Executive Committee Summary
August 28, 2023
5615 Corporate Blvd. Ste. 500B, Baton Rouge, LA 70808
LIVE Streamed Via YouTube

You can watch the meeting here: https://www.youtube.com/@LADDCouncil/streams

You can view the meeting transcript here

Members Present: Kim Basile, Jill Hano (Chair), Angela Harmon

Members Absent: Nicole Banks, Hyacinth McKee

Staff: Stephanie Carmona, Ebony Haven, Hannah Jenkins

Others Present: Marilyn Thornton, Bambi Polotzola

Jill Hano called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM. A quorum was established.

MOTION PASSED: To approve the July 2023 Executive Committee Summary made by Ms. Kim Basile seconded by Ms. Angela Harmon passed without objections or abstentions.

Interim Director Assignment
The committee asked Deputy Director Ebony Haven if she was willing to accept the position as Interim Executive Director upon the departure of the current ED, Amy Deaville. Ms. Haven stated she was willing to accept the position.

MOTION PASSED: To appoint Ebony Haven as Interim Executive Director upon the departure of Executive Director Amy Deaville effective September 1st, 2023 made by Kim Basile, seconded by Angela Harmon passed without objections or abstentions.

Ms. Haven informed the committee a salary would need to be determined for the Interim Executive Director.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
At 10:17 AM, a motion by Kim Basile, seconded by Angela Harmon to enter into executive session to discuss the salary amount for the Interim Executive Director passed without objections or abstentions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION CONCLUDED
At 10:40 AM, the committee ended its Executive Session and the public meeting was called to order at 10:42 AM. A quorum was established.

MOTION PASSED: To set the Interim Executive Director salary at $95,000 made by Kim Basile, seconded by Angela Harmon passed without objections or abstentions.
Update on Families Helping Families New Orleans Louisiana (FHF NOLA)

EXECUTIVE SESSION
At 10:45 AM, a motion by Angela Harmon, seconded by Kim Basile to enter into executive session to discuss Families Helping Families of New Orleans (FHF NOLA) passed without objections or abstentions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION CONCLUDED
At 11:10 AM, the committee ended its Executive Session and the public meeting was called to order at 11:12 AM. A quorum was established.

Ms. Haven explained during the July 20, 2023 Council meeting the Full Council passed a motion stating:

The Self-Determination and Community Inclusion Committee recommends the Council continue its contract with FHF NOLA at its current funding level but require the following be provided:

- Quarterly report submitted to the Committee and Council staff detailing the concerns noted in their Fiscal Year 2021 and 2022 audit and actions taken to address and mitigate those concerns. Data to support those changes should also be included such as copies of updated policies and procedures, findings when completing updated analyses as recommended in the audit, any trends identified, etc.
- Leadership assessment to determine current needs within management, including all directors, assistant directors and supervisors, and a detailed and specific plan of the actions that are being taken to address all identified needs.
- Non-recurring portion of their funding is to pay down debts.

The Executive Director contacted the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) Bureau of Legal Services to determine if the third condition would be permissible with the use of State General Funds. The LDH Bureau of Legal Services issued an opinion, but noted the opinion is confidential and privileged. However, the opinion could be shared with the DD Council. Therefore, the committee had to enter Executive Session to discuss the update.

At this point, Kim Basile assumed the responsibility of Chair on behalf of Jill Hano. Ms. Basile explained she sits on the Board for Bayou Land Families Helping Families, and she would abstain from the discussion and any votes made to avoid any conflict of interest. This allowed Ms. Hano to participate fully in the discussion and vote when necessary.

MOTION PASSED: To place Families Helping Families of New Orleans on a probationary period for Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24), withhold the additional $56,390 from their contract appropriation for FY24, and discontinue all funding in FY25 should the Center not meet all intended outcomes in the Council’s original July 2023 motion to the Council’s satisfaction made by Angela Harmon, seconded by Jill Hano passed without objections

Jill Hano then resumed Chair responsibilities. The floor was then opened to the public for comment. None were received.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:19 AM by unanimous consent.