to appointment, make the appointment.

CRYSTAL WHITE: Are we also going to notify him in order to be in compliance with the law we need a self-advocate.

HYACINTH MCKEE: All of that will be included. We have to make sure we are aligned with the DD Act and the law, right. But we have to make sure we show the public who all qualified, right, for these seats. In all fairness. Puts us in a situation we have to be transparent, right, to know who all was considered for candidacy.

CRYSTAL WHITE: Completely following. Thank you for the clarification.

HYACINTH MCKEE: At this time, I am going to ask if there are any other objections or comments from the council regarding the Southeast Louisiana candidates?

JIL HANO: How far are we out of compliance with self-advocates?

HYACINTH MCKEE: So, Jill, you are asking about the compliance for self-advocates.

JIL HANO: Yes, ma'am.

HYACINTH MCKEE: We need to fill another seat with a self-advocate.

JIL HANO: Okay. Just that one?

HYACINTH MCKEE: As it stands right now, we are not in compliance because we do not have the required number of seats filled by self-advocates.

JIL HANO: Jhow many seats do we need to fill.

HYACINTH MCKEE: One more. One seat away. We are making every effort to ensure that that happens. But we also recognize it is the governor's final decision to make an appointment to the council. It is his final decision. But we need to be transparent as to who is a candidate. I believe Bambi is next.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I just wanted to follow up on this as I understood and read Liz's with drawl of her name. It is because she recognized we have to have a self-advocate. And Jill is the only self-advocate that made it through the process with all three positions that were available. And therefore, I do not see that Liz's removal of herself was because she wanted someone else to be in that place. And I think her view was appropriate. And so, I don't think we need to have a second person that is recommended that causes confusion. It just needs to be clear in the submission in our vote. It needs to be clear that we have one self-advocate. This is the person that we have as a self-advocate. And so, of course, it is the governor's right if another self-advocate is selected. However, our recommendation needs to be clear and not confusing of the situation and what has to be done to meet the federal rules. If I made myself clear. My recommendation would be we have a motion we are going to recommend Jill Egle for the position for Southeast Louisiana candidate for appointment to the council. And no one else listed in that motion.

JIL HANO: Did other self-advocates apply, and she just got the highest score or was it just? Cause I know right now we are having low numbers of applications. Especially self-advocates. Like how many self-advocates applied?

SHAWN FLEMING: Can I do a point of order please. Liz wants to speak. I don't know if Liz wants to speak first. The motion that came out of the committee is a

motion so it would have to be amended to add Kathleen. You don't have to make a motion to remove Kathleen. You have to make a motion to amend her in. I think that's the direction. Liz has had her hand raised for quite a while.

HYACINTH MCKEE: We will allow her to speak. But I have to let the council members speak first. We also have to correct this motion before we will allow public members to speak. But we just need to make sure we move through this process first.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Is it appropriate now to make that, what we need to do in order to correct that motion?

HYACINTH MCKEE: Yes.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Or is there correction needed considering Liz has withdrawn herself. Is there correction needed.

SHAWN FLEMING: As I read it if Liz removed herself the only motion now is to make the recommendation for Jill Egle to send that name to the governor's consideration. Because Liz removed herself. And the full committee did not explicitly indicate another member. To add another member would require another amendment to the motion.

ROSLYN HYMEL: If you do remove yourself then how many is on the listing? Who could be the next person to fill in in Liz's spot? If you do remove yourself.

PHIL WILSON: Bambi made a motion and I seconded, and two or three other people seconded it. So, I feel like that motion spoke exactly to what Shawn spoke about. And Hyacinth is trying to move the process along so I will respectfully say let's have the motion seconded. And then if there is discussion about that motion that Bambi already made then we can have the discussion.

ROSLYN HYMEL: I really understand where Bambi is coming from. Because we have to really try get it squared away. And I do agree with that. So, for the vote, my vote would be yes. That's how I feel about it.

SHAWN FLEMING: Point of order. Bambi, would you repeat your motion because.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I make a motion we recommend Jill Egle as the appointee for Southeast Louisiana.

SHAWN FLEMING: That is already the motion to me. You don't need to make that motion. That motion is from the committee. The membership committee made a motion to recommend her. That is my point. You don't need to make that motion. That is already on the table.

MITCH IDDINS: I think what Bambi is saying to remove the alternate. That was the original motion was to have an alternate to Jill. I think Bambi is saying there should not be an alternate. Am I correct in saying that, Bambi?

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Yes, sir.

CHRISTOPHER RODRIQUEZ: Shawn, you are technically correct. I understand what you are saying. But what Bambi, you're going to get to the same place, so it doesn't really matter.

MITCH IDDINS: Excuse me. I am still talking.

CHRISTOPHER RODRIQUEZ: Sorry about that.

MITCH IDDINS: I seconded that motion, but that second has not been recognized. But that was five minutes ago. I am agreeing we need to move the process along.

RANDALL BROWN: Bambi has made the motion and Mitch has seconded that. Jill Egle be the sole candidate recommended for the Southeast Louisiana seat. That is the motion before you.

HYACINTH MCKEE: Now we open for any objections or discussion.

HANNAH JENKINS: Liz Gary has her hand raised.

LIZ GARY: Thank you Randall and Hyacinth, I appreciate that. Bambi, I would like to thank you for clarifying what my letter stated and that my concern was that we needed to make sure we had a self-advocate on the council since we lost our beloved April. We had to have at least seven self-advocates. Because of that, and there was not a choice from the candidates

chosen from the membership committee, I felt it was important for me knowing that and having the read the DD Act that I remove my name to make sure a self-advocate it was not even an issue. Also like to say there was another self-advocate in the mix, and I am only stating this cause I watched the membership committee meeting for two days. But the other concern I had was in my letter that I sent in clearly stated a lot of concerns and one of the concerns clearly stated that I do not think that a subjective rubric when you are basing your decision on people with and without disabilities on the same rubric that was another point of my concern. And also, when April passed away and we opened up region two it should have been open up to only people with developmental disabilities. This is what historically had been done for years. That you open it up and even if it's region two and you can open it up for the entire state to ensure that you have a good pool of people to choose from. And I also did not feel that happened. So, because of that I felt it was in the best interest of me to remove my name. And I appreciate the opportunity. I appreciate the fact I was chosen as one of the candidates, but I felt it was important to step back. Thank you very much.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you Liz.

HYACINTH MCKEE: With that we will move onto our next candidate. Scroll it down. A motion was made, recommendation made by the membership committee to recommend Nicole Banks and Caroline Burell for the seat of region two. At this time, the full council should have received the biographical sketches of Nicole and Caroline. Asking that the full council review the sketches and prepare to make recommendations to be made to the governor for appointment. Recommendation was made from the committee to allow the full council to cast a vote to select who will hold the primary seat for this vacancy. Please take a moment to review the bios.

Okay, at this time we are going to take a vote and right now the council is voting on whose name would go

up as a recommendation to fill the seat for region two. The other individual will serve as alternate. At this time, I am going to ask Hannah to step in and do a roll call. When she calls your name, you will be able to say the name of the individual you are recommending to the governor to appointment to hold the seat.

HANNAH JENKINS: Mike Billings has his hand raised and you have a comment from the public.

MICHAEL BILLINGS: Can you clarify why we are doing a roll call vote.

HYACINTH MCKEE: A motion was made during the membership committee meeting to allow the full council to select who will, whose name will go up to fill the vacancy and who will serve that alternate. We wanted to allow the full council to have input and say who is being selected for the full membership of the council. Somewhat unprecedented because in the past the full council did not receive biographical sketches or information on the individuals recommended to the governor. Some comments have been made in previous full council meetings the full council was not apprised of the information and the background of the individuals being recommended. So, in the sake of transparency for someone to cast a vote in all fairness would be best to allow the full council to have an idea and see who they are recommending for appointment. Was that clear, Mike?

MICHAEL BILLINGS: Yeah. I still don't understand the purpose. But we can proceed.

HYACINTH MCKEE: Okay.

HANNAH JENKINS: Bambi, Matt and Mitch all have their hands raised. And you have a couple comments.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: So, I think I am like Mike am confused by the vote. Typically, we have a motion, someone will make a motion that they put one person as the recommendation and someone else as the alternate. And then a vote based on that. Just a point of clarity, we're kind of changing the practices here.

HYACINTH MCKEE: There were comments made prior, Bambi, that full council members did not have

disclosure of information as to whose actual names have been recommended to the governor. The final is, of course, at the governor's discretion. And when names were submitted in the past only names were not submitted and not any information about the actual person who was seeking the seat. Typically, when something is sent should be more than just a name. Should have some information about the person, their experience for the qualifying seat. In an attempt to move in a direction to make sure everyone is informed and they actually had a say who was being selected for council membership we're trying to move into a process that everyone can make an informed decision on who they are actually recommended to the governor. Your motion can be entertained. I am not disagreeing with you. The motion could be entertained in that way. So that we can move the process along. That is absolutely fine if you want to make that motion. All I am saying. Not disagree with you.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I will let the other council members speak.

MATTHEW ROVIRA: Both of them seem very, very impressive. I didn't know, did y'all get to meet them and can someone speak on their behalf. If that is too lengthy, obviously not go through that whole process. I don't know if y'all got to meet with them and if anyone can speak on their behalf.

HYACINTH MCKEE: And that is part of the reason why we are trying to make this process so that the whole council can make an informed decision who they are actually recommending, right. And so, the membership committee is comprised of members who actually conduct phone interviews with the candidates. We had 22 applications this go round. And so, we had our membership committee conduct these interviews, right. Assigned to do these interviews. And based on that information there is a process that was developed to try to make it more objective and support our decision for the recommendation. And so now we are at the point doing the best we can to show the full council that

these people did go through a process, interviews were conducted, and this is a biographical sketch of what our experience was with them. As well as ask them to create their own sketch to inform the council what they are able to provide to the community. This is our attempt to make sure the council is fully informed on who we're actually recommending to the governor for appointment. Typically, this is how the process goes. We want to just not send names up. We want to be able to show the council that we are doing the best that we can to have a fair transparent vetting process.

MITCH IDDINS: In this particular case, if I recall, our membership committee meeting in region two these two candidates Matt were so well, so closely qualified we looked at both candidates and everyone agreed they were so, their eligibility criteria was so closely matched we could not quite decide one over the other. Why we wanted to give the full council the opportunity to look at the applications and bios and allow the council to make the full decision. My only concern and I have a question to whoever is to make sure the bios for these applicants went out at least a week or so in advance to give the full council the opportunity. Doing it today and giving the full council a minute or two is not adequate time to make a decision. All I have to say.

HYACINTH MCKEE: Point noted Mitch. Hannah and staff have worked the past few weeks to get bios. Unfortunately, it has been a challenge to obtain bios from all. Definitely will be noted and work towards in the future working harder to ensure people do follow through with the requests that were made.

MARY TARVER: I guess I am confused too. I thought like the only way the full council would vote would be if we saw all the information. Cause it's like the membership committee is telling us these two people have the highest score and traditionally what we would see one of them gets to be the candidate and the other one the alternate. I guess without, to me, I am not voting on information that I know. Even with their

bios because I don't know who else applied. And if we are trying to make sure that we are hitting all the marks on all of the people that we need both self-advocates and not, and racial makeup and all that. Then almost like we need to know 22 people applied, seven were self-advocates. So, we know what the pool is. I am kind of missing the point here. Either both of the people that submitted the bios, like you said, they both equally seem appropriate. But we're not really the full committee, in my opinion, not really voting on any of the, this is still y'all's recommendations because we didn't see the other 22.

HYACINTH MCKEE: Good point Mary. We are working to, how can I say this, with this membership committee process. And just for point of clarity, prior to me assuming this role and Randall assuming this role, we really did not have a full functioning system on how to even go through the membership process. And so, as the membership committee continues to work to strive to develop a process and protocol, we will take what you are saying into consideration. And I would ask for any other recommendations to be submitted and to be considered at a later date as we continue to work to streamline and organize this membership process. And to be perfectly honest with you, we have never had anything like this. Because prior to, I know me coming on as well as Randall I can only speak, none of this took place. Folks were just being recommended blindly, or let me clear that, based on just two forms of obtaining information. So, as we move towards trying to streamline this process, I fully embrace your comments Mary and ask the full council for us to have consideration and recommendations for the membership committee process moving forward.

CHRISTOPHER RODRIQUEZ: Just a few comments about the broader discussion about membership. Obviously, incredibly important, but at least, I'm sure so many of us have served on other boards. We need to have trust among each other and encourage folks to respect the work being done through these committees. Typically

the way I have seen this play out, the committee, the nomination committee and membership committee will come out and say this is the process, this is what the process looks like, this is what we did, here are our recommendations. And unless there is just egregious disagreement for a very particular reason the full council or a board should not be rubber stamp. We should have put processes in place, and we should respect each other and our expertise to the form of the entire council shouldn't be vetting each individual. Or there is really no reason to have the membership committee. Just like to encourage folks to keep that in mind as we are seeing these different recommendations and things like that.

HYACINTH MCKEE: Thanks Chris. Is that Mitch?

MITCH IDDINS: Thank you. Thank you, Chris, for that comment cause you are absolutely right. This process has not been easy at all. And Hyacinth is right, we are trying our best to streamline this and to be transparent. It's a very difficult process. And just one last comment cause we need to move along. Keeping in mind we had to also take into consideration that we are trying to make sure that we are diversifying and staying in compliance with diversity and self-advocates and parents. The various types of members on the council. It was very, very challenging and we are midst of the pandemic trying to do all this. Everybody just be patient. We are trying to be transparent and do the best job we can. Thanks for everybody's comments. And we appreciate the feedback and we want to hear from you. Make those recommendations and we will take them into consideration.

RANDALL BROWN: Absolutely. Thank you, Mitch, for that comment.

HANNAH JENKINS: You have a few public comments whenever y'all are ready.

HYACINTH MCKEE: Open it up to public comment.

CHARLIE MICHEL: Charlie Michel says I may have missed this point of information, but were these bios

available to the full council members prior to this meeting? It seems like taking a minute or two to make a recommendation may be less than optimal in terms of making an informed choice. Liz Gary says I would also ask that my letter be submitted to the governor and put on the record for the council. Corhonda said only one of the candidates has been active in attending the DD Council meetings. That was Ms. Barrel. Liz Gary said maybe you need to reopen region two for further self-advocates to apply and not choose today. Corhonda said are we recognizing the letter regarding the Hispanic parent advocate for the DD Council. And you have Corhonda with her hand raised.

CORHONDA CORLEY: Can y'all hear me? Can you hear me? I am using a different device. I actually was inquiring if the DD Council is taken into consideration the letter I submitted on yesterday in regards to Ms. Gary not being, cause we actually had a Hispanic parent advocate that was actually in that region that I think may have been an oversight by our committee. When it came to actually choosing the individual. And that letter was actually in alignment with the federal requirement. That federal requirement letter was submitted in May of 2019 as well of January of this year. And they stated we would lose our federal funding if we did not adhere to that requirement by the DD Act. They also stated that with that letter that I was only trying to make sure that we actually make a really great good faith effort to make sure we had inclusion and diversity represented in our council. That was in the agreement as far as in the membership requirements section 125D1C of the DD Act. States in part that the membership of the council shall be geographically representative of the state and reflect diversity of the state with respect to race and ethnicity and the membership rotate. They strongly encourage the council to continue engaging with the appointments office to ensure gender and ethnic diversity of the council is fully in line with the DD Act expectations.

I am requesting that the DD Council not only read my letter in record and add that into the minutes. But that my letter, along with those two federal letters be provided to our governor so when he actually see our appointees that he actually knows we are recommending these individuals according to our federal requirements. As well as to ensure that we keep our federal funding. I do strongly urge and encourage our DD Council to adhere to that. I know Ms. Gary would like her appointment to be recognized, but unfortunately that is not in line with what our federal requirements require. And federal supersedes, not want to jeopardize that.

HYACINTH MCKEE: Thank you public for your comments. If we do not have any other comments at this time from the council, we would like to move forward. And thank you to the entire public for all of your comments. Your information has been noted. And again, thank you.

HANNAH JENKINS: Carmen Cetnar from the council said let the record show I am a Hispanic parent advocate from region four.

HYACINTH MCKEE: Thank you Carmen. Okay, so now we want to move on. There is a motion that was on the floor. Bambi do you want to make that motion, you want to make an amendment to the motion on the floor?

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: In regards to region two?

HYACINTH MCKEE: In regards to region two.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I don't have a particular preference. If no one is going to make a motion I would make a motion that both names are submitted to the governor and let the choice be his. But if someone wants to make a motion on a preference, we can allow that.

MITCH IDDINS: I would make the motion that we recommend Nicole Banks as the primary candidate so that we can continue to move towards diversifying the council. My understanding we still need black female candidates on the council. And I think that may have been a strong consideration in our membership committee

meeting to recommend her. So that would be my recommendation for Nicole Banks as the primary and Caroline Barel as alternate candidate.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Mitch, they are both black females. I am not disagreeing with you.

MITCH IDDINS: Sorry about that.

HYACINTH MCKEE: Do I have a second for Mitch's motion.

MITCH IDDINS: Let me clarify my motion then. My motion would be to, again, they are both black females, which is good cause we are going to diversify whomever is chosen. My primary recommendation for is for Nicole and Caroline for alternate for the sake of moving it along.

ROSLYN HYMEL: I would second that one Mitch.

HYACINTH MCKEE: Motion made by Mitch. Seconded by Roslyn. Any objections? Any abstentions?

PATTI BAROVECHIO: Patti Barovechio abstains. I lost my connection for a good chunk of the dialogue.

HANNAH JENKINS: Jill Hano also asked to abstain, as did Crystal White.

HYACINTH MCKEE: Looks like Kim Basile abstains as well.

SHAWN FLEMING: Who seconded the motion?

RANDALL BROWN: Roslyn.

HYACINTH MCKEE: Motion carried. Thank you. That concludes the membership committee report.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you, madam vice chair. So next on our list is the executive director search. And the committee has met a number of times since our last meeting. And the important thing to report is that we have selected an agency to assist us and that is, LANO. Can somebody help me with the acronym? A nonprofit group helping us to conduct our search and we have begun, I have actually spoken with them or with our person who will be assigned to us in helping us to get candidates resumes together and get the job posted. Which we're working on doing now. I believe it's looking pretty much like we will have another search meeting probably the first week of August. Because the

lady, who I believe her name is Kay, she is getting some things together to share with us in regard to getting together a job description. Which we did do, but she has some suggestions how to better improve it, how to promote it. So, we are moving in that direction. Very, very soon we will call for applications and have the job posted. We are moving along pretty quickly there. We are working on that contract still. Still has to be approved formally by the Department of Health, which we are under. But we are working, pretty much got the contract, I believe, negotiated to our liking and to there so we are in agreement. That is moving along in a pretty good pace. And again, talk about all of that at the meeting which we can hopefully convene the first week of August. If anybody has any particular questions, feel free to ask me. Okay. No questions. Hearing none.

ROSLYN HYMEL: How many applications had went out total.

RANDALL BROWN: We haven't put any, we haven't accepted applications yet. What we are working to do is select an agency to help us to gather applications from people. We are working on a contract, getting together a contract with them. Looks like we tentatively agreed to one and waiting for final approval from Department of Health. Which we are technically housed under. Once that is finalized, we will have a full contract in place. But they have begun to help us in agreement they have begun to help us to draft or recommend changes to our job description for the job. As well as give us some feedback on how best to advertise the vacancy so they can hit the ground running when the contract is approved. I have no reason to believe it won't be approved by the department. Looking pretty good at the moment.

ROSLYN HYMEL: Hoping we will see because I feel really confident about it. I am hoping we will be successful in this one particular thing.

RANDALL BROWN: We agree. If there are no other questions I move.

JIL HANO: You said y'all chose LANO to help with the search?

RANDALL BROWN: Yes.

JIL HANO: Thank you.

HANNAH JENKINS: You have a few public comments whenever you would like those. Charley M says is there an estimated date for making the decision to fill the position?

RANDALL BROWN: We discussed that Charlie. Our hope is we sort of roughed out a timeline as a committee and hoping to be able to bring either the top two or top three candidates before this council for a vote at our January 2021 meeting. Is what we are shooting for. When I talked to our point person, Ms. Kay, when I spoke with her at length the other day, she said that would not be an issue. They would do their best to meet that goal we sent. Of course, we don't know how long it will take to get approval from LDH. That will obviously play a role in that decision. She seemed optimistic we could meet that timeline fairly easily. Especially if we hit the ground running, which she is willing and able to do. That's where we are with that. Hopefully, the January 2021 meeting you all will have the top two, three candidates to vote on.

HANNAH JENKINS: Kody Wilson also left a comment. She says this may clear up any diversity concerns Louisiana demographics according to most recent ACS, the racial composition of Louisiana. Has a list of each demographics with its percentage. Do you want me to read each one? White 62.21 percent, Black 32.23 percent, two or more races 1.96 percent, Asian 1.71 percent, other race 1.30 percent, Native American .56 percent, Native Hawaiian .03 percent.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you for that information, Kody.

SHAWN FLEMING: In those stats the White includes Hispanic, which is about a little over 5 percent. Also, for the record, Kim abstained on the previous motion. Just for the record.

RANDALL BROWN: So, are there any other questions

with regard to our executive director search? Our next committee to discuss is our fiscal year 2021 planning, our ad hoc committee for the year. And that committee met, we had a very good discussion. I believe we voted on our recommendation, did we not? We set our guidelines and that all went very well. I don't have it directly in front of me. Shawn, do we have that where we can put up?

SHAWN FLEMING: Sorry, I was distracted. What are you asking me for?

RANDALL BROWN: The FY21 planning ad hoc committee.

SHAWN FLEMING: It is 1:00 o'clock, sir.

RANDALL BROWN: Trying to move it quickly. That discussion went very well. We do have a draft to consider adopting from that committee and there it is a linked. I think it's in your packet. There is a motion to be considered from that committee. We met twice over a two-day period. What is the motion.

SHAWN FLEMING: To adopt this plan for FY21. This plan runs from October 1st of this year to September 30th of next year. The fifth year of y'all current five-year plan cycle.

RANDALL BROWN: So, this is the last year of the five-year cycle. Which is why we have our next discussion, which is the five-year ad hoc planning committee. We do need to pass this recommendation to cover our final year of the current five-year plan FY21. Can you move that motion up for me so I can see it? Thank you, sir. Again, this is the motion from your ad hoc committee for the 2021 planning committee recommendations. Still can't see the motion. I can see part of it, the fiscal year 2021 planning committee recommends the council consider granting the executive committee the authority, is it not.

SHAWN FLEMING: You need to pass the plan first. My screen reads FY2021 planning committee recommends the council consider adopting the draft FFY.

RANDALL BROWN: It's linked there. I don't have my draft in front of me. I apologize for that. Can you click that link so they can see it? These were the

recommendations. Some of our goals and activities already were and expounded on those. The values we are recommending for each activity. I would need a motion to pass this for our FY2021 plan. The final year of our current five-year plan. So, you can see the values listed there. And again, we had a good robust discussion among the members of the committee. If any member wants to talk about their experience, I recommend it. Please do so. But you can see there our full plan of activities and the recommended listed dollar amounts.

SHAWN FLEMING: There was one comment about activity 2.7.3. I sent it to you earlier. This activity was specific to police. During the discussion it was some people wondered whether it should be more inclusive of first responders.

RANDALL BROWN: I do remember that, yes. We need to ask if we want to amend that. That is up for the council to decide to include first responders in that activity as well.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Is the process now that this has been recommended from this committee and so we just have, we don't need a motion or a second.

RANDALL BROWN: I don't believe we do.

SHAWN FLEMING: Correct. If you want to change anything you have to make a motion to amend.

RANDALL BROWN: Correct. We can change anything here. This is our recommendation. The committee's recommendation to the council. The council has the right and authority to change anything you see before you. Just need a motion to do it. I am recommending activity 2.73 include first responders. I recommend we make that change. Include them in that.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I make that recommendation to include first responders. And also, just like to comment, we need to move through this process.

RANDALL BROWN: Do I have a second to Bambi's motion to amend activity 2.7.3 to add first responders to the language for the activity. Do I have a second for that?

CHRISTOPHER RODRIQUEZ: Second.

RANDALL BROWN: Bambi made the motion to add first responders and Chris seconds. Do I have any discussion?

HANNAH JENKINS: You have some public comment. Some of them don't necessarily reference that topic.

RANDALL BROWN: If they have to do with this.

HANNAH JENKINS: Not exactly sure if it would be considered relevant. Regarding the plan, not sure if it's this activity.

RANDALL BROWN: Let's vote on this activity. Unless it's to do with this particular activity.

HANNAH JENKINS: Regarding supported decision making.

RANDALL BROWN: We will get to that. As long as you don't see any other related to this specific activity I will get to that next. Do I have any discussion of this motion which is to change the language or add to the language first responders?

LILLIAN DEJEAN: In this activity regards to having training for first responders, can we also add corresponding training for people with disabilities how to interact with law enforcement.

RANDALL BROWN: We surely can. Would you accept a friendly amendment to your motion, Bambi, to add that? Bambi, are you there? Yes, Lillian we can add that. Shawn, do we need another motion to add?

SHAWN FLEMING: Just do a substitute amendment to the amendment. You can include changing police to first responders. I have a few different things open. What I want to do is show y'all a document in its entirety. Might make it kind of easier for y'all to process. Without that I feel like it would be difficult for y'all to see if I just showed y'all the amendment. Want to show y'all another document with the amended language. As Lillian's amendment would read in red. Lillian, you in agreement with that?

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Did y'all ask if I was okay with amending my motion? Yes.

SHAWN FLEMING: If I can, the amendment is just

going to be by Bambi, seconded by Lillian and add all this to the amendment. If that's okay.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Fine with me.

SHAWN FLEMING: You need discussion and a vote.

RANDALL BROWN: Any discussion of the motion as it's written before you? Hearing none.

ROSLYN HYMEL: If I am coming from Bambi, Lillian as well two into one if I am understanding.

RANDALL BROWN: Bambi's original motion and Lillian added some language to it for training for people with developmental disabilities on how to interact with first responders. That's currently our motion. A motion by Bambi, seconded by Lillian to amend activity 2.7.3. Change police to first responders and add training for people with developmental disabilities on how to interact with first responders. Unless we have some very, very pressing matters against this, I will recommend in interest of time move quickly to vote on it.

ROSLYN HYMEL: Make sure I am following.

RANDALL BROWN: Sure. Thank you for your question. In the interest of time, unless someone has absolute objection to this, I would encourage let's move to a vote on the matter. Do I have any further discussion of this motion as you see it before you? Hearing none, do I have any abstentions to this motion? Anybody on the council abstain from this motion? Hearing none. Do I have any objections to this motion? Anyone on the council who objects to this motion? Hearing none, this motion carries. Thank you. Now we had some comments on the plan Hannah, other areas of the plan.

HANNAH JENKINS: One from Corhonda, a question. She said for FY21 can we remove supported decision making considering it's a new law with very little information as well as their proposal was not submitted in the required timeframe.

RANDALL BROWN: We can entertain that. Does someone want to make a motion to that affect?

CHRISTOPHER RODRIQUEZ: So, a point of clarification. And I was part of the planning

committee, and I think I remember this correctly. We entertain the activities, but we did not approve specific applications or contracts. Is that right, Shawn?

SHAWN FLEMING: That is correct. I think there is some confusion on that. I am glad you brought that up. And mind y'all, missing the April meeting put everybody at a huge disadvantage. What we do is we put out proposals for concepts. Ideas on what should be done. Sometimes those have dollar amounts and we ask for dollar amounts. And those are great cause it gives y'all guidance about the cost anticipated. The person who submits the concept is not necessarily the person who will get the contract to perform that activity. The second step, and Randall is going to ask for this later because of the shortened timeframe and the other requirements y'all are bound by. Usually vote on this in April. Three months to collect more information and come back with more details. Trust me, things do change a lot over time. Y'all would ratify or finalize the plan at this meeting. Between the April and July meeting we would solicit proposals for actual people to be considered as contractors. Does that help? A lot of confusion in that. I will give y'all an example. The post-secondary inclusive education alliance that right now Southeastern has. That was a concept I think Hyacinth brought forth last January. Not this January, last January. We put it out there. But it didn't matter who proposed the idea, but we submit the proposals to execute it is when the contract will be decided. Not at this stage at all.

CHRISTOPHER RODRIQUEZ: I guess to the point of one of the reasons, we really don't need to take into consideration when the concept was provided to the committee with respect to determining whether or not.

SHAWN FLEMING: No. Y'all have to, I would say y'all should, y'all really have to, at every time, consider all information going into your plan. Because some of these, often times initiatives don't pan out the way you would want and there is additional funds.

So y'all have to come up with additional activities or directions to consider. So that is correct, Chris. Any other questions or thoughts? Thanks for the clarity.

HANNAH JENKINS: From Ashley McReynolds, why wouldn't anyone want training on a new law that provides a new and amazing opportunity for Louisiana families.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you. Corhonda also has a question. Can we also address adding daycare/centers for children with disabilities in rural areas?

RANDALL BROWN: Someone wants to make a motion to that affect we certainly can.

ROSLYN HYMEL: I would like to really make that kind of motion for it.

RANDALL BROWN: Roslyn makes the motion.

SHAWN FLEMING: What is your motion?

RANDALL BROWN: She liked Corhonda's suggestion.

SHAWN FLEMING: Add childcare in rural areas? Like training childcare centers?

ROSLYN HYMEL: That is the one Shawn. Thinking for a child, or even I guess for their minds to really grow as they are growing up. I want their mind to grow as well.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you. Do I have a second to Roslyn's motion? Shawn, do you need clarification from Corhonda on the language?

SHAWN FLEMING: I can put that language. If y'all do another contractual activity y'all will have to decide which to take funds from. You can't just add and add.

RANDALL BROWN: I understand. Bearing that in mind, does anybody want to second Roslyn's motion?

CHRISTOPHER RODRIQUEZ: So just another point of clarity. I know we went through and signed concepts and made those decisions. We also assigned them dollar amounts. Not stating an opinion on the current, child support role is incredibly important. But if we start adding things from the floor here, if you will, is the intention that the committee will go back in and

reallocate funds. Because I know that or how does that work.

RANDALL BROWN: We would have to take from something we have listed there today and add dollar amount. We take from something listed there to the new activity or the new amended concept.

CHRISTOPHER RODRIQUEZ: Is that correct?

SHAWN FLEMING: Yes. Y'all are under a very tight timeline. Like today. And, in fact, the next motion is going to be granting the executive committee the authority to finish the work after we put it out for public comment 45 days from now. And y'all can all participate in that meeting. I would discourage you from trying to all meet to vote on it because of logistics.

CHRISTOPHER RODRIQUEZ: Should we be keeping in mind as we add things like this concept that it is taking away from something else in there?

SHAWN FLEMING: Yes, sir. You will have to take away something. To devote any more money, you have to take away from something else.

CHRISTOPHER RODRIQUEZ: The question is, if we approve right now as we are entertaining this motion to add a new concept what is the repercussions of that?

RANDALL BROWN: We don't have a second. If we get a second, then we would have to decide how much money for that concept. And then where would that money come from in relation to the other activities we have listed there? Where would we pull from? We would have to decide where we would take away in order to add any concept.

CHRISTOPHER RODRIQUEZ: And we didn't have to do that with Lillian's recommendation because we were adding a group of people.

RANDALL BROWN: It was language. I would say we have the five-year planning committee coming up as well. That is a very good suggestion and it might well be better entertained in our five-year plan. Cause we are not under as tight a timeframe as we are on our one-year plan. We have to approve some plan for 2021

today. If Corhonda is agreeable, we have more time in the five-year plan. We can certainly consider that committee has a lot more time to discuss than this one would. I think a longer wait. But it would allow for it to still be considered and part of our activities. Just give more time. Do I have a second to Roslyn's motion? I don't hear one.

KIM BASILE: Randall, I was going to suggest moving it to the five year so can we make a friendly, what do you call it, amendment to the motion. And instead of it being in the one year, since that has to go today, if we could move it to the five year. If Roslyn is okay with that.

HYACINTH MCKEE: I have a motion on the floor, and I am going to second Roslyn's motion. I am not sure we are going to entertain discussion.

RANDALL BROWN: We will now entertain discussion of the motion since we have a second. Do I have discussion of the motion, Roslyn's motion seconded by Hyacinth?

MITCH IDDINS: I would just make a motion that we amend this to include this proposal in the five-year plan.

RANDALL BROWN: If Roslyn is agreeable to that that would be okay.

ROSLYN HYMEL: Yes, I agree on that.

SHAWN FLEMING: I am going to put Mitch is doing a substitute motion and Roslyn.

HYACINTH MCKEE: I second Mitch's motion.

ROSLYN HYMEL: Double thank you for me.

SHAWN FLEMING: Here is your motion, sir. The substitute motion is where we are now.

RANDALL BROWN: Currently before us a motion by Mitch and seconded by Roslyn to request the federal fiscal year 2022 through 2026 planning ad hoc committee consider adding training for childcare centers in rural areas. Do I have any discussion of this motion? Do I have any abstentions to this motion? Hearing none. Do I have any objections to this motion? Hearing none, the motion has carried. Thank you.

SHAWN FLEMING: The original motion to pass the plan as amended.

RANDALL BROWN: Can we put the plan back up on the screen.

SHAWN FLEMING: It's eight pages.

RANDALL BROWN: I will say, again, your committee spent two days working to put these objectives in place and put the dollar figures with it. And we, of course, had public input as well. I think a pretty solid plan. I would encourage its passage because we desperately need to get this process moving. We have to have some objectives and activities in place for 2021 plan today. Unless you have something you object to listed here, I would strongly urge passage today.

ROSLYN HYMEL: Would you stroll down for a second. Down.

SHAWN FLEMING: Tell me when to stop.

ROSLYN HYMEL: Something that caught my eye with the fifty to it. Right there. Yeah. Why would that be for the FFY for 20 would be, yes, that one Shawn. Why would that be so much into the \$5,000. Why is that so high up there for this one right here. For the skills. That is the one caught my attention. Do you see what I am talking about?

SHAWN FLEMING: There were a number of proposals on training for people with relationships and sexual abuse and exploitation that the committee considered. And significant interest in ensuring, one of the core functions of the council is to make sure people with developmental disabilities are protected from abuse and exploitation. And so, they have increased this from I think 32,000-dollars. Have to look at last year's plan.

ROSLYN HYMEL: What could we really do, I am sorry. Could we ever solve this one from the 55-dollars or have to really have it at that amount?

SHAWN FLEMING: Maybe I would like Chris to responded. They just studied this. They have learned that training and education of people is necessary to ensure at a minimum they are protected from abuse and

exploitation. Kind of like education. You can have training every year and always hit new people that would need it. The planning ad hoc increased the amount of funds based on feedback.

ROSLYN HYMEL: How far does it go from this one total of that? How far does it go back, or does it go forward?

SHAWN FLEMING: Forward. This is from October 1st to September 30th of next year.

ROSLYN HYMEL: For me it just caught my attention. I wanted to see why it's going like this the way it is. Consider for all handicap or some handicap people with disabilities.

RANDALL BROWN: For people with developmental disabilities. We had a lot of success and every year we keep adding to the amount we contribute to this activity because we are getting tremendous public feedback from the trainings that are done. And so, the committee felt strongly we had the ability to add to it. What you see before you. We felt we should. I strongly urge its passage.

ROSLYN HYMEL: That's what I wanted to find out cause it caught my interest.

RANDALL BROWN: I understand. Thank you. If you have any further questions you can call me or Shawn and happy to talk about any area you are curious about. I strongly urge to vote for it. And I don't usually take positions to tell the council what to do. But in this case, we are extremely pressed for time. We must have the 2021 plan. Your committee spent two whole days on this endeavor, and we had a great public discussion around it. Confident in the recommendation and I strongly urge the council to pass this plan.

ROSLYN HYMEL: Maybe I could get with Chris on that. Look into it a little bit more and get more information from you. Is there a way I could get with you?

CHRISTOPHER RODRIQUEZ: Definitely. And I will talk a little bit about it during my report later on today.

SHAWN FLEMING: Just a point of reference, we have been going for two and half hours.

RANDALL BROWN: Let's vote. Unless someone has an extreme objection to this plan, let's call for a vote. Hearing no objection, let's move to a vote. Do I have any abstentions to this motion? Any objections to this motion? Hearing none, this motion is carried. Thank you very much ladies and gentlemen.

SHAWN FLEMING: May I recommend we take a break before you finish.

RANDALL BROWN: Yes, sir. Let's take a 10-minute break. Let's reconvene at 1:48.

SHAWN FLEMING: Randall, can I ask for a 25-minute break. People need longer than that. At least 25 is what I would suggest.

RANDALL BROWN: Let's do a 30-minute break.

SHAWN FLEMING: I am going to ask all council members to show your videos so we can get a quorum up. Randall, you are good to go, sir.

RANDALL BROWN: Welcome back everybody. We have two more things to consider. The first one, federal fiscal year 2021 planning committee recommends the council to consider granting the executive committee authority to ratify the 2021 action plan after a 45-day public comment period and to select contracts after a solicitation of proposals for approved activities. A short timeline to complete the process due to covid and the shutdown where we didn't meet at the April meeting. So, we have a very short timeline to complete it. We need this motion. We need you to give us this authority so we can get the plan in motion. Do I have any discussion? And unless you have an objection to it, please let's, in the interest of time, let's move forward. Do I have any discussion? Okay. Do I have any objection to this motion? Do I have any abstentions to this motion? Hearing none, this motion has carried ladies and gentlemen. And our final motion for consideration today is the federal fiscal year 2021 planning committee recommends for the council to

consider required proposals for council's funded initiatives to indicate how outreach to diverse communities will be conducted. Participation will include diversity relative to race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender and all marginalized communities.

HYACINTH MCKEE: I can't open my video. I'm sorry.

RANDALL BROWN: This is for your consideration. Unless you have a strong objection to it, I urge its passage. Do I have any discussion? Hearing none. Do I have any abstentions to this motion? Any council members abstain this from motion? Do I have any objections to the motion? Any council member object to this motion? Hearing none, this motion carries. Thank you, ladies and gentlemen. Shawn, that is all of your motions for ad hoc, correct?

SHAWN FLEMING: Yes, sir.

RANDALL BROWN: I have two other areas and they are basically just reports that I can give you, but also will be, if they are not already, on the website. One is fiscal year 2022 through 2026-year plan ad hoc committee. We met twice, and just like you saw with the one-year plan, we have had some guidelines, activities and dollar amounts prescribed for those. Again, a good conversation, good public input. Good input from our members. And I thank you all for serving. Not going to go into great detail because we have a lot more time in October. Obviously, add Roslyn's motion to that discussion as well. And so, I am not going to go into great detail on that because we have a lot more things to cover today. If you have any questions, just feel free to reach out to me or Shawn. Happy to answer those for you. Again, find a summary of the work we have done so far on the website.

And the final thing I have to discuss with you before we move into reports, is our grievance committee, ad hoc committee. It will be meeting for, essentially, the first time. Because I believe it lacked a quorum on the first try. And then we had covid shut us down. But it will be meeting for the first time next Wednesday. Next Wednesday of next week.

Don't have that date in front of me. Next Wednesday when we have our first meeting a large chunk of the day and going over a number of procedures and ideas and plans. And we welcome public input and participation, of course. All members that have agreed to be on that committee you should probably have received your information, but if you haven't you will soon. Because, again, we meet next week. Anybody has any questions on those, those two items feel free to ask me. Otherwise let's move over to Jen.

ROSLYN HYMEL: I have the date for you, for the next you are saying, next Wednesday it's the 22nd.

RANDALL BROWN: So next Wednesday the 22nd the grievance committee will meet.

ROSLYN HYMEL: Do you have the time for that one.

RANDALL BROWN: I think 9:30 a.m. to I believe 1:00 p.m.

ROSLYN HYMEL: I have LaCAN for one.

RANDALL BROWN: It would be ending about 1:00 p.m. Jen, you have the floor to give us your presentation for consideration of TEFRA.

JEN KATZMAN: Thanks. Shawn, if you allow me, I can share my screen with the presentation.

SHAWN FLEMING: Haley, can you make that happen please.

JEN KATZMAN: I think you just have to make me a host.

HANNAH JENKINS: You should be able to share your screen as a panelist.

JEN KATZMAN: Okay. Can everyone see the presentation now? We will get started.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Thanks everybody. We wanted to share this with you guys at the council meeting. And since we are running a little bit over, we may kind of speed through this a little bit faster than what we originally had intended. We are trying to make sure we get the word out. And there was actually discussion of this earlier, we are having two virtual public forums on July 22nd and July 29th. The same presentation that will be shared during those two public forums. And we

will be presenting the information at a little bit slower pace during those two public forums. For the sake of time we will ask you to save all questions and at the conclusion of the presentation we will make sure that there is a specific email address where you can email public comment. So, we would also ask that if you have specific public comment that that be entered through that email address because we are trying to consolidate that all in one location. We are required to advise CMS of all of our public comment. Makes sure we have it in one location.

We really wanted to share with you guys discussion about the children's Medicaid option overview which came as a result of act 421. And so, in the 2019 legislative session act 421 asked the department to develop a option for children with certain disabilities to be able to receive Medicaid coverage even if their parents earn too much money to be able to qualify for Medicaid. The federal name for the program similar to this is TEFRA. The TEFRA name comes from the tax, equity and financial responsibility act. Which is the federal act. And I believe someone mentioned at the beginning of the meeting the act 421 children's Medicaid option is not a TEFRA program. It falls into a category of what folks call a TEFRA like program. It is not a traditional program and will explain a little more why. Next slide. So, per act 421 the people who will qualify for the children's Medicaid option coverage are those who are 18 years old or younger. They have a disability. And for the purposes of this disability is defined as a medically determinable physical or mental impairment that results in marked and severe limitations and has lasted or expected to last at least one year or to result in death. It also requires that the child meets level of care. And there are three levels of care in the program to qualify. Intermediate care facility level of care, nursing home level of care, or hospital level of care. And we will give a little bit more description of those later. And the child must also be able to be cared for safely at

home. And the care for at home must cost less than in an institution. Why is it needed? We had a lot, there were a lot of families, not just in the legislative session in 2019, but through the years who have indicated, and part of the Developmental Disabilities Council as well, for why we need a TEFRA like program in Louisiana.

And so it's really to help children who don't otherwise qualify for Medicaid to be able to avoid having to have long stays in the hospital or having to be institutionalized in a nursing facility or ICF just so they can have their needs met. Once they would go into an ICF they would become Medicaid eligible. The goal really is to help children be able to get what they need to be able to stay at home with their families. It's also, children may have needs that are not covered by private insurance. But their parent's income is too high to qualify for Medicaid coverage.

So normally income and assets of a child's parents are looked at when deciding if a child is eligible for Medicaid. In terms of the parent's income one of the things we heard from a lot of families is that even they didn't qualify for Medicaid because of their extraordinary expenses related to care for their child. Even outside of private insurance. It caused very much a financial hardship on the family. Hence the need for this option.

We do have the availability for children to become Medicaid eligible through home and community-based waiver services. However, as you guys know, now that we switched to an urgency of need it may be these children don't meet urgency of need to, or don't have unmet waiver needs, but do still have needs not met under the private insurance plan.

So, act 421 children's Medicaid option allows children with disabilities who are not receiving waivers and whose parents are over the income limit to be able to get Medicaid coverage. Also, will help to enable parents to continue working while closing the coverage gap between private insurance and Medicaid.

So, I mentioned earlier we would talk a little bit about the level of care. And so, the level of care and the cost of care assessments are both required by act 421. So, in order to qualify there's a level of care requirement and cost of care. With level of care there are three ways that you qualify or criteria. The first one being intermediate care facility level of care. Those folks, the way that is determined is for those children who have a statement of approval through Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities. We will take a look at those children who do not currently qualify for Medicaid. And they would likely meet the level of care. There is a requirement that we do something called a 90L which is a document that a physician or a nurse practitioner or physician assistant signs indicating that the child meets intermediate care facility level of care. Also, a hospital and nursing home level of care. And there are assessments, we have been working closely with our stakeholder group to complete the assessments for the hospital and nursing home level of care. So that we can look at certain criteria for the medical interventions and the functional limitations. And this assessment will be conducted by a registered nurse based on a medical record review and an interview with folks. So those are our three level of care.

And for cost of care we also have to be able to show that services must cost less in the home than they would in an institution in order for the child to qualify. Our implementation timeline for our act 421 program is we are currently in our July 10th through August 10th public comment period. So again, at the end you will find, we will have ability to show you guys where you can go to a link that shows you our waiver. So, this is to timeframe we take public comment. We anticipate after receiving that public comment submitting the waiver or the 1115 demonstration application to CMS. They have to approve this before we can implement it. Again, the submission will make all of our public comments, as I said before, will be

included in our submission. And then September 16th is a deadline for CMS to notify the department whether the application is complete and can proceed. And CMS will then post draft submission on the CMS website for a second 30-day public notice period. So, from September to December of 2020 we will do our preparations for program launch. Including finalizing our procedures and training and continuing to hold our stakeholder engagement meetings so that we can further work out the details of those processes. Our requested start date for our programming is January 1st, 2021. But we do want to make sure that folks are clear that we will not be able to implement the program until after we have gotten CMS approval. And so sometimes that timeline might have to be moved back if in fact by our January 1 deadline we don't have their review and approval.

JEN KATZMAN: I am going to take over the next segment of the presentation about our proposal that we are submitting to CMS. And these were worked on since we started a draft last November of things that we wanted to think through and discuss and our stakeholder meetings. And so, we have been working on those with our stakeholder meetings since November of last year. And have been extremely helpful in guiding us into where we landed today with the proposal. You have seen us talk a lot about that we are submitting this proposal to CMS. What is that? In the Medicaid lingo it's called a section 1115 demonstration. And the reason why we want to explain that is because it kind of sets the table for the rest of how the program evolves and develops. Section 1115 of the social security act gives CMS, our federal partner, the authority to approve experimental pilot or demonstration products that assist states in promoting the objectives of the Medicaid program and better serve the people of that state. Does provide us with a lot of flexibility to design the program. And allows us innovative policy approaches that we can try to shape the needs of the state. And so, we took that approach when we were trying to decide how we were going to

implement this program within budgetary constraints.

It is a five-year demonstration. It allows us to evaluate the program on an ongoing basis through those five years. We can make changes through an amendment. Any of those amendments are subject to the same public notice process that we're going through right now with the proposal that we are submitting in September. And so, I don't want you to think we will make a change without your knowledge. Always be posted for public comment. And we will make sure that we address those public comments and work through any stakeholder interest. At the end of that five-year period LDH assesses the program under that 1115 demonstration and determines whether we renew the same demonstration or if we want to expand the scope and look at other options. It doesn't just go away. We do look at it and decide our best path forward.

There are some flexibilities we can implement through this mechanism that include an enrollment limitation. We do have some budgetary constraints, as you all know. It has been exacerbated by covid, but didn't start with covid. We were appropriated for a half a year in 2021 for \$13.6 million dollars. Which means for a full year that would be 27.2 million if we can get it analyzed. So, assuming we start in January that's six months in the fiscal year. So, we'll have 13.6-million dollars and we had to figure out what we could afford within that dollar amount. And I want to be clear, total dollars, not just the state funds. That is total dollars. And so, given the budgetary restriction there we looked at how we can serve the most possible children. And in the end, we worked with our stakeholders on several different proposals for that. And the max possible we could come to in that budgetary limitation was to serve around 2,540 children. And it would be capped at what we could provide within that appropriation. We estimate it will be the 2,540, but that will depend on our ongoing appropriation with the legislature. That's how we are capping it within the budgetary restrictions we might

face. And the number of our slots will be based on legislative appropriation.

We also talked about ways to maximize how many youth could be served within that budget. And one of the ways we could do that was by implementing a private insurance requirement. We looked to other states who are doing something similar to us and saw they had done something like this. And it was a way to maximize the Medicaid dollars. And so, we will be putting a requirement in our proposal that families retain any existing health insurance they have before they enter our Medicaid program. So if you have private insurance today and you apply for the act 421 children Medicaid option you will be required to maintain that private insurance and Medicaid would supplement any service that your private insurance does not provide or that come out of pocket. And so that allows us to be the secondary insurer and saves a lot of dollars on the Medicaid side and allows us to serve more children.

There will be hardship exceptions to this requirement, however. So not everyone will have to maintain their private insurance if they meet the hardship exception. It will include families who are experiencing unemployment if they lost their insurance for the child enrolling in the program due to changes in employment. And there is a transition period there. Or if the cost of their private insurance exceeds 5 percent of their household income. Kind of aligns with federal regulations around out of pocket cost. So, we would look at premiums and copays and deductibles and determine if those are higher than the 5 percent of the household income, we would grant a hardship exception to the private insurance requirement. We will be looking back approximately six months before we make the act 421 offer to the child to determine that they didn't drop their insurance in advance of getting their offer in an effort to avoid that requirement. We do this with a lot of our long-term care programs. Have a look back period on assets and things like that. So, we applied the same principal to the insurance

requirement. For those who do not meet the hardship exception criteria but voluntarily drop their private insurance after they get enrolled in Medicaid through this program, we are proposing a six-month lockout period. What that means is they will retain their act 421 slot, so they won't lose their slot, but the services would be suspended during that time period until they resume private insurance coverage or apply for a hardship exception. If they do not do either of those things within the six months, they could lose their slot. It's a lock out period where they retain their slot, but the services temporarily get suspended until they meet the requirement again, basically.

Families maintaining their private insurance do have the opportunity to apply for our health insurance premium payment program or Lahip. I think y'all heard me speak on this before. A very good opportunity for premium assistance in the Medicaid program. So, it basically, if you qualify and deemed cost effective, your private insurance, we will pay your premiums and out of pocket costs on your behalf for that private insurance. So, families who are eligible, like I said, we look at your private insurance premiums, copays and deductibles, and any other out of pocket costs. Plus if there is cost of services not otherwise covered by private insurance and all of that, if that is less than what Medicaid would pay for your then you are deemed cost effective for the Lahip program and you can qualify. That's another opportunity for premium assistance for this private insurance requirement.

So, some additional features are that we have looked at the cost effectiveness of the program. Act 421 did require the state to implement fee for service. Which is our legacy Medicaid program. Unless managed care is deemed more cost effective. We engaged our actuaries who do our rate setting. We looked at our average fee for service cost as reported to CMS for children who we could see the most correlation with this population. And it was determined that managed care was more cost effective. Per the mandate under

the legislation are implementing managed care. And there's an explanation of the difference between fee for service and managed care on this slide if you are trying to get an understanding of that. It will give us some budget predictability. Which is very important since so much is unknown about this new population we have never served before. It allows us to budget and know how many people we can serve within that budget and manage that care.

Prioritization. This is a fancy word basically for how we can determine if a child has a more immediate need and needs to be expedited to an act 421 CMO offer. And so, what we have tried to work on putting extensively is ways to make that happen equitably. And ways to make that happen in a way that can really help those who are transitioning from institutional care. Which was a suggestion from our stakeholder group. So, we do anticipate that there could possibly be more children who request services than we can pay for at this time. And so, prioritization, working through that with our stakeholders that will help us to, like I said, expedite those with more immediate need to an offer to services. What we have looked at and agreed to was if the child has been in an institutional setting such as ICF, nursing facility, or hospital for 30 of the last 90 days at the time of their request for prioritization or registration they could qualify for the prioritization. I want to be clear; this is not the same thing as registering for the program. It's, again, just a way to expedite the pathway to an offer if there is more children requesting services than we can give offers to.

So, I want to also clarify those 30 days do not have to be consecutive within that 90-day timeframe. And we also have another pathway that if there were three or more separate occasions in the last 90 days where they are admitted to institutional settings such as a hospital, nursing facility, or ICF then they would also qualify for the prioritization. Where they might

get that offer a little bit sooner. Children who do get the prioritization do still have to prove they are eligible. Prioritization is not the same thing as being on the registry and not the same thing as eligibility for act 421 CMO. Just saying yes, you have an urgent need, an immediate need due to your institutional level of care and needs. So, we can give you that offer a little sooner. What that focus is on.

We will be going through how we plan to do the registration for this program shortly. I do want to let you know after that initial registration period we are designing for the start of the program we will be looking at the prioritization for kiddos who apply for that. And if they qualify, they will basically receive the next available offer. And anyone on the registry can apply for prioritization at any time. So even if they don't think they qualify right away, they may qualify later. And they can apply later on and we will assess their qualification for the prioritization at that time. So, it's not time limited. You can apply at any point in time. LDH does expect all children registered through our initial registration period, as we just start the program, who qualify for the prioritization are going to receive an offer. Just because based on some estimates we have done on the population we believe that we have enough offers to cover anyone who meets prioritization requirements. After that initial registration period we did work with our stakeholders on how long that will last. If you come into the program a little later and maybe passed that initial time period when we gave those initial officers out and now we are on our registry. Then if you apply for prioritization and you're waiting for an offer your prioritization will last for six months from the date that it's approved. And so if you are waiting for that offer and if six months have passed and no offer has been made you will lose your prioritization at that time just because it's been at least six months since you had those 30 days in the facility or those admissions. And you will return to the registry with

your original registration date and where you were before. You won't fall back down to the bottom of the line or anything like that. But you can also reapply for prioritization at that point if the six months have passed and still meeting that criteria of the 30 days in an institutional setting or three admissions. You can always reapply. Just trying to be fair in that you may no longer have that immediate need after six months and wanted to allow other kiddos who might be more urgent at that point to get that offer if you don't still meet those qualifications. You can always reapply if you do.

This is kind of the decision flow tree of everything I described. I know it's complex and sometimes it's easier to visualize something. Prioritization, how it will work is you submit your prioritization application saying yes, I have been in the hospital for 30 of the last 90 days. And so, you can kind of see the pathways that you can go. So, if that is the case then you would kind of go to option one. Excuse me, option two, what I was just describing. The child has 30 nonconsecutive days of the last 90 in the hospital or institution. The other pathway was the three admissions. If you are qualified, then you will keep that prioritization for six months. If a slot becomes available then we will look, are you still in the institution or still in the hospital right now. And if you are, then we will go straight to our Medicaid eligibility determination process. Which looks at your finances and your level of care assessment. Which will get into a little bit later and Julie talked about before. But if you are not still in that institutional setting, not in the hospital, or ICF, or nursing home we are going to check is it within that six-month window. And which case if yes, we will go to that eligibility determination I was just talking about looking at your level of care and your finances. If you are outside that six-month window you will go back on the registry with your original registration date.

So, one of the benefits, especially, of doing this through that 1115 demonstration mechanism that I spoke to before and all the complexities of the Medicaid mumbo jumbo as I like to call it. The flexibility that this mechanism offers us from the federal government is we get to streamline certain things as well that are otherwise required by the federal government. For example, currently if you are seeking a waiver or long-term care you have to be determined to meet the disability definition under our federal regulations. Not only are you going through a whole process of getting assessed for the waiver and determining all that is necessary for the waiver. But you also have to go through this secondary process in Medicaid that we call the Medicaid eligibility determination team review for a disability. So, we felt that was duplicative for this population and we didn't want to put these kiddos through that. We wanted to streamline that process. This 1115 demonstration, we believe, will give us that flexibility. And CMS has advised us to seek that flexibility through this process. And so, we will be able to request using the existing process that we have in place for the statement of approval for developmental disabilities in combination with that level of care assessment Julie spoke to for ICF for the developmental disability track. And then for the hospital and nursing home track using our assessment tool which will be fairly comprehensive, and we feel cover the disability definition. Hopefully, meet the federal requirements and hopefully won't have to do this second process. We think that will take less time and streamline efforts for recipients and make it less burdensome. Hopeful that gets approved.

We are required under the demonstration to prove certain points or certain goals and objectives and that is why it's a demonstration. Demonstrating the state can, through its flexibilities under this program, do it more effectively than the federal regulations otherwise outlined. And so, we have seven objectives or theories that we are evaluating. And the first one

is, and I am going to go through these pretty quickly, basically restating what Julie and I have gone through so far. The first one is that enrollees will have coverage of needed health services including preventing institutionalization. And we will evaluate that by measuring the use of the Medicaid covered services that are not commonly covered by private insurance. Also be evaluating if better health outcomes are realized because they are eligible for case management, enhanced care coordination, has a special health care needs group in managed care. Which I will address later. Evaluate that by looking at usage of inpatient hospital, emergency department, nursing home, and ICF services by establishing a baseline in year one.

Also be evaluating whether we can provide access to care that is more cost effective than institutional settings. And we will be comparing costs of institutions verses the managed care per member per month cost. Doing an evaluation of whether limiting the enrollment of those who can be served based on annual appropriations by the legislature ensures that our other optional Medicaid programs are fully funded. Cause that was one of the risks if we didn't do it this way according to the budgetary restrictions that we had for this program specifically. And there was risk other optional Medicaid programs would be cut to fund this option instead. And we talked to our stakeholders and we also felt strongly we didn't want to cut any other existing optional services to fund the new ones. That was something we will be evaluating and assessing. Looking at evaluating those who are maintaining their preexisting health insurance. Will it reduce the primary Medicaid costs and provide more access by having that dual insurance coverage? Looking at cost for Medicaid as a secondary payer.

Last two are for the hardship exception to that requirement, making sure that's not a barrier to healthcare access. Will be evaluating by tracking to the extent to which that is applied for and approved. Also be tracking our enrollment in the Lahip program I

spoke to before to make sure that those cost to families are tracked and comparing it to our annual costs. Some of our rationale for this plan, I think Julie I am going to turn it back over to you here. And I am going to apologize in advance if we don't get to the end of the presentation by 3:00 o'clock I did have a hard stop and Randall and Shawn were amazing and thank you for getting us to this point so quickly so I could get through part of the presentation. So, Julie I am going to hand it over to you.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: You need to hand over the screen sharing to me as well Jen.

JEN KATZMAN: No.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Wanted to just describe to you guys why the determination was made for an 1115 demonstration. The 1115 gives a lot of flexibility. There is a lot of different ways you can ask to do different programs in the Medicaid world. And 1115 does allow a lot more flexibility so that you can look at solutions to enhance your service delivery. The other reason why an 1115 is because while we do know the number of children who have a developmental disability are OCDD statement of approval that not Medicaid eligible there is a whole lot we don't know about the other population of children who might meet the criteria through the nursing home and/or the hospital level of care. We did do an estimate of that and we did use some of the data for from early steps because we know that a lot of the children that are in the birth to three year old population would be potentially folks or children who would qualify for our act 421 program.

And so again, the unknown population is another factor that we considered. Also, under 1115 of the things we did hear from stakeholders we do want to make sure that we are looking at cost in the best way appropriate. And so, we wanted to make sure folks that we had a mechanism that we could require that people maintain their health insurance. We wanted to link our enrollment limits to the legislative budget

appropriation. So again, as Jen was mentioning earlier, the number of people that we will serve will be tied to our budget appropriation. So, we will be able to potentially expand the program if we have more appropriation. We want to make sure program costs won't exceed our budget and cost overrun will not affect existing Medicaid program as Jen mentioned earlier. Even though we are requiring private insurance, we do have a hardship exception. And there will be criteria that identifies where that hardship exception is.

So next we just wanted to share with you guys a little bit about the services. So, what will happen if you are eligible for the act 421 program, what that means is that the folks that are enrolled will have access to all Medicaid state plan services. So, there are some requirements with some of the services. But basically, your doctors' visits, hospital visits, pharmacy, dental, additional speech, occupational and physical therapy. And then through our EPSDT program there are some services that are available if you meet the medical necessity criteria. Skilled nursing and home health, applied behavioral analysis, do have some requirements there. The enrollees, you can go on, will not have access to the home and community-based waiver services. So just know that is the distinction here. So, in our waiver, some of the waiver services that are not available through the act 421 CMO program include home modification, substitute family care, housing stabilization, center-based respite, art or music therapy, day habilitation and supported employment. Just trying to make a distinction for you guys there. In terms of registration and enrollment we do have a process flow chart that we have made. We had gotten feedback from several of our stakeholders that a flowchart helps make it easy to understand how you walk through. So just very quickly, we have described a lot of this already, there will be a registration period initially and then a registration component. Folks will look to see if they meet that prioritization

criteria. And then we'll look at if there a slot available. If there is a slot available, it will then trigger an eligibility determination in the two ways that we talked about. First, looking at whether you meet the level of care. And then secondly, the programmatic eligibility determination and what we need to look at there. Once all those criteria's are met there is enrollment through a managed care health plan.

We do plan, in terms of registration enrollment, we will give notice to the public, will be given before the registration period begins. So, we will make announcements that the registration is open. Will include a description of a program, the time period for initial registration and instructions on how you register online, in person or by phone. And use a variety of formats to make sure we get the word out. We will likely be reaching out again to you guys once we do open that enrollment period to help make sure everyone who may want to apply for the program is aware of that. During the initial registration period that period will be one month. Online applications will be used to collect information needed for the prioritization process. One of the things our stakeholders felt strongly about is that if you already have an OCDD statement of approval and are not eligible for Medicaid that because you've already gone through that process those folks will automatically be registered for participation. And what we will do is send notification, have a prefilled form in the mail explaining what it is and that they have been registered. And on that form a family chooses to opt out of the program they will have the ability to do that. Or if they would like to request prioritization or a prioritized slot, they will be able to do that on the form as well.

And then at the end of the initial registration period we will randomize the registrants from that initial 30-day period to create a numbered ordered registry. And children that are registered in the initial registration period will receive act 421 CMO

offers according to first prioritization process, and then according to the number order on the registry. And all children who do not receive act 421 CMO offer will stay on the registry with the same registry date. All children entering the demonstration during the initial registration period will receive the same registry date. Ongoing after our initial period those who register for the program will be assigned a registry date and number on a first come, first serve basis. Act 421 offers will be made as they become available. Families may apply for prioritization and if qualified the child will receive the next available offer. If more than one child is prioritized at a given time offers will be made in order of the prioritization date.

And then we have the Medicaid eligibility determination. So, the department will make an act 421 offer to people who register as spaces in the program become available. Once the offer is made the family must establish both the clinical and the programmatic eligibility for 421 CMO. And Jen stated this earlier, prioritization doesn't automatically grant the Medicaid eligibility. It advances the child to the next available or first available offer. The children that qualify for prioritization still must go through the clinical and programmatic eligibility for the program after the offer is made. When we said clinical eligibility what we mean is the child has a disability and meets the level of care determination for the intermediate care facility, nursing home, or hospital level of care. We have asked CMS to allow the level of care assessments to meet the federal requirements for disability as well. The process Jen was referencing earlier.

In terms of programmatic eligibility, the child meets basic Medicaid requirements. For example, citizenship and Louisiana residency, the age, and the child meets the income and asset requirement. For this the parent income and assets are not considered, but we do have to consider any assets the child has. Just to

give you guys an idea of ramp up and registration timelines, we will send the notice out that I referenced earlier approximately two weeks before the initial registration period. Then we will have the registration period for 30 days. So, they will have 30 days to do that. We have mentioned the automatic registry if you have an OCDD statement of approval. The full Medicaid application and eligibility screening will occur later. During the initial registration period all registrants will have the same registration date. Won't matter if they apply on day one or 30. Then we will have about one week where we go through a randomization. So, at the end of the initial period we sort everyone and assign a registry placement to each person. And then we will need 30 days to go through prioritization. So, people who do request a priority slot will need time to go through and do that assessment and review to determine if they do qualify for a prioritization spot. If so, they will have the first available offer in order of the prioritization date. If they do not qualify, they will keep their originally assigned registry appreciation and date. So just a note, prioritization is not the same as registration and it is not required in order to be on the act 421 registry. Just a tool to help expedite the offers. And then finally the eligibility screening enrollment, the amount of time will depend on the applicant availability for the level of care assessment and delivery of the required documentation. Jen, did you need to leave. Is Brian able to cover this section or you want me to cover it.

JEN KATZMAN: I just hopped on my other presentation. So, Brian, if you are on you are welcome to speak to it. Whoever can cover it.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: You can still advance the slides.

JEN KATZMAN: Yep. Multitasking at its finest.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Brian, I will go and if I say something wrong please jump in. Louisiana Medicaid is largely managed care. So, this first slide gives you

an example or shows that our Healthy Louisiana MCOs are 57.1 percent for our non-expansion population and 27.6 percent for our expansion population. Healthy Louisiana managed care that are behavioral health and the non-expansion group are 7 percent. And those folks that are still fee for services about 8.3 percent of our population. So, the reason what is Healthy Louisiana, the way most Louisiana Medicaid enrollees access their healthcare services. The overriding goal is to encourage enrollees to take an active role in owning their own health and the health of their families. Healthy Louisiana Medicaid enrollees select a managed care organization. And the managed care organizations differ from one another in several ways. Including provider networks, their referral policies, care management programs and their value added or extra services they provide. And each plan is accountable to the Louisiana Department of Health. They have detailed processes they must follow.

In our managed care special healthcare needs population there is a special carve out population or group that is called the special healthcare needs population. These are individuals who because of a disability require more individualized healthcare approaches. And there are some extra or additional expectations of the managed care organization for people who fall into the special healthcare needs population. And those who are in the act 421 CMO option will be enrolled as a part of the special healthcare needs population. The benefits that they get are really related to care coordination, continuity of care, care transition, activities. Some of those are initial screening of needs. Individualized treatment and care plan for eligible participants. Ongoing preventive and primary care appropriate to their needs. coordination of care between a primary care provider and specialist. Coordination of care for out of network services. Coordination with the hospital or institutional discharge planning. And care transition in the event provider termination or switch

between managed care organizations. So really, it's just more intense services and coordination of those services.

So, at this time we have five Healthy Louisiana managed care organizations. Etna Better health, AmeriHealth, Caritas of Louisiana, Healthy Blue, Louisiana Healthcare Connections and United Healthcare of Louisiana. For folks who enroll, as we said earlier, one of the things they would want to do is take a look at their provider network and the services that they need and any value added to help them make an appropriate decision about which managed care option to select.

Nearing the end here, we do have next a link to view the full 1115 demonstration application. And there is the email address that I reference at the beginning of the presentation 421-CMO@la.gov. Or you can submit comment directly through our LDH website. We have a website specifically dedicated the act 421 CMO program you can find that at LDH.la.gov/act421. Included in our application to CMS is the feedback. Also, if you are not able to do electronic mode, we also can take written comment. At the address Bureau of Health Services Financing, Attention 421 Medicaid option manager. P.O. Box 91030. Bin number 24. Baton Rouge Louisiana 70821-3117. You can locate this on our website. And make sure this information specifically gets out to the Developmental Disability Council and incorporate those comments into our feedback.

Jen mentioned this earlier that we have had numerous meetings with stakeholders. And they have been very valuable in giving us input on the program features. I will say we've had a lot of robust discussion. Not everyone agrees with either each other in the stakeholder group or the plans of action. But we do feel like we tried to hear from everybody and put forth, hear everything and come to a point where we were putting forth something that was workable for everyone. Again, we are welcome and open public comment for anything that we might need to consider

about the program. We also do plan to continue to have additional stakeholder workgroups. We will meet at least monthly through until we have implementation of the program. Once to give the stakeholder groups updates on where we are with hearing that from CMS. But also, we have our application put in, but there is a lot of the details about the process, how we work with the LGEs, finalizing our assessment tool. Still a lot of moving pieces we have so we are continuing to engage with our stakeholders to develop that. So, one of things that came up at our last stakeholder meeting it would be helpful if we had more parents involved who would potentially qualify for this program. Once it became available to be able to hear from them. If you know or aware of anyone or you yourself are interested that same email. Please email there and we will be happy to include you on the invitation to our stakeholder engagements. Randall, if you would like to open it up for questions or comments. Or if time doesn't allow then we will be happy to take that at the upcoming forms or to receive it via email.

RANDALL BROWN: If you don't mind. You did a wonderful presentation. If we could receive those via email, that would be great. We have a full slate of reports. I hate to shut you down. I know you have great information. If we could reach you by email for those questions that would be great.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: What I will do in the meantime, there is a couple in the chat I can address so I will try to address those in the chat.

RANDALL BROWN: If you are on this today and you want to ask Julie a question related to this slide show they gave just send her a chat with a question and I am sure she will be happy to help you. As you know we are very pressed for time. Thank you so much for all the information. y'all did great.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Jen, I think you have to stop sharing your screen if you can hear me.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank y'all very much. So now we have our standing council member reports and we begin

with the Office of Public Health and Ms. Patti Barovechio.

PATTI BAROVECHIO: As it was submitted in the essence of time, I will hit the high points that most intersect with our current population of individuals with disabilities with our direct services in the children's special health services clinics at the public health units. And that is any child or family that is served through these clinics. Those subspecialty clinics were transitioned to telehealth. Those clinics that do not lend themselves to be conducted through telehealth I think arrangements are being made on a case by case basis and they are working within the restrictions to service those families and ensure those medical needs are met.

Another big shift with our programmatic changes due to covid 19 was we had parent liaisons that served in our children special health services clinics. And each of these individuals, it was determined early on to transition them back to the community under their Families Helping Families contacting agency. We felt as an organization that the need for resource linkage, peer support would be the greatest in the community. So, each of our parent or youth liaisons were transitioned under their respective Families Helping Families organizations. And so, as the pandemic has continued with the Families Helping Families directors the Bureau of Family Health determined to leave those services under the Families Helping Families umbrella over the next year. And they are now working on some really key strategies to expand the services that Families Helping Families have offered to targeting families with disabilities to expand them to reach out to all children and youth with special healthcare needs. Really excited about this. Somewhat of a silver lining to the pandemic in the fact that we are able to hopefully work with our partners and reach many more individuals in the community. If anyone would like to avail themselves of services from these community resource specialists, they can reach out to

the Families Helping Families organizations within their region. And I can provide contact information for all of the parent liaisons and youth liaisons that have that experience.

And then one other update of note is that we had a family resource center that was housed at Children's Hospital in New Orleans. Of course, as we moved to many virtual platforms, we have transitioned the family resource center to a virtual resource hub. It is there now to serve families statewide. I can also provide that information is in my report. But there is an email for any family across the state that needs support with resource linkage for system navigation can reach out to BFH-familyresourcecenter@la.gov. And those are some of the biggest changes that have occurred as far as the services that we provide directly to families.

RANDALL BROWN: We thank you all for the work you do and continue to do in these very difficult times. Anybody have any quick questions for Ms. Patti?

CHRISTOPHER RODRIQUEZ: Presumably, you are not going to have a lot of control over this, but I will go ahead and say it anyways. I know a number of us are meeting every Monday to discuss disability related issues and covid. And a lot of people on the council are on those meetings. I know a lot of us have tried very hard to make sure that somebody from Office of Public Health is on those calls. Now we probably had over a hundred calls. I think OPH has been maybe on one or two of them. And the times they have, been able to provide incredible information. So many questions that are so important right now that are being asked on that call are being deferred to OPH. And there is nobody from OBH to answer the question. If at all possible, I don't know who is the right person to talk to. If we can encourage your colleagues to assign somebody to attend those. I am sure way too busy to perhaps attend them every week, but every once in a while. Could be so incredibly helpful to help us understand what is going on. Especially with respect

to people with developmental disabilities. Particularly on waivers and residing in congregate settings such as ICF.

PATTI BAROVECHIO: Thank you for that. And if you would send me the details about those calls or meetings, I will make sure that I ratchet that up to leadership and make sure somebody is there that can respond to questions that could be answered by OBH. Any questions currently on the table that I can help get answers for. If I don't know the answer, I will certainly send them up to leadership to find out who can find out the right answer.

CHRISTOPHER RODRIQUEZ: Thank you so much.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you. Any other questions for Ms. Patti?

EBONY HAVEN: Katie Corkin has a comment. Says will the parent/youth be positioned back at the clinic/hospitals when it's safe for typical appointment.

PATTI BAROVECHIO: The parent liaisons currently are not going to be residing within the clinic team. That being said, if that is where the family finds it easiest to meet, they can meet and service that family at the health unit. They are now going to be for state fiscal year 21 they will be embedded within the community within their respective Families Helping Families organization. But they can certainly service families and meet families in what their natural environment and their preferential way to meet with them.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you. Do we have any other questions? Thank you very much.

CHARLIE MICHEL: I just wanted to piggyback on what Patti just said in case there are any concerns. We met several times over the past few months, and I think the only thing that is going to result from this change is the venue. The liaison will no longer be at the health units. However, always available to do the same services before, but a better position to expand the scope of their services there by increasing their effectiveness and the outreach we can provide to the

community. So real optimistic about it. Even though won't be housed with them, we will still be working with the close unit to the extent they need us or want us. We are all in agreement this is a positive step forward.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you. Our next report is Dr. Phil Wilson and the Human Development Center.

PHIL WILSON: I am not going to give you much of a report because, frankly, we have been so busy trying to figure out how to operate under the new situations with covid and everything at the university. Most of what we have been doing is trying to make sure we can fulfill our current obligations, and contracts, and grants and those types of things. Pretty much on track. Had a wonderful week or two back and forth with Melissa. So that was very helpful in terms of finding a way to continue our work and transition. That will continue to be as we go into the fall lots of question marks how to make everything work. We got a couple new grants over the last several months on interdisciplinary training. And so, we are starting those projects up. And again, with covid it makes, as you are all well aware, makes it really challenging to figure out how you are going to do training and technical assistance when you're trying do those things in the real world, not in the classroom. Which is our model. So those are the two big things we are doing. And starting our childcare center back up and starting our head start program back up with 221 families. So, we have a lot of things going on. But as far as reporting on what we have done over the last quarter, we have, like I said, just trying to keep all our people safe and healthy and fulfill our contracts.

RANDALL BROWN: Very important work. Thank you, sir, for all you do. Does anybody have any questions for Dr. Wilson? Thank you, sir. Okay. Our next report will be from the Office of Citizens with Developmental Disabilities. That is again Julie.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: I have already talked a whole lot so I will keep mine short. We do typically have a

pretty lengthy report, so hopefully you guys have my report and we do have some information in there. Some of the things that we have been focused on is really taking a look at a lot of providers and families have concerns about what does our quote unquote new normal look like, what are the things we need to be thinking about in terms of some of the exceptions we put in place to help keep people healthy and safe. And what does that look like as we return. And I think just a fear of us having to kind of only have a very short window for turning some of those exceptions on and off. So, we are working to make sure that families and providers have time to really begin thinking about what things look like when we do have to scale back on some of our exceptions. And how do you really start planning for that. And we're going to give people resources. So, in my report it shows folks what those exceptions are. We are looking at pulling together different workgroups or different groups of people to really give us feedback. And our office is taking a really good look at what are all of the exceptions in place. We actually are in the process of doing a survey with everyone that is receiving home and community-based waiver services through our support coordination agencies so that we can get a feel for what are the concerns that people have about returning. What are the concerns people have about the exceptions? Where do they see we need to focus our efforts? Given ourselves until about mid-August to get that information and pull it together. At the same time, taking a look at those exceptions as well as pulling together workgroups for what we might need to be doing differently. We've kind of been in response mode for a while. Hasn't really allowed us to have as much time for stakeholder engagement as we normally like to do in OCDD. We're getting back on track with that stakeholder engagement, finding out what folks needs are, and really having conversations about what is needed to get us back, if not to the way we were before, back to a safe place for folks in the future.

So much coming up about that.

Again, starting on that reengagement and also taking a look, I know I have emails from a couple of you leading up to the developmental disabilities council meeting about some things we had been working on pre covid and wanting to know the status. Also trying to capture all of the different things that we had in place and kind of get an idea of what are those outstanding areas and then prioritize moving forward on those. And I will be happy to share more information about that at our next Developmental Disabilities Council's meeting.

The final thing I want to say, and then I am happy to take any questions, in addition to our home and community-based waivers we've done something very similar with Early Steps Program. We had people start to call and ask us questions about telehealth and when we would be able to do in person. We have worked closely with Office of Public Health who continue to recommend to us we do not start back in person early step provider visits just yet. Because of the fact of people kind of going into different homes with that close contact and in person contact. But we do know that because of the extension of time there is some concerns there. We continue to look at that. We just recently did a survey of all early step providers and families and pulling that data together now so we can take a look at that report and continue to work with the public health officials who can help advise us on what appropriate measures are. I will stop there, but happy to take any questions.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you. And thank you for all the hard work you do Julie and your team does. Do we have any questions for Julie about her report?

EBONY HAVEN: Matthew left the comment, says covid 19 is raging currently. HCBS providers are struggling now more than previously. And Charlie has his hand raised.

CHARLIE MICHEL: This is the same question I had for you the other day on the EMDAC call. As we get

more and more information with the numbers and the rise in the numbers and I hear different agencies saying they are hesitant to reinitiate the old service delivery model because of the cross-contamination problems. Schools are still looking at opening with face to face instruction. I am an educator. I absolutely appreciate and applaud the importance of education, but I don't know that sacrificing our children so we can reopen the economy, because it has become a political issue, pretty much what it is. I am hoping y'all are going to be working with your resources with the State Department of Education so the State Department of Education not necessarily provide guidance to LEAs, but absolutely share with them all the facts so if they make a bad decision whether to open schools face to face or not, that they have the information. Because they will be held accountable. Unfortunately, the kids and the employees of the system that are being held hostage to this decision. That's my comment. I just hope y'all are working with the State Department of Ed. I am gravely concerned about this rush to open the schools in a face to face manner. Virtually, no problem. They've had ample time to come up with a program. Contamination possibility is humongous.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: I can confer the Department of Health and Department of Education are working closely together on plans. I don't have any more specific information to share. I am not involved in those discussions directly. And Matt if I can quickly comment to the comment Matt had. We all do definitely appreciate that and wish that there were more that we could do to help. Because I know we hear there is a huge financial burden. I will share, and I know there are some strings tied to this, but there was something at the federal government level called the provider relief fund. Where providers could apply and get up 2 percent of the total net revenue. And what information we have gotten is that there has been less than 6 percent nationwide of the providers who qualify for

this program to apply. So, this is not just home and community-based waivers. All Medicaid providers. And less than 6 percent who could potentially qualify have applied. Strongly encourage folks to take advantage of that. We do recognize there are some limitations. Have to have not received other funding. And some other pieces we are asking, reaching out through Medicaid and National State DD director. I know they are having conversations with CMS to take a look at that and those requirements. Because even I think if you took a hundred dollars then you now don't qualify for that. That wasn't clear ahead of time. Continue to strongly encourage folks to take a look at the options that are available through the federal government funding.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you. I was muted. Thank you very much. Are there any other questions for Julie about or report?

MATTHEW ROVIRA: I know we are pressed for time. But I would love to have an offline conversation with you, if possible, to share with you what providers are experiencing currently. I mentioned to you in the committee meeting that the second spike has really had a real hard effect on community providers. And I would love to have a more detailed conversation with you if possible.

JIL HANO: I have two questions. I was reading in your report last night and going over, and you could probably help me. I was going over the covid adjustments and how all those services you get. I just don't like my provider agency told me that my staff was not allowed to take me out of the house. Even to grocery shop. No way I would give my debit card to my staff. That was the protocol for covid. They would grocery shop for me and I couldn't leave the house at all or they couldn't take me out of my house at all. And then, of course, again, the whole covid accommodations you stated in your report. I wasn't informed of any of this by my service provider. And basically, is the thing about them not being able to

take me into the community true. And like how are clients getting their groceries. I felt like I was missing something. Can you even Matt elaborate on what y'all like would options were being offered within the state. Because I already, I just couldn't trust what I was being told.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Just from the state prospective, Jill, the state did not submit any guidance that said individuals could not leave their home. That wasn't part of the exception from a statewide prospective. Matt, I don't know if you want to comment from a provider prospective what kind of some action's providers may have engaged in. Jill, did you talk to your support coordinator about that.

JIL HANO: No, because I had a chip on my shoulder.

MATTHEW ROVIRA: Unfortunately, I was multitasking. But Jill I am happy to help you anyway I can. I will send you my phone number on this chat group.

JIL HANO: You said something about the funding. Did you get an incorrect amount? Your budget Julie was 19 million-dollars and you said you spent \$8.3 million. Is that correct?

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: That funding was specific to just to the expenditures from the new opportunities waiver fund.

JIL HANO: Okay. Cool. All right. But I got my numbers correct?

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Yes.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you. Jill, any more questions for Julie about her report?

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: I know you skipped the Medicaid report, but he is able to give the Medicaid report for Jen at the appropriate time.

RANDALL BROWN: We will let him have the floor now.

CHRISTOPHER RODRIQUEZ: I will preference this question with the fact that I think people with developmental disabilities are doing better than they otherwise would be doing with respect to covid if not for all the quick action LDH has taken over the last few months. I guess my question is, and I know you are

not fully responsible for every individual with developmental disabilities in the State of Louisiana, but could you give us information, just a general question, how are people with developmental disabilities doing in light of covid. We hear, all I read about are these national articles about how people with developmental disabilities are exceptionally high risk and are dying in certain rates that aren't seen in the general population and congregate setting this and that. What metrics. I know LDH has put together some stuff. Can you tell us anything in general about the stats, numbers? This is hitting people with developmental disabilities extremely hard and this is what we are learning from it or maybe just because you have a developmental disability doesn't mean you are necessarily high risk. What are we learning as we experience a second wave or the second part of the first wave?

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: It's difficult because the stats, we are collecting things one way in Louisiana. We have done some outreach with other states and it just seems everybody is collecting the information a little bit differently in a little bit different way. So, it's difficult for us to kind of do a comparison, like as you said, you have seen the same articles. When you look at about how folks are being impacted. In terms of home and community based waiver folks, it does look as if, and again, we haven't done any statistical analysis, but from the data we have available it appears those in waiver services are impacted about similarly to our other population. Non developmental disability population. Initially it appeared that way in our intermediate care facilities as well. But in the second wave we have had more of an impact at two of our facilities we are closely taking a look at now. A lot of our Department of Health partners are brainstorming and taking a look at that. We had implemented testing in those intermediate care facilities. Our OCDD team has done an outreach to every intermediate care facility who has had covid

positive case. Just to, we can't really be a resource, but to find out if they were able to get testing done for folks if they needed assistance with getting that done. And then the Office of Public Health has developed a template, not just for intermediate care providers, but for any provider group that is needing assistance with testing at their facility. And then trying to get an idea of what type of assistance. Do they just need access to the testing, the serum itself and the testing supplies? And they have medical staff who can do it, or do they need assistance with the medical staff as well. So, there is now a template available for providers that we can collect. And then again, just taking a look at all of that and working. Public Health, our office, as it relates to people with developmental disabilities and health standards working together to continue to get out any additional guidance that we need to for those particular facilities. Kind of a big general overview.

CHRISTOPHER RODRIQUEZ: And those two locations where the outbreaks are has LDH mandated the testing in those.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: I am not sure.

RANDALL BROWN: Any other questions for Julie about her report?

EBONY HAVEN: There are some comments in the chat. From Kelly Monroe, unfortunately funding only covers about two weeks' worth of expenses. And then a YouTube comment from Kathy Dwyer, says we need to make sure the politics are not a factor whatsoever in the decision making and solely on the health and safety of our loved ones.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you for your comments. Does anybody have any further questions for Julie about her report? What did you say the gentleman's name was from Jen's office?

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Brian.

ROSLYN HYMEL: I did have a question for Julie. I wanted to find out for the testing with the covid 19 could other schools, like for instance, Magnolia, could

we ever for the clients here, could we ever get tested for the covid 19 if we wanted to.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Yes.

ROSLYN HYMEL: And how can we go about doing that to get tested and see if half of us could have the covid or not because here we are, I know half of us can't wait to get out. Especially out of the group home and get back to where we really are. Where can we go to get tested.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: There is a lot of different places you can go get tested and ways. I can outreach directly to Magnolia, which I believe we already have. But Roslyn, if you are not aware then we need to also make sure everybody is aware of the option for that to happen. In fact, public health is encouraging, there is a big go get tested push out right now and encouraging all Louisiana citizens to get tested at this point.

ROSLYN HYMEL: Because every time when I ask people, especially the ones here, when can I go back to work and they keep telling me I don't know, I don't know. I want to find answers and how can I really go about it. Cause I really want to go back to work. All I get I don't know. It's out of my reach. All I really want is to look for answers. I have been looking for answers.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Some of that may be, not sure if the restaurants are opened or some of those things. Some of it may be not related to you directly, but related to your place of employment. But you still deserve answers, absolutely. We can talk offline if you want to. And I can reach out to the folks there as well.

CHRISTOPHER RODRIQUEZ: Such an important point Roslyn makes. And I think the offer from LDH to test ICFs is at the discretion of the administrators of the group homes, not necessarily taking into consideration what the residents want. Is that accurate? Because as much as LDH through the document that was sent out a couple weeks ago is encouraging, it's really only

encouraging the administrators to allow for testing if you have one or more people testing positive. The administrators can say no thank, you we really appreciate that offer, but we are going to decline to actually test our folks. The mixed signals I hear we are going to test everybody in a congregate setting, to me it's more like we are going to make available the opportunity to test everybody in congregate settings, including ICFs, at the discretion of administrators. Who may or may not think it's in their best interest to actually test because they may know these numbers are getting out there? I don't know what they think. But I think a good point, Roslyn. We need to make sure that if individuals in facilities want to be tested that they are allowed to. Despite the preferences or opinion of the administrators.

ROSLYN HYMEL: I am looking for answers and I want answers in that.

RANDALL BROWN: I think Julie will help you out there. And Chris too, I am sure. Thank you, Chris, for your input there. Any other questions for Julie?

JIL HANO: Julie, when we first had the covid outbreak you had to have like, there were qualifications or criteria for even to get a test. Is that different now. It's been two, three months. Cause before I went, and my temperature wasn't high enough. Have the standards lowered? Cause it was a certain temperature. So now like, I mean I would assume more testing was available than the last week of March.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: So, when the public health emergency first started, they needed time to develop tests cause there weren't tests for covid cause it was new. Back in March when it started there were concerns, not just in Louisiana, but really across the nation with having enough tests to get everyone tested who needed it. And so initially, back then, and not sure when you went, there was a series of questions that they asked. And only those folks who passed the series of questions then got the testing. There is now

enough available testing, so they don't ask you those questions. You can now go in and say I would like to have a test and they will give you a test. And in fact, as I was mentioning, they now, especially in the areas like in Baton Rouge, we have locations set up right now. They have surge teams and they are encouraging because so many people are asymptomatic and then passing it, they are wanting to get more people tested to be able to get a handle on that. And I saw in the chat a moment ago, thanks Matt, an indication, I forgot to mention this. You can call, if you would like to get tested, you can call 211 and 211 can give you the testing locations in your area. But yes, it's more, there is more tests available now, Jill. And so, if you were to go in today it would be very different than when you went in in March.

JIL HANO: So, the criteria is decreased?

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: For testing? Yeah. You just have to ask for it.

HYACINTH MCKEE: I would like to call the question. We have been on this topic I believe for about 45 minutes. And I want to call the question to move on. It appears as though the agenda has seven more reports we need to get to, and we are at 3:56: p.m. I am calling the question right now. I am asking that we move.

RANDALL BROWN: We don't have to call the question. Thank you, Julie, for all your help and answering everything. The gentleman from the Bureau of Medicaid is he available now.

BRIAN BENNETT: My name is Brian Bennett and I work with Jen in Medicaid. I am just going to quickly touch on the quarterly update report she provided. A lot of the sections that we normally update were in the report. In particular, update accounts on Lahip enrollment and to our waiver programs. Short updates on EVV, self-direction, enrollment into our C sock waiver program. And then a breakout of our behavioral health provider network adequacy data. All our behavioral health providers that are contracted with

MCOs there is updated numbers for those. As well as our chism reporting at the very end. I did want to touch at the beginning of the report Jen provided an update where we are with act 421 children's Medicaid option. And Jen and Julie gave a lot of that information in the presentation earlier, so I am not going to review it again now. Over the first two or three pages there's an update on where we are with that program implementation wise, and then also kind of tying back to some delays that we face because of covid and spring. We initially planned to submit that application to CMS in June, but because of covid we pushed that back. We are delayed a few months. As they mentioned earlier, plan to have that submitted to CMS by September 1st. I will stop there. If anyone has any questions?

RANDALL BROWN: Does anybody have any questions for Brian and his report? Thank you, sir. We appreciate you. So next we would have the Department of Education Kristi-Joe.

KRISTI-JOE PRESTON: Thank you so much chairman. I am Kristi-Joe Preston with the Louisiana Department of Education and I am going to share a few quick updates. I do see the clock there and I know what time it is. I will be fast here today. If anybody wants to follow up on dialogue on anything I am bringing up today, happy to do that any time after this. I want to share four updates with you guys today. One is that since our last official meeting we now have a new state superintendent of education, Dr. Brumley. He has taken over and has a very strong commitment to equity and the needs of students with disabilities. Very excited to have him on leading the work here in Louisiana.

The second is that the BESE, the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education met earlier this week and adopted minimum safety standards for the reopening of schools. In this we were very intentional about making sure we are meeting the needs of students with disabilities. So, the policy includes specific elements to address those needs, including ensuring

students with disabilities continue to receive special education and related services in the least restrictive environment. Even if that is in a static group. Ensuring providers have access to school facilities and early learning center facilities. And then providing flexibility for students who have disabilities or medical need for mask requirements. And so that was all included there and we're very excited about the engagement and feedback from folks across the state to make sure we were getting that right for kids. And I want to thank everyone for that.

The third thing I want to update you on is that as you know the April Dunn act passed. As part of that implementation of that we are in the process of updating the special education reporting system guidance tools and resources that that we can make that shift and honor the legacy that April Dunn had here in our state.

And finally, we have released resources to help both school systems and families navigate the sort of new normal of learning which can include a combination of in person, hybrid, or virtual learning. Those resources are available on our website. I shared those with the committee in great detail yesterday. We are in the process as well of updating those resources now that the school reopening policies have been adopted and the guidance has been released as well. And so I said this to the committee yesterday and to everyone here as well, if you are interested in being involved in those in terms of having a conversation or offering more detailed feedback, answering the right questions and meeting the needs in the folks in the field and really exciting about that. Please reach out at any time.

And take a quick moment to thank committee Chairwoman Mary, Chairman Brown here. And Shawn as well for their collaboration and support on this. I think our connection here and our willingness to have that collaboration and to send these resources out into the world to raise awareness is a critical step in this

work in making sure that parents are aware of their rights and know their rights have not changed. And educators are aware of their resources and the supports for them to help students continue to learn in this environment. And all of that. And so, thank you all so much for that. And if there is any questions, happy to answer them and happy to talk to anyone else afterwards. Thank you so much. Hand it back over.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you for your very important work. And thank you for asking for us to collaborate with you. Happy to do it. Does anybody have any questions for Kristi-Joe regarding her report?

EBONY HAVEN: Liz said that is wonderful Kristi-Joe about the changes with April's name on it. And Jill has her hand raised.

JIL HANO: It takes a minute. I know in January Kristi-Joe your report was on the website after the meeting. Are you going to have a paper report available at all? Because my mom is in the school system and for reopening links will be very helpful to share with her. So, are you going to have any type of report available on our website?

KRISTI-JOE PRESTON: Yes, absolutely. I will put the link into what we have now. And as I mentioned, we are in the process of updating now that we know what school reopening is going to look like. But a lot of what we have now is still applicable and really powerful. And all of that was developed with experts across the state and national experts and other organizations. Really proud and excited of that work. I will put the link in here. Happy to send that to Randall. So, Randall, if you want that on the website as well. Once we have the updated guidance as well, I will make sure to share it with this group too.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you.

ROSLYN HYMEL: That would be very helpful to me too if you could send the link as well.

RANDALL BROWN: Any other questions for Kristi-Joe? Thank you, Kristi. Our next report is from the Governor's Office of Disability Affairs.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Can I share something? Just wanted to make everyone aware, and I appreciate all the comments regarding our colleague on the DD Council, April, and my colleague in the Governor's Office of Disability Affairs. And just wanted to share with everyone that we have created this page on the governor's website in memory of April and it contains a lot of information in regards to April including throughout the month of July. We have thoughts and reflections of April and people can submit their thoughts. Can be as long or as short as you want it to be. Compile that and keep this on the page. Tell you a little bit about why that idea came to us. Of course, this month is April's birthday earlier this month. And so, she always loved to celebrate birthdays. On the page we have some of the tribute video to April, and other videos she was a part of, and the governor's announcement, as well as all the news coverage of April's life and works and honors. And also, what different articles we had within our newsletter in our office. Just want to let everyone know we have this and keep this active preserving her memory.

ROSLYN HYMEL: When is April Dunn's birthday.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: July sixth. So, some other information this summer we have three interns that are working in our office. Two of them are law students. One from Southern University Law Center and one from LSU Law Center. And they're working on researching some information in regards to accessibility and kind of how we manage accessibility issues within state government. And some other things they are able to research that we don't normally have the time to do. And we also have our own Lillian DeJean who has been interning in our office. Lillian is very interested in history and speaking at our GODA conference next week on disability history and culture. Really glad to have her and look forward to her helping in the office even more. One of the things that Lillian talked about she was really interested in history. So y'all know we have our gold awards every year. I asked her to

research two of the people who we have the awards named after. And so, as I was telling here that I thought, cause sometimes we go through our process and we don't remember those people who shoulders we stand on. And so I wanted to kind of preserve this information about April while we have all these national, always have these footage from national programs that honored her, to have the voice of the people she really touched personally was something I wanted to capture that we can hopefully keep for years to come. So, I will send that link to everyone. If you can have time over this month add your thoughts and reflections on April.

And I will also share, as I said, we have our GODA conference next month. And you probably all should have received emails about this conference. I am kind of sharing, my screen is big, I know. This is basically, our conference is going to be next Thursday and Friday. Two days, all day long, and very stressed out about it cause we back to back sessions. 8:30 to 4:30 every day. And I will share actually our schedule.

ROSLYN HYMEL: If you ever have any links like this in that could you ever really share the links with me. I would like to even read about April because I know she was even aspiring to me for the DD Council. I would like to really read up on her.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Sure. And I can add you or give you information how to add yourself to our email list. And so, as you can see on your screen, we have all day, we have sessions. Basically, just to break it down on Monday morning, sorry Thursday morning, the first day of the conference in the morning hours we will have presentations about K12. And the afternoon on that Thursday on the first day will be about issues across the life span. And then on the Friday the session will be geared towards adult issues. And so, it's all focused around 30th anniversary of the signing of the Americans with disabilities Act. And in the midst of a pandemic which will have what is going on or some changes in regards to the effect of the pandemic. And

so, I know many of you have registered. Hopefully, you register and can get on for some of those sessions. I am not going to take up any more time. If anyone has any questions let me know and I will be glad to answer.

ROSLYN HYMEL: How can I get hooked up with you through those kind of links.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I will post it in the chat.

ROSLYN HYMEL: I might give you my email in that we could pass on notes on the meetings, over whatever.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I will put it in the chat.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you Bambi for the work you do. Does anybody have any questions about Bambi about her report?

EBONY HAVEN: Hyacinth made a comment, thank you Bambi and your team for preparing this in memory of April and the great work being done. And congratulations Lillian on your role.

RANDALL BROWN: I agree. Okay. Thank you. Next, we have is Melissa with us from Louisiana Rehabilitation Services.

MELISSA BAYHAM: Good afternoon, everybody. I am going to share a couple of quick exciting things with you and happy to answer any questions that you have. We did adopt an emergency rule on July the tenth. And this emergency rule, it basically has to do with our services that are based on financial need. So, when we look at financial need before we were looking at 250 percent of the poverty level. And so, the new rule allows us, depending on how our budget is, allows us a range between 250 to 500 percent of the poverty level. As of July 10th, adopted 500 percent. So basically, we have double the amount that you can make and still receive cost services from LRS.

In addition to that, we have also increased our on the job training reimbursement rates. So, we would just pay the wages for up to three months if an employer was training that employee. And now we have increased the reimbursement rate to time and half. So, one and half times. That will give, hopefully, as you all know, really difficult right now finding jobs and

things like that. That will give us something a little bit to leverage with employers to hire our individuals.

And that, we were able to make a lot of these changes because as part of our budget we were levelly funded this year, terms of our state general funds. We are primarily federally funded, but have to have state general funds in order to draw down federal funds. So, we were very pleased that we were levelly funded this year. Those are the major updates. We just ended our production year. Because of covid it didn't end as well as I would have liked, but hoping things will pick up and be able to serve more individuals this year. Especially with the changes that we have made. Any questions, any specific questions that anyone has for me? That's all I have, Randall. Those are the highlights. If anyone has any questions about anything that you see in my report feel free to contact me.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you very much and thank you for the work you do. Next, we have Michelle with the Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs.

MICHELLE GUILLORY: Good afternoon everyone. Can you hear me? Since we are running late, I will be very brief. The Councils on Aging continue to serve and work to provide meals, primarily only meals. They are doing some medical transportation, some transportation and home maker service, but on a limited basis. We foresee they will not reopen the meal sites and senior centers until after phase three. As you know, we are still in phase two so it will be a while before they reopen. We do have some good news; our federal partners have set additional funding from the older Americans act funds to help supplement the additional costs to provide those meals in the homes. Most of the councils on aging are doing grab and go or home delivery for the participants that went to the centers. We also received a grant to help individuals who are disabled or aged in making application for economic stability program such as snap, utility assistance, feeding Louisiana. If you know of someone who needs assistance with those applications, they can contact a

local aging and disability resource centers.

The ombudsman program did receive some enhanced funding. Working with the ombudsman to do some technology and some innovative ways for them to visit the residents because they are still not able to go into the facilities. We are working with that. They are getting inundated with calls from family members and from residents. So, they are able to visit by telephone. But we are trying to come up with other ways to make sure the residents are visited in the long-term care facilities. Are there any questions for me? If you have any questions you are welcome to reach out to me or to call me offline since we are short on time. Okay, I guess there is no questions. If you do please call me.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you for all the work your people do. And last, but certainly not least, we have the Office of Aging and Adult Services. Robin Wagner.

SHAWN FLEMING: I don't think she made it.

RANDALL BROWN: Does she have anyone in her place.

SHAWN FLEMING: Not that I am aware of.

RANDALL BROWN: Well, her report is in our packet and I am sure if we have any questions, we can contact her through the information contained within her packet. So that concludes our reports. And I am now going to ask for public comment. And I want to say before I open the floor to public comment, I received everyone's emails over the last couple of days and I will be getting to everyone and responding to you. Just been really busy with getting prepared for today. But I will be reaching out to everyone addressing your concerns or questions. Just give me a little time, please. Definitely be hearing from me with regard to questions or comments you recently made. Having said that, is there any public comment.

CHRISTOPHER RODRIQUEZ: Randall, you skipped my report.

RANDALL BROWN: I apologize.

CHRISTOPHER RODRIQUEZ: So, over the last quarter Disability Rights Louisiana has been spending a lot of

time dealing with the challenges that face people with disabilities broadly, but specifically folks with developmental disabilities facing issues related to covid. We have been participating collaboratively with LDH, and Homeland Security, and the governor's office, and providers, and a lot of other folks at the DD Council to try and provide recommendations to LDH and the governor's office in terms of how to address issues with the folks with disabilities in the time of covid. We've decided to focus a lot of time and energy on the ICFs and trying to maintain our obligation to monitor those as best we can, absent the opportunities to actually go into the facilities like we typically do. Doing our best like the ombudsman program for the nursing homes. Try and do virtual visits and things like that to make sure residents are doing okay. And watching the numbers and alerting LDH when we hear things and issues related to need.

Mentioned previously, on the final stages of writing a draft for the DD Council. I presented it to the self-determination committee last week that focuses on abuse and neglect of individuals with developmental disabilities. So, everybody will have an opportunity to view that soon. Just in draft form, as I said. Work on it until we get it to a point it's something good. And hopefully we can create more policy out of that document. But basically, just talks about the incredibly high prevalence of abuse among people with developmental disabilities. Provides some literature on some explanation as to why that might be. And then provides three or four different broad policy recommendations to address abuse and neglect of individuals with developmental disabilities. So, we are staying super, super busy. And doing the best we can.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you, sir, for all the work y'all do. Does anybody have any questions for Chris about his report? Thank you, sir. I believe if no one has any questions for Chris, I believe that concludes our reports. Sorry about that Chris. I really am.

CORHONDA CORLEY: Mr. Chairman, I have my hand raised if we are ready to address any public comments.

RANDALL BROWN: If no one has any questions for Chris, we are ready and prepared for public comment now.

CORHONDA CORLEY: Thank you so much Mr. Chairman. I just wanted it to be read into record for all the individuals that are actually attending today's council meeting my letter that I submitted to the council that says it is with great sadness I submit this letter to be read into record requesting the respectful removal, immediate resignation of current council member Ms. Kim Basile. After attending several meetings and reviewing transcripts it is very apparent of Ms. Basile's constant violations of Louisiana Developmental Disability Council's policy and procedures manual, and bylaws, open meeting law, and Robert Rules of orders. According to Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council policy procedure manual and bylaws quote each council member shall disclose publicly all potential conflicts of interests, including any association with individuals or organizations that might benefit from the activities and decisions of the council. No member shall participate in the selection or award of or seek to advise or influence a decision of vote regarding a council grant or contract to a recipient where the member knows or should have known that he or she has a conflict of interest in the award. And during the two Developmental Disability Council meetings, the one-year planning meeting and the five-year planning meeting, Ms. Basile encouraging adoption of supported decision making. Which is a bill she insisted on becoming law. Ms. Basile held the five-year meeting on day one hostage for approximately 30 minutes regarding accepting a proposal bid for the same law with the knowledge of the proposal's due date of March 2020. Ms. Basile never informed the council of her assisting with the bill or the conflict of interest related to her personal relationship and interest. Ms. Basile also has a conflict of interest regarding Families

Helping Families during the one-year planning meeting. She spoke on Families Helping Families stating they should fundraise instead of receive money from the council. Ms. Basile currently serves as the Bayouland Families Helping Families board of directors' treasurer. In accordance, Ms. Basile should have not spoken on the subject matter. Accordingly, Ms. Basile left the meeting without informing the council chairman, director, or any council member. The council learned from a member of the public of Ms. Basile's departure. That person was Katie Corkin. This meeting did not have a walk-in quorum. Further review is needed to determine if the meeting had the necessary quorum due to continue due to her unjustified and undisclosed exit. If the meeting did not continue to have a quorum, then the council will need to reconvene that meeting.

In addition, her constant turning off the camera interferes with the meeting's quorum as well as transparency. Additionally, Louisiana Developmental Disability Council's policies procedures manual and bylaws states quote each council member shall plan, implement, monitor the plan, build a stable, competent and active DD Council, ensure integrity and enhance the council's public standards. Unfortunately, Ms. Basile's lack of professional competence and character towards some council members is disturbing and disrespectful. Ms. Basile has been ill prepared, uninformed and controlling, chastising in some meetings. Her deliberate review to failure to review prior submitted materials is a direct interference and hinderance with the council's productivity.

On multiple occasion Ms. Basile has spoken without being recognized by the chair. On multiple occasions she has spoken when others had the floor. During the five-year planning committee Ms. Basile had to be reminded of self-advocates voices needing and should be heard. She has jeopardized the integrity of the council's meetings with her failure to remain in a stabilized setting. Due to her actions the council has

and can be questioned regarding if the executive session was really closed to the public per open meeting law. If open meeting law was violated a maximum of 500 dollars per violation can be assessed against an individual who knowingly and willfully participates in a meeting conducted with that member personally libel for the penalty. That is according to Louisiana's Code of Ethics.

Furthermore, per Louisiana Developmental Disability Council policy procedures manual and bylaws quote members who are found to have a conflict of interest are expected to resign from the council. A council member suspected to be in violation of the state ethics law who refuses to resign shall be reported to the State Ethics Commission in writing by the council's chairperson. Any official action taken by the council to have involved a member having a conflict of interest otherwise violating this policy, the council bylaws, or any applicable state or federal laws regarding conflict of interest, even unintentionally shall be brought before the council for a revote on the action. Per the council transcripts and meeting records other individuals have observed and commented on these violations and in accordance with the law I anticipate the council will review and act immediately. I know under the law, Mr. Chairman, that the vote cannot actually take place today because it was not added on the agenda per the 24-hour notice. But I am strongly urging and encouraging our council to have it on the next council meeting for a vote so Ms. Basile can actually be properly removed or encouraged strongly to resign. Or to further no longer vote on any actions that tends to our council so that our council can continue to be productive. But also, be inclusive for all members of committee.

RANDALL BROWN: Your letter has been read into the record. Thank you for your prospective. At this time, of course, you are correct, we cannot take action on any of that because it's not part of today's agenda. Anything we do with regard to any member of the council

and their behaviors and actions we would be doing in a very serious way and be handled properly by the executive committee. I am almost certain. But thank you for putting your concerns on the record. And we will take it seriously. Thank you. Any other questions or comments.

JILL HANO: I forgot now. I know. This has nothing to do with anything. I am not naming names, just throwing it out there. But if I ever get called out in front of 27 of my peers, the public, at least 27 of my peers, I demand a heads up. If this accusation is going to go into our public record, I want to revise that comment. I am going to keep a cool. If I ever get in this position where I am going to get embarrassed in front of my peers, I want a heads up. I watch this public, the planning committee and to my knowledge there was nobody talking without the proper acknowledgment. Also, if we are going to crucify people for not being acknowledged, talking out of turn on this committee today, Kim is not that person. Thank you.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you, Jill.

EBONY HAVEN: Charlie said I suggest a situation such as this be researched. It is my experience that during public meetings specific personnel issues are not conducted openly, but voiced in executive session in order to protect the person about whom the complaint is lodged. I think this type of thing, whether accurate or not, only serves to further the divide that has been evident among council members for far too long.

RANDALL BROWN: Thank you Charlie. Any other public comment? Hearing none. Do we have any announcements? Our next council meeting will be October 17th, 2020. I want to thank you all for being present today. I want to thank everybody for their participation. Look forward to continuing to work with all of you. Do I have a motion to adjourn?

HYACINTH MCKEE: Like to make a motion to adjourn. But before I do so, I want to say thank you to

Chairperson Randall for doing an excellent job today trying to navigate our new way of meeting. And just want to say we had really excellent leadership today in our Chairperson Randall. With that being said, I would like to make a motion to adjourn this meeting.

MICHELLE GUILLORY: I second.

RANDALL BROWN: Does anybody object? Thank you all and have great afternoon.