

2015 Mississippi Autism Board Minutes July 10, 2015

The first meeting of the Mississippi Autism Board (“Board”) was called to order on Thursday, July 10, 2015, at 11:10 a.m. at the Secretary of State’s Office in the Heber Ladner Building, 401 Mississippi Street, Jackson, Mississippi.

Attendees: Kasee Stratton - Secretary, James Moore - Chairman, Nicole Boyd, Emily Johnson, Mississippi Secretary of State Delbert Hosemann, Preston Goff – Assistant Secretary of State, Mississippi Secretary of State, Nathan Upchurch – Legislative Director, Mississippi Secretary of State, and Curtis Anders – Staff Attorney, Mississippi Secretary of State

Welcome and Introduction

Preston Goff, Assistant Secretary of State, gave opening remarks and welcomed everyone to the meeting. After the introduction, Mr. Goff turned control of the meeting over to the Board members: Dr. James (“Jim”) Moore, Dr. Kasee Stratton, Dr. Emily Johnson, and Nicole Boyd.

First Matter of Business

The first matter of business brought by the Board regarded recognizing both Dr. Johnson and Dr. Moore as Licensed Behavioral Analysts. A motion was made, and then seconded, to accept the licensure of both Dr. Moore and Dr. Johnson. The board then unanimously passed the motion.

Second Matter of Business

The second matter of business brought by the Board was to elect a Chairman of the Board. Dr. Stratton recommended Dr. Moore to serve as Chairman. A motion was made to elect Dr. Moore as Chairman; the motion was then seconded, and subsequently unanimously passed.

Third Matter of Business

The third matter of business brought by the Board was to elect a Secretary of the Board. Chairman Moore recommended Dr. Stratton to serve as Secretary. A motion was made to elect Dr. Stratton as Secretary; the motion was seconded, and subsequently unanimously passed.

Fourth Matter of Business

The fourth matter of business brought by the Board was to review the requirements of the Open Meetings Act. Secretary of State Staff Attorney Curtis Anders led the discussion, discussing each of the requirements.

Fifth Matter of Business

The fifth matter of business brought by the Board was to authorize both the Chairman and the Secretary with the authority to perform all acts necessary to comply with the requirements of the Open Meetings Act. Chairman Moore motioned to entrust the Chair and Secretary with this authority, and the motion was seconded. The Board then unanimously passed the motion.

Discussion

Dr. Johnson presented a question to the Board regarding the procedure of members of the public who may attend future Board meetings to engage in conversations with the Board. The Board, noting the importance of the issue, made this topic an agenda point for the next Board meeting. The Board also made it an agenda point for the next meeting to discuss the Board website and logo.

Sixth Matter of Business

The sixth matter of business brought by the Board was to set up the regular meeting location for the Board. Chairman Moore moved to set the second floor conference room of the Heber Ladner Building, 401 Mississippi Street, Jackson, MS as the location. The motion was seconded, and subsequently unanimously passed by the Board.

Seventh Matter of Business

The seventh matter of business brought by the Board was to set the dates for the regular Board meetings. Chairman Moore suggested every third Friday in January and July as the times for the regular Board meetings. After a discussion on the matter, a motion was made to make every third Friday in January and July the times for the regular Board meeting. The motion was then seconded, and then unanimously passed.

Eighth Matter of Business

The eighth matter of business of the Board was brought to authorize the Chairman and Secretary of the Board to allow applications for licenses with fingerprints to be sent the Dept. of Public Safety for a background check. A motion was made to authorize the Chairman and Secretary with this authority. The motion was then seconded and unanimously passed.

Discussion

The Board engaged in discussions about when it should meet next. All board members agreed to meet sooner rather than later in order to discuss and complete various matters. The Board also discussed agenda points for the next Board meeting, agreeing that regulations and application forms should be discussed.

Ninth Matter of Business

The eighth matter of business brought by the Board regarded setting a time for the next Board meeting. After a general discussion, the Board members agreed they should meet on July 24th, 2015 at 11 a.m. at the Heber Ladner Building, 401 Mississippi Street, Jackson, MS. A motion was made to set this time and location for the next Board meeting. The motion was seconded, and subsequently unanimously passed.

Closing Remarks

In closing, Chairman Moore thanked everyone for their attendance and noted there was a lot of work ahead. He mentioned how privileged he felt to work with everyone and to be elected Chairman of the Board. Lastly, he stated how he believed the Board could achieve all of its goals and, most importantly, better the lives of the children of the State of Mississippi.

Conclusion of the Meeting

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.