

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION SERVICES
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 15, 2011

Mr. Roger McCullough, board chair, called the meeting to order at 10:14 a.m. in the large conference room at the state office of the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services.

Dr. Cary Boswell opened the meeting with prayer.

Board members present were Mr. Roger McCullough, Mr. Mitch Strickland, Mrs. Patricia Floyd, Mr. David Brock, Dr. Stephen G. Kayes, and Mr. Jimmie Varnado. A quorum was declared.

Verification of the Open Meeting Act Notice:

Mrs. Bull verified that the Alabama Board of Rehabilitation Services meeting for April 15, 2011, had been posted on the Secretary of State's website Dec. 21, 2010.

Approval of Minutes from December 17, 2010:

Minutes of the Jan. 14, 2011, ADRS board meeting were mailed prior to the meeting. Mr. McCullough asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the Jan. 14, 2011, board meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Varnado and seconded by Mr. Brock. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Approval of Agenda:

Mr. McCullough asked for a motion to approve the agenda. The motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Brock and seconded by Mr. Varnado. The agenda was approved unanimously.

New Business:

Review of Early Intervention and Other Rules:

Mr. Simpson stated that after publishing the rules for public comment that there were no comments. Mr. Simpson asked the board to approve and adopt the proposed rule changes.

Mr. McCullough made a motion to amend Rule Nos. 795-3-1.04 Procedural Safeguards, 795-3-1-.06 Forms Appendix, 795-2-3-.07 Hearing Officer's Decision and Recommendation, as proposed. Further, he moved to repeal Rule Nos. 795-2-3-.08 Commissioner's Review and Final Order, and 795-2-3-.09 Application for Rehearing. The motion was seconded by Dr. Kayes. The proposed rule changes were approved and adopted unanimously.

Updates to Division Reports:

Updates were given in each division to their reports.

Mr. McCullough stated that he would like to publicly thank the staff who worked on the Rehab News. Mr. McCullough stated that this publication was a great information tool and he learned a lot by reading it.

Commissioner's Comments:

Dr. Boswell stated that he and staff were still working hard on getting more funding from the Legislature for the department. The commissioner said he is meeting with key legislators with important funding information to carry our message to other legislators.

Announcements:

ADRS board meetings for 2011:

Aug. 19, 2011 – 10:00 a.m. State Office Large Conference Room

Oct. 14, 2011 – 10:00 a.m. State Office Large Conference Room

Board Business/Discussion:

Ratification of Lease Agreements:

Mr. Simpson stated that in reviewing all of the past board minutes that he could not find where in a public meeting the board gave the Commissioner authority to sign all leases and contracts. Mr. Simpson expressed the importance that the Commissioner have this authority, because if this was one that the board would like to keep it would require them to meet at least once a week and sometimes more than that to keep up with the signing of these documents.

Mr. McCullough made a motion to ratify all leases of real and personal property entered into by former Commissioners of the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services since its creation on January 1, 1995, until today, April 15, 2011, and to delegate the duty to hold, lease, or rent real or personal property to the present and all future Commissioners unless and until the Board of Rehabilitation Services votes to rescind this delegation. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Floyd. Ratification of lease agreements was approved unanimously.

Dr. Kayes asked that a friendly amendment be added that a list of all leases and contracts be given to them in board reports so that each of them will know with what real and personal properties the department is contracting.

Mr. McCullough adjourned the meeting at 12:20 a.m.

Minutes were taken by LeAnne Bull.

Respectfully submitted: 
Cary F. Boswell, Commissioner


Approved: Roger McCullough, Chair