

MINUTES
OF
THE DEEP EAST TEXAS REGIONAL
MENTAL HEALTH MENTAL RETARDATION SERVICES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Thursday, October 31, 1974
Lufkin, Texas

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Ward R. Burke, Chairman
Mr. W. J. Gentry, Vice Chairman
Mr. V. B. Woods, Treasurer
Mr. George Gee

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. R. B. Hille, Secretary
Mr. Cleo Hines
Judge Emmett Lack
Judge Tom D. Mann
Rev. Jerry Self

OTHERS PRESENT:

David Wade, M.D., Consultant
Dr. Wayne Lawrence, DETRMHMRS
Mr. Leonard Baxter "
Mrs. Betty L. Ecker "
Mr. Larry Davis "
Mrs. Linda Foley "
Mr. S. H. Morrison, Jr. "
Mrs. Lee Mayberry "
Mrs. Liz Nicholson "
Mr. Bob West "
Doug Nicholson, Lufkin Workshop & Opportunity Center, Inc.
A. M. Hewitt "
W. W. Beaver, Lufkin State School
Autry Foley, "
Mrs. Ward Burke, Lufkin Council for Retarded Children
Andrew Roberts, Texas Rehabilitation Commission
George W. Moore, "
Mrs. Victoria Gentry, Crockett
Mrs. Lois Gee, Jasper
Nellie Williams, Livingston
Helen L. Malone, DPW, Livingston
Rev. Bob Lewis, Lufkin
Billie Cardwell, Lufkin
Garland Picou, Lufkin
Brenda Davis, Lufkin

Guest List, Cont'd:

Dr. Bruce E. Bailey, SFAU, Nacogdoches	
Kurt Johnson	"
Roy Tonai	"
Dee Evans	"
Rhonda Cross	"
William McCullen	"
Merle Walker	"
John Fanning	"
Rick Rose	"

The meeting was held in the Harvest Room of the Lufkin Federal Savings and Loan Association at Lufkin, Texas. Rev. B. H. Lewis, President of the Angelina County Ministerial Alliance, gave the Invocation. Chairman Burke expressed appreciation to the guests in attendance and said that due to many factors, including the inclement weather, attendance by Board Members was less than that required to establish a quorum; that no business would be conducted; and that the agenda items would be postponed until the next meeting.

Mr. Burke introduced David Wade, M.D., Psychiatric Consultant, and asked Dr. Wade to give a report of his three-day consultation visit with the Deep East Texas Regional Mental Health Mental Retardation Services. Following is a brief summary of Dr. Wade's comments.

Dr. Wade said that the DETRMHMRS is a 13-county project which was the first MHMR program to be initiated on a regional basis. Other MHMR Centers throughout the State have been established on a local basis and have expanded outreach services to include rural areas, whereas the DETRMHMRS began as a regional program to begin with. By incorporating already-existing facilities in various cities in the area, this agency is already operating. The DETRMHMRS has done more in the past six months than is generally done in up to two years. Most centers, said Dr. Wade, do not offer services until after two years of planning is done--this community center had the good sense to utilize the planning that had been done by the Deep East Texas Council of Governments and by Dr. Bruce Bailey of Stephen F. Austin University on a Hogg Foundation Grant. He said one of the strong points is the excellent cooperation the DETRMHMRS has received from the different institutions and agencies in the area.

Dr. Wade made the following recommendations to the Board:

1. A full-time medical administrative consultant with psychiatric training be employed to work with the staff and the medical community in the region. This person would be expected

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to take care of the inpatient and outpatient programs, to form a liaison with the medical societies and individual physicians and inform them of the resources available through this regional center, and to form a liaison with the State institutions in and adjacent to the region.

2. He cautioned the Board that the general public in the DET region has been waiting so long for this type service that they are extremely responsive; and that their expectation level is somewhat high which could possibly lead to some degree of disillusionment on the part of some when expectations are going to exceed the ability to deliver because of lack of funding and manpower.

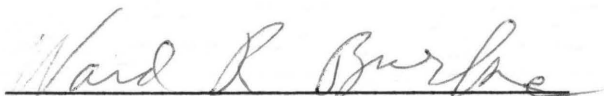
3. He said there is the need to change from county-line thinking to regional thinking, and suggested that the Board might consider dividing the region into three major service areas. They might include Houston, Polk, San Jacinto, and Trinity counties in one area; Angelina, Nacogdoches, Sabine, San Augustine, and Shelby counties in a second area; and Hardin, Jasper, Newton, and Tyler counties in the third area. He said more efficiency would be gained by having a full-range of services in each of the three areas, rather than thinking in terms of counties.

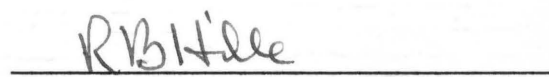
Dr. Wade expressed his opinion that if these recommendations were followed, and with the staff the DETRMHMRS has and the support of the general public, the program will be a tremendous success.

Dr. Wade was asked about the resistance the DETRMHMRS had received from the medical establishment in Angelina County. He replied that the situation was "par for the course," and that the other Community MHMR Centers had experienced the same difficulties which were resolved once shown how the delivery system worked. Dr. Wade commented he felt that this was just a nuisance and not a real problem.

Chairman Burke expressed the Board's appreciation to Dr. Wade for his time, efforts, and interest in the Services, and the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

APPROVED:


Ward R. Burke, Chairman


R. B. Hille, Secretary