

**A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE LIVING WELL FOUNDATION
ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2024, AT 7:30 A.M.
AT THE WMWO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
112 PROFESSIONAL DRIVE, WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA 71291**

MINUTES

Members Present:

Jim Allbritton- Chair
Todd Burgess
Shelby Sanchez Corral
P. Michelle Getret-Ford
Melanie Massey Groves
Dr. Bob Huffstutter
Ken Phillips
Chris Pittard
Christine Rambo
Doug Seegers
Brandon Welch

Members Absent:

Alberta Green (resigned)

Staff Present:

Alice M. Prophit, President/CEO
Monica Turner, Executive Assistant,
Secretary/Treasurer

Others Present:

Doug Caldwell, Foundation Attorney

Mr. Allbritton called the meeting to order, and the presence of a quorum was verified.

Minutes – The minutes from the May 9, 2024, meeting were reviewed. There being no changes, upon motion by Mr. Seegers, seconded by Mr. Pittard, the minutes were unanimously approved by all members then present (7 -0).

June 2024 Financial Statements – A review was then held on the June 2024 financial statements, including the Argent statement, and the bond and cash flow worksheets. The increase in income as detailed on the bond worksheet was noted, due to reinvested bonds at higher interest rates. All expense areas were reported as within or under budget. There was no deficit noted in the month or year to date. After discussion, upon motion by Mr. Welch, seconded by Mr. Seegers, the June 2024 financial statements were unanimously approved by all members then present (10-0). This item will be presented to the HSD #1 Board of Commissioners for their quarterly review.

Items to consider from the Programs/Grant Review Committee:

Consideration of Potential Conflicts of Interest – Prior to the discussion of grant applications for funding, the potential conflict of interest disclosure statements as submitted from Board directors were considered.

Mrs. Massey Groves provided information pertaining to her conflict disclosures regarding the applicants, CommuniHealth Services, Inc., and Children's Coalition of NELA. and exited the meeting.

The potential conflict of interest for Mrs. Massey Groves was then considered regarding the grant applicant, CommuniHealth Services, Inc. After discussion, upon motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Pittard, the following was unanimously approved by all members then present (9-0), to wit;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has received and reviewed the Notice of Potential Conflict of Interest presented to the Board by Mrs. Massey Groves with respect to the grant applicant, CommuniHealth Services, Inc, and has had the opportunity to propound questions to her regarding the relationship disclosed;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has discussed, without the presence of the foregoing individual, whether she has a conflict of interest with respect to the grant application;

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that Mrs. Massey Groves DOES have a conflict of interest with respect to the grant application disclosed and may not participate in any discussion or vote relating to those matters.

The potential conflict of interest for Mrs. Massey Groves was then considered regarding the grant applicant, Children's Coalition for NELA. After discussion, upon motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Burgess, the following was unanimously approved by all members then present (9-0), to wit;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has received and reviewed the Notice of Potential Conflict of Interest presented to the Board by Mrs. Massey Groves with respect to the grant applicant, Children's Coalition of NELA, and has had the opportunity to propound questions to her regarding the relationship disclosed;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has discussed, without the presence of the foregoing individual, whether she has a conflict of interest with respect to the grant application;

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that Mrs. Massey Groves DOES have a conflict of interest with respect to the grant application disclosed and may not participate in any discussion or vote relating to those matters.

Mrs. Massey Groves then rejoined the meeting. Mrs. Rambo arrived to the meeting at this time.

Dr. Huffstutter then provided additional information to his conflict disclosure regarding the applicant, Boys and Girls Club of North Louisiana, and thereafter exited the meeting. After discussion, upon motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Burgess, the following was unanimously approved by all members then present (10-0), to wit;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has received and reviewed the Notice of Potential Conflict of Interest presented to the Board by Dr. Huffstutter with respect to the grant applicant, Boys and Girls Club of North Louisiana, and has had the opportunity to propound questions to him regarding the relationship disclosed;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has discussed, without the presence of the foregoing individual, whether he has a conflict of interest with respect to the grant application;

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors determines that Dr. Huffstutter DOES NOT have a conflict of interest with respect to the grant application and may participate in the discussion or vote relating to those matters.

Dr. Huffstutter then rejoined the meeting.

After providing further information to her conflict disclosures regarding the applicants, Children's Coalition for NELA, Serving With a Purpose, and the Center for Children and Families, Mrs. Rambo exited the meeting.

The Board then considered the conflict disclosure for Mrs. Rambo regarding the two project requests from the Children's Coalition for NELA. After discussion, upon motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mrs. Sanchez Corral, the following was unanimously approved by all members then present (10-0), to wit;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has received and reviewed the Notice of Potential Conflict of Interest presented to the Board by Mrs. Rambo with respect to the grant applicant, Children's Coalition for NELA, and has had the opportunity to propound questions to her regarding the relationship disclosed;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has discussed, without the presence of the foregoing individual, whether she has a conflict of interest with respect to the grant applications;

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that Mrs. Rambo DOES have a conflict of interest with respect to the grant applications disclosed and may not participate in any discussions or votes relating to those matters.

The Board then considered the conflict disclosures for Mrs. Rambo regarding the applicants, Serving With a Purpose and the Center for Children and Families. After discussion, upon motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mrs. Massey Groves, the following was unanimously approved by all members then present (10-0), to wit;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has received and reviewed the Notice of Potential Conflict of Interest presented to the Board by Mrs. Rambo with respect to the grant applicants, Serving With a Purpose and the Center for Children and Families, and has had the opportunity to propound questions to her regarding the relationships disclosed;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has discussed, without the presence of the foregoing individual, whether she has a conflict of interest with respect to the grant applications;

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that Mrs. Rambo DOES NOT have a conflict of interest with respect to the grant applications disclosed and may participate in the discussions or votes relating to those matters.

Mr. Allbritton provided information pertaining to his conflict disclosures regarding the grant applicants, BRFHH Holdings dba Ochsner/LSU Health Monroe, CommuniHealth Services, HSD #1 of Franklin Parish dba Franklin Medical Center, HSD #1A of Richland Parish dba Richland Parish Hospital, HSD #1B of Richland parish dba Richardson Medical Center, Pinnacle Family Health Center, St. Francis Medical Center, and Union General Hospital, and thereafter exited the meeting. After discussion, and based upon the same defined relationship regarding all these applicants, upon motion by Dr. Huffstutter, seconded by Mr. Phillips, the following was unanimously approved by all members then present (10-0), to wit;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has received and reviewed the Notice of Potential Conflicts of Interest presented to the Board by Mr. Allbritton with respect to the grant applicants, BRFHH Holdings dba Ochsner/LSU Health Monroe, CommuniHealth Services, HSD #1 of Franklin Parish dba Franklin Medical Center, HSD #1A of Richland Parish dba Richland Parish hospital, HSD #1B of Richland Parish dba Richardson Medical Center, Pinnacle Family Health Center, St. Francis Medical Center, and Union General Hospital, and has had the opportunity to propound questions to him regarding the relationships disclosed;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has discussed, without the presence of the foregoing individual, whether he has a conflict of interest with respect to the grant applications;

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that Mr. Allbritton DOES NOT have a conflict of interest with respect to the grant applications disclosed and may participate in any discussions or votes relating to those matters.

Mr. Allbritton then rejoined the meeting.

Mr. Burgess provided information pertaining to his conflict disclosure regarding the applicant, Seeker Springs, and exited the meeting. After discussion, upon motion by Mrs. Getret-Ford, seconded by Dr. Huffstutter, the following was unanimously approved by all members then present (10-0), to wit;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has received and reviewed the Notice of Potential Conflict of Interest presented to the Board by Mr. Burgess with respect to the grant applicant, Seeker Springs, and has had the opportunity to propound questions to him regarding the relationship disclosed;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has discussed, without the presence of the foregoing individual, whether he has a conflict of interest with respect to the grant application;

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that Mr. Burgess DOES NOT have a conflict of interest with respect to the grant application disclosed and may participate in the discussion or vote relating to those matters.

Mr. Burgess then rejoined the meeting.

Mr. Phillips provided information pertaining to his conflict disclosure regarding the applicant, Seeker Springs, and exited the meeting. After discussion, upon motion by Mr. Seegers, seconded by Mrs. Sanchez Corral, the following was unanimously approved by all members then present (10-0), to wit;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has received and reviewed the Notice of Potential Conflict of Interest presented to the Board by Mr. Phillips with respect to the grant applicant, Seeker Springs, and has had the opportunity to propound questions to him regarding the relationship disclosed;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has discussed, without the presence of the foregoing individual, whether he has a conflict of interest with respect to the grant application;

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that Mr. Phillips DOES have a conflict of interest with respect to the grant application disclosed and may not participate in any discussion or vote relating to those matters.

Mr. Phillips then rejoined the meeting.

Mr. Pittard provided information pertaining to his conflict disclosure regarding the grant applicants, HSD #1 of Franklin Parish dba Franklin Medical Center, HSD #1A of Richland Parish dba Richland Parish Hospital, HSD #1B of Richland Parish dba Richardson Medical Center, St. Francis Medical Center, and Union General Hospital, and thereafter exited the meeting. After discussion, and based upon the same defined relationship for all these applicants, upon motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mrs. Massey Groves, the following was unanimously approved by all members then present (10-0), to wit;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has received and reviewed the Notice of Potential Conflicts of Interest presented to the Board by Mr. Pittard with respect to the grant applicants, HSD #1 of Franklin Parish dba Franklin Medical Center, HSD #1A of Richland Parish dba Richland Parish Hospital, HSD #1B of Richland Parish dba Richardson Medical Center, St. Francis Medical Center, and Union General Hospital, and has had the opportunity to propound questions to him regarding the relationships disclosed;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has discussed, without the presence of the foregoing individual, whether he has a conflict of interest with respect to the grant applications;

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that Mr. Pittard DOES have a conflict of interest with respect to the grant applications disclosed and may not participate in any discussions or votes relating to those matters.

Mr. Pittard then rejoined the meeting.

Consideration of Funding for Grant Cycle 2024 Applications – A summary of the cycle was then presented. Within the grant cycle, there were 38 grant applications at a total request of \$1,815,274, in addition to 3 applications regarding school-based health centers (SBHCs) at \$406,823. The budget for the Cycle now included \$550,000 for grant requests and \$350,000 for the SBHC initiative, as recently amended by the Finance/Investment Committee, pending final approval by the Board and HSD #1 Board of Commissioners.

The applications were then considered for funding. It was noted that all applications were impressive and with merit. All were reminded that Board members with determined conflicts would exit the meeting at the appropriate times.

Within the School-Based Health Center Initiative budget, the Board first considered the school-based health centers (SBHCs) requests in the cycle. It was again noted that the SBHC Initiative budget is \$350,000 and is separate from the Grant Cycle 2024 budget.

Mrs. Massey Groves then exited the meeting due to the determined conflict.

CommuniHealth Services, Inc. – “Downsville Community Clinic Renovation (SBHC Project)” – requested \$250,000 of \$585,000 total project, to renovate the existing SBHC clinic at the Downsville Charter School; and, provide more capacity for exams and telehealth. It was noted that this clinic serves as both a SBHC and an FQHC (federally qualified health center) for the community. It was also noted that CommuniHealth Services is a collaborative partner with the Foundation for SBHCs within the region under their reimbursement model. Recommendation was made by the Committee to partially fund this request at \$150,000.

Upon motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Welch, the following was unanimously approved by all members then present (10-0), to-wit;

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that as Mrs. Massey Groves did have a potential conflict of interest with respect to the grant application or the grant applicant, she has refrained from participation in the discussion and the vote relating to those matters, and it is not appropriate under the circumstances to appoint a disinterested person or committee to investigate alternatives.

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that (a) the Foundation cannot obtain a more advantageous arrangement with reasonable efforts from another person or entity that would give rise to a conflict of interest, (b) the proposed grant application is in the Foundation's best interest and for its own benefit, and (c) the proposed grant application is fair and reasonable to the Foundation.

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors, having evaluated the proposed grant application in light of the Foundation's grant selection factors, any staff reports, and the Committee's considerations, hereby approves the application for a partially funded grant award of \$150,000 subject to the negotiation and execution of a formal written grant agreement and, as required under the Foundation's Bylaws, subject to the approval of the Board of Commissioners of the Hospital Service District No.1 of the Parish of Ouachita.

Mrs. Massey Groves rejoined the meeting at this time, and Mr. Pittard exited the meeting due to the determined conflict.

HSD #1A of the Parish of Richland, State of LA, dba Richland Parish Hospital – “Mind Matters: Strengthening Student Mental Health Project (SBHC Project)” – requested \$19,557 of \$83,054 total project, to add mental health counselors and provide specialized child trauma therapy services; and, expand the services at the SBHC. It was noted that the Foundation funded the startup of the SBHC mental health services at Mangham in the last cycle. Recommendation was made by the Committee to partially fund this request at \$15,000. Upon motion by Mr. Seegers, seconded by Mr. Burgess, the following was unanimously approved by all members then present (10-0), to-wit;

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that as Mr. Pittard did have a potential conflict of interest with respect to the grant application or the grant applicant, he has refrained from participation in the discussion and the vote relating to those matters, and it is not appropriate under the circumstances to appoint a disinterested person or committee to investigate alternatives.

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that (a) the Foundation cannot obtain a more advantageous arrangement with reasonable efforts from another person or entity that would give rise to a conflict of interest, (b) the proposed grant application is in the Foundation's best interest and for its own benefit, and (c) the proposed grant application is fair and reasonable to the Foundation.

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors, having evaluated the proposed grant application in light of the Foundation's grant selection factors, any staff reports, and the Committee's considerations, hereby approves the application for a partially funded grant award of \$15,000 for personnel, equipment, and supplies, subject to the negotiation and execution of a formal written grant agreement and, as required under the Foundation's Bylaws, subject to the approval of the Board of Commissioners of the Hospital Service District No.1 of the Parish of Ouachita.

Mr. Pittard remained out of the meeting due to the determined conflict.

HSD #1B of the Parish of Richland, State of LA, dba Richardson Medical Center – “SBHC Expansion” – requested \$137,266 of \$137,266 total project, to expand their SBHC model to 3 new sites (Rayville Elementary, Start Elementary, and Holly Ridge Elementary); and, provide supplies and personnel (nurse and social worker). It was noted that the Foundation funded AEDs to the hospital in the last grant cycle. Recommendation was made by the Committee to partially fund this request at \$135,000.

Upon motion by Mr. Burgess, seconded by Mrs. Rambo, the following was unanimously approved by all members then present (10-0), to-wit;

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that as Mr. Pittard did have a potential conflict of interest with respect to the grant application or the grant applicant, he has refrained from participation in the discussion and the vote relating to those matters, and it is not appropriate under the circumstances to appoint a disinterested person or committee to investigate alternatives.

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that (a) the Foundation cannot obtain a more advantageous arrangement with reasonable efforts from another person or entity that would give rise to a conflict of interest, (b) the proposed grant application is in the Foundation's best interest and for its own benefit, and (c) the proposed grant application is fair and reasonable to the Foundation.

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors, having evaluated the proposed grant application in light of the Foundation's grant selection factors, any staff reports, and the Committee's considerations, hereby approves the application for a partially funded grant award of \$135,000, subject to the negotiation and execution of a formal written grant agreement and, as required under the Foundation's Bylaws, subject to the approval of the Board of Commissioners of the Hospital Service District No.1 of the Parish of Ouachita.

Mr. Pittard then rejoined the meeting.

After the determination of awards for SBHC projects, it was noted that the total funding within the SBHC Initiative was now \$300,000 as approved. These three SBHC projects will all be presented to the HSD #1 Board of Commissioners for approval due to the determined conflicts of interest.

Next, the Board considered grants which were recommended for no funding in this cycle by the Programs/Grant Review Committee based on various rationale or criteria within the service area and the project goals, as well as comparable projects within the grant cycle. As information from the Committee, it was also recommended that transportation vehicles or vans would not be funded in this cycle until further specific criteria could be established for future cycles by the Committee and Board.

Alzheimer's Association – "Expansion of Support Groups & Education in Rural Parishes" – requested \$56,000 of \$62,500 total project, for providing a regional program coordinator and supplies; recruit and train volunteers; and, set up new support groups in long-term care and community centers. It was noted that there were other local activities through ULM and other grant requests for similar services.

BK Mentoring, Inc. – "TKO Bullying Self-Defense Class" – requested \$15,000 of \$15,000 total project, for providing support for the instructor/director; teach non-contact boxing fitness course to improve mental toughness for kids related to bullying and problem-solving skills; and, provide food/snacks/equipment. It was noted there were many requests this cycle for youth mentoring programming.

Hunters for the Hungry LA – "Freshly Harvested Game Program-Feral Hogs & Deer" – requested \$25,000 of \$450,000 total project, for processing fees for NELA wild game processors in order to supply protein sources to area food banks for under-served populations. It was noted that the Foundation funded freezers for the organization last cycle, and that the state and BCBSLA Foundation funds this organization.

LA Center for the Blind – "Increasing Healthcare Access by Blind People in Lincoln Parish" – requested \$35,000 of \$82,200 total project, for assistance to purchase a minivan to transport blind students/staff to medical, activity, and other settings. It was reported that the Foundation has funded the organization in the past for other services, and that it had been recommended and agreed that no vehicles or vans would be funded in this cycle at this time.

Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center – "Cancer Prevention & Early Detection for the Medically Underserved" – requested \$7,500 of \$141,606 total project, for cancer screening fees and colonoscopy kits; brochures/flyers/snacks; and, advertising costs.

It was noted that the Foundation funded the organization 2 years ago and that a large part of the past funding had been returned due to inability to service the area, and the Foundation did not fund the request last cycle.

NELA Youth, Inc. – “At-Risk Youth Mentoring & Life Skills Training” – requested \$35,000 of \$49,700 total project, for a van for transportation to activities and events. It was noted that vehicles and vans would not be funded in this grant cycle at this time.

Rays of Sonshine – “Project Hope 2024” – requested \$25,325 of \$47,925 total project, to repair and renovate properties; replace A/C units; remove trees; and, replace fencing. It was noted that the Foundation has previously funded the organization for similar needs but did not fund last cycle.

Serving With a Purpose – “Equipped Empowered Emerged Cohorts & Our S.W.A.P. Resource Centers” – requested \$75,000 of \$200,000 total project, to provide facilitators for programming; renovate and outfit space for a supplies closet at a Monroe City school; flyers/posters/brochures; and, provide food/snacks. It was noted that this organization is based in Texas with no local office, and that there were local organizations providing resource closets for schools.

Wellspring Alliance for Families, Inc. – “Youth Empowerment Program” – requested \$96,995 of the \$111,573 total project, to restart a previously-existing youth mentoring program in schools; add new personnel and support existing staff; and, provide supplies for programming. It was noted that the Foundation previously funded this organization for this program prior to the pandemic, and there were several youth mentoring requests within the cycle.

After the considerations of these requests and the recommendation by the Committee for no funding at this time, and no further discussion, nor any revisions requested or recommended, by any Board director, upon motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mrs. Getret-Ford, the recommendation to not fund each of these requests as recommended and presented by the Programs/Grant Review Committee was unanimously approved (11-0).

Considerations then continued for those grant projects which were recommended for funding by the Committee, and which had determined conflicts as voted in this meeting.

Mrs. Massey Groves and Mrs. Rambo both exited the meeting at this time due to the determined conflicts.

Children’s Coalition for NELA – “Signs of Suicide” – requested \$150,000 of \$216,464 total project, for clinical personnel for mental health programming; expand to more middle and high schools (Lincoln, Ouachita, Morehouse, Richland, and Union Parishes); increase involvement with SBHC’s in all parishes; and, hold a youth summit. It was noted that the Foundation has supported this program over several cycles and has begun to focus on an initiative for suicide intervention/prevention. Recommendation was made by the Committee to partially fund this request at \$90,000. Upon motion by Mr. Burgess, seconded by Mr. Phillips, the following was unanimously approved by all members then present (9-0), to wit;

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that as Mrs. Massey Groves and Mrs. Rambo both did have a potential conflict of interest with respect to the grant application or the grant applicant, they have refrained from participation in the discussion and the vote relating to those matters, and it is not appropriate under the circumstances to appoint a disinterested person or committee to investigate alternatives.

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that (a) the Foundation cannot obtain a more advantageous arrangement with reasonable efforts from another person or entity that would give rise to a conflict of interest, (b) the proposed grant application is in the Foundation’s best interest and for its own benefit, and (c) the proposed grant application is fair and reasonable to the Foundation.

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors, having evaluated the proposed grant application in light of the Foundation's grant selection factors, any staff reports, and the Committee's considerations, hereby approves the application for a partially funded grant award of \$90,000 for Signs of Suicide training and including the Youth Summit, subject to the negotiation and execution of a formal written grant agreement and, as required under the Foundation's Bylaws, subject to the approval of the Board of Commissioners of the Hospital Service District No.1 of the Parish of Ouachita.

Mrs. Massey Groves and Mrs. Rambo continued to remain out of the meeting due to the determined conflict.

Children's Coalition for NELA – "4th Judicial District Court Youth Service Planning Board" – requested \$100,000 of \$152,500 total project, for relaunch of a legislative enacted youth service planning board to improve behavioral health issues related to trauma and improve quality clinical care for children/youth; a position for the youth services programming; and, assist to pay consulting fees for the relaunch of the planning board. It was noted that CCNELA serves as fiscal and programming agent for the board. It was further noted that the Foundation has previously attended this board prior to the pandemic and that it is a large collaborative effort by local agencies and the courts. Recommendation was made by the Committee to partially fund this request at \$25,000. Upon motion by Mr. Pittard, seconded by Mr. Burgess, the following was unanimously approved by all members then present (9-0), to wit;

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that as Mrs. Massey Groves and Mrs. Rambo each had a potential conflict of interest with respect to the grant application or the grant applicant, they have refrained from participation in the discussion and the vote relating to those matters, and it is not appropriate under the circumstances to appoint a disinterested person or committee to investigate alternatives.

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that (a) the Foundation cannot obtain a more advantageous arrangement with reasonable efforts from another person or entity that would give rise to a conflict of interest, (b) the proposed grant application is in the Foundation's best interest and for its own benefit, and (c) the proposed grant application is fair and reasonable to the Foundation.

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors, having evaluated the proposed grant application in light of the Foundation's grant selection factors, staff reports, and the Committee's considerations, hereby approves the application for a partially funded grant award of \$25,000, subject to the negotiation and execution of a formal written grant agreement and, as required under the Foundation's Bylaws, subject to the approval of the Board of Commissioners of the HSD No.1 of the Parish of Ouachita.

Mrs. Massey Groves remained out of the meeting due to the determined conflict, and Mrs. Rambo rejoined the meeting.

CommuniHealth Services, Inc. – "Therapy Equipment Project" – requested \$16,445 of \$148,213 total project, for acquiring essential equipment for autism screenings; expand services and add personnel; and, to ensure coverage for services within the setting. It was noted that the Foundation previously funded the ULM Autism Center, and this was the collaborative project to continue services when ULM closed that center. It was also noted that ULM's student intern scheduling was changing at the clinic. Recommendation was made by the Committee to partially fund this request at \$13,300. Upon motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Seegers, the following was unanimously approved by all members then present (10-0), to wit;

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that as Mrs. Massey Groves did have a potential conflict of interest with respect to the grant application or the grant applicant, she has refrained from participation in the discussion and the vote relating to those matters, and it is not appropriate under the circumstances to appoint a disinterested person or committee to investigate alternatives.

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that (a) the Foundation cannot obtain a more advantageous arrangement with reasonable efforts from another person or entity that would give rise to a conflict of interest, (b) the proposed grant application is in the Foundation's best interest and for its own benefit, and (c) the proposed grant application is fair and reasonable to the Foundation.

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors, having evaluated the proposed grant application in light of the Foundation's grant selection factors, any staff reports, and the Committee's considerations, hereby approves the application for a partially funded grant award of \$13,300, subject to the negotiation and execution of a formal written grant agreement and, as required under the Foundation's Bylaws, subject to the approval of the Board of Commissioners of the Hospital Service District No.1 of the Parish of Ouachita.

Mrs. Massey Groves rejoined the meeting. Mr. Phillips then exited the meeting due to the determined conflict.

Seeker Springs – "Team Up" – requested \$15,300 of \$50,495 total project, to expand the youth activity program Team Up to Richland and Franklin Parishes; interactive group sessions; ropes course; work with school counselors and certified facilitators. It was noted that the Foundation assisted in funding the startup of this program several years ago. Recommendation was made to partially fund this request at \$5,000. Upon motion by Mrs. Massey Groves, seconded by Mrs. Getret-Ford, the following was unanimously approved by all members then present (10-0), to wit;

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that as Mr. Phillips did have a potential conflict of interest with respect to the grant application or the grant applicant, he has refrained from participation in the discussion and the vote relating to those matters, and it is not appropriate under the circumstances to appoint a disinterested person or committee to investigate alternatives.

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that (a) the Foundation cannot obtain a more advantageous arrangement with reasonable efforts from another person or entity that would give rise to a conflict of interest, (b) the proposed grant application is in the Foundation's best interest and for its own benefit, and (c) the proposed grant application is fair and reasonable to the Foundation.

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors, having evaluated the proposed grant application in light of the Foundation's grant selection factors, any staff reports, and the Committee's considerations, hereby approves the application for a partially funded grant award of \$5,000, subject to the negotiation and execution of a formal written grant agreement and, as required under the Foundation's Bylaws, subject to the approval of the Board of Commissioners of the Hospital Service District No.1 of the Parish of Ouachita.

Mr. Phillips rejoined the meeting, and Mr. Pittard exited the meeting due to the determined conflict.

Franklin Parish HSD #1 dba Franklin Medical Center – "Rural Track Residency" – requested \$100,000 of \$723,457 total project, to provide subcontractors for telemedicine services by physicians and equipment for a residency program in partnership with Ochsner/LSU Monroe; increase supply of family physicians who are trained in rural areas; and, expand ICU equipment provisions. Recommendation was made by the Committee to partially fund this request at \$15,149. Upon motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Burgess, the following was unanimously approved by all members then present (10-0), to wit;

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that as Mr. Pittard did have a potential conflict of interest with respect to the grant application or the grant applicant, he has refrained from participation in the discussion and the vote relating to those matters, and it is not appropriate under the circumstances to appoint a disinterested person or committee to investigate alternatives.

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that (a) the Foundation cannot obtain a more advantageous arrangement with reasonable efforts from another person or entity that would give rise to a conflict of interest, (b) the proposed grant application is in the Foundation's best interest and for its own benefit, and (c) the proposed grant application is fair and reasonable to the Foundation.

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors, having evaluated the proposed grant application in light of the Foundation's grant selection factors, any staff reports, and the Committee's considerations, hereby approves the application for a partially funded grant award of \$15,149 for the ICU equipment, subject to the negotiation and execution of a formal written grant agreement and, as required under the Foundation's Bylaws, subject to the approval of the Board of Commissioners of the Hospital Service District No.1 of the Parish of Ouachita.

Mr. Pittard remained out of the meeting due to the determined conflict.

St. Francis Medical Center, Inc. – “Beacon Community Connections Expansion” – requested \$50,000 of \$64,000 total project, to expand pilot program for broader impact on ER readmissions, patient access to community services, and bridge gap between medical and social services for patients; serve patients more effectively; increase access to supportive community services; and, use staff more effectively for ER care and patient need. It was noted that the Foundation funded the pilot project last cycle, and that the impact for both the hospital and the individuals for access to services was positive. Recommendation was made by the Committee to partially fund this request at \$15,000. Upon motion by Mr. Welch, seconded by Mrs. Sanchez Corral, the following was unanimously approved by all members then present (10-0), to wit;

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that as Mr. Pittard did have a potential conflict of interest with respect to the grant application or the grant applicant, he has refrained from participation in the discussion and the vote relating to those matters, and it is not appropriate under the circumstances to appoint a disinterested person or committee to investigate alternatives.

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that (a) the Foundation cannot obtain a more advantageous arrangement with reasonable efforts from another person or entity that would give rise to a conflict of interest, (b) the proposed grant application is in the Foundation’s best interest and for its own benefit, and (c) the proposed grant application is fair and reasonable to the Foundation.

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors, having evaluated the proposed grant application in light of the Foundation’s grant selection factors, any staff reports, and the Committee’s considerations, hereby approves the application for a partially funded grant award of \$15,000, subject to the negotiation and execution of a formal written grant agreement and, as required under the Foundation’s Bylaws, subject to the approval of the Board of Commissioners of the Hospital Service District No.1 of the Parish of Ouachita.

Mr. Pittard remained out of the meeting due to the determined conflict.

Union General Hospital – “Enhancing Diagnostic Care with a New Bladder Scanner” – requested \$10,000 of \$25,000 total project, to purchase a scanner for medical diagnoses/care; reduce invasive procedures; provide better care; and, improve diagnostic capabilities. Recommendation was made by the Committee to fully fund this request at \$10,000. Upon motion by Mr. Burgess, seconded by Mrs. Massey Groves, the following was unanimously approved by all members then present (10-0), to wit;

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that as Mr. Pittard did have a potential conflict of interest with respect to the grant application or the grant applicant, he has refrained from participation in the discussion and the vote relating to those matters, and it is not appropriate under the circumstances to appoint a disinterested person or committee to investigate alternatives.

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby determines that (a) the Foundation cannot obtain a more advantageous arrangement with reasonable efforts from another person or entity that would give rise to a conflict of interest, (b) the proposed grant application is in the Foundation’s best interest and for its own benefit, and (c) the proposed grant application is fair and reasonable to the Foundation.

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors, having evaluated the proposed grant application in light of the Foundation’s grant selection factors, any staff reports, and the Committee’s considerations, hereby approves the application for a total funded grant award of \$10,000 for equipment as proposed, subject to the negotiation and execution of a formal written grant agreement and, as required under the Foundation’s Bylaws, subject to the approval of the Board of Commissioners of the Hospital Service District No.1 of the Parish of Ouachita.

Mr. Pittard then rejoined the meeting.

Upon completion of the considerations and approvals for grant requests that had determined conflicts, the Board then considered the requests which were determined to have no conflicts of interest.

Academy of Collaborative Education (ACE) – “After School Care Program” – requested \$116,600 of \$157,350 total project, for providing staff and activities for an after-school program at the newly accredited school for autistic children that could enhance opportunities for autistic children to improve social skills and life skills through continuity of specialty services. Recommendation was made by the Committee to partially fund this request at \$20,000. With no further discussion, revisions, or questions, upon motion by Mrs. Massey Groves, seconded by Mr. Pittard, the recommendation was unanimously approved (11-0).

Ascent Health – “Mangham High/Junior High Band & Choir Support” – requested \$10,000 of \$12,900 total project, for providing equipment for a music program to enhance and address mental health and life skills for youth at a rural school; continue the interest and participation as well as improved academic performance for youth involved in these activities; and, reduce risks for youth related to behavioral issues. It was noted that the Foundation has funded the SBHC at this school with additional funding for mental health capacity. Recommendation was made by the Committee to fully fund this request at \$10,000 as a pilot project. After further discussion, and with no revisions or other questions, upon motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Dr. Huffstutter, the recommendation was unanimously approved (11-0).

Boys and Girls Club of North LA – “Reaching Underserved Youth” – requested \$50,000 of \$120,605 total project, for additional mentors for youth programming in existing settings; grow involvement for new Monroe clubs; and, provide food/snacks/supplies. It was noted the Foundation funded the expansion to the Monroe and Bastrop clubs last cycle. Recommendation was made to partially fund this request at \$21,150 for the personnel. With no further discussion, revisions, or questions, upon motion by Mrs. Massey Groves, seconded by Mrs. Sanchez Corral, the recommendation was unanimously approved (11-0).

BRFHH Monroe LLC dba Ochsner LSU Health Monroe – “Strengthening Rural Trauma Care” – requested \$10,947 of \$25,871 total project, for providing supplies and equipment for a trauma-education course for rural hospitals utilizing evidence based and clinical trauma programming. Recommendation was made to fully fund the request at \$10,947. With no further discussion, revisions, or questions, upon motion by Mrs. Sanchez Corral, seconded by Mr. Seegers, the recommendation was unanimously approved (11-0).

Bright Star Ranch – “Freedom to Flourish – Expansion of Present Program to Include Alzheimer’s Patients and Caregivers” – requested \$23,340 of \$28,590 total project, for addition of equine therapy programming for Alzheimer’s/dementia patients and families; provide supplies and fees/scholarships to pay for services for low-income families; and, purchase specialized riding simulation equipment. It was noted that the Foundation has funded this organization the last 2 grant cycles. Recommendation was made to partially fund the request at \$5,745 for the simulation equipment. After further discussion, and with no revisions or other questions, upon motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Pittard, the recommendation was unanimously approved (11-0).

City of West Monroe – “Police Department Vehicle” – requested \$13,708 of \$15,708 total project, for a specially equipped Royal Crown emergency 4-seat utility cart to access events and activities for emergency medical rescue services where larger vehicles typically cannot access. It was noted that the Foundation funded the Fire Department last cycle for a larger cart for emergency response. Recommendation was made to fully fund the request at \$13,708. With no further discussion, revisions, or questions, upon motion by Mr. Seegers, seconded by Dr. Huffstutter, the recommendation was unanimously approved (11-0).

Jackson Parish Schools – “Wraparound Services” – requested \$8,500 of \$32,700 total project, for fees for dental services from a mobile unit from Shreveport including a dentist and hygienist; and, provide food/snacks for kids. Recommendation was made to partially fund this request at \$6,000 for the mobile dental unit fees. With no further discussion, revisions, or questions, upon motion by Mrs. Massey Groves, seconded by Mr. Burgess, the recommendation was unanimously approved (11-0).

LA Emergency Response Network (LERN) – “Burn & Agricultural Incident Training for Community & Clinicians” – requested \$34,950 of \$47,382 total project, for education for first responders and clinical professionals for trauma and burn-related emergencies. It was noted that the Foundation has previously funded this organization in several cycles for clinical education. Recommendation was made to partially fund this request at \$15,000. With no further discussion, revisions, or questions, upon motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mrs. Massey Groves, the recommendation was unanimously approved (11-0).

Life Choices Pregnancy Resource Center – “Mobile Unit” – requested \$157,300 of \$293,000 total project, to hire a nurse practitioner and finish setup of a mobile unit for pregnancy support services within rural parishes. Recommendation was made to partially fund this request at \$22,000 for the clinical professional personnel. After further discussion, and with no revisions or other questions, upon motion by Mr. Seegers, seconded by Mrs. Getret-Ford, the recommendation was unanimously approved (11-0).

LSU Ag Center – “Read & Ride NELA” – requested \$12,314 of \$12,314 total project, for stationary bikes for an evidence-based fitness program including reading proficiency. It was noted that equipment would remain at the sites upon project completion for future programming. Recommendation was made to fully fund this request at \$12,314 as a pilot project. With no further discussion, revisions, or questions, upon motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Dr. Huffstutter, the recommendation was unanimously approved (11-0).

Mercy Medical Health Center – “Mercy Medicine Medi-Mate” – requested \$83,917 of \$125, 875 total project, for an automated prescription dispensing system; improve patient and medication safety; and, reduce costs associated with medication errors. It was noted that the Foundation has funded this organization in the past, and in the last cycle funded the dental clinic. Recommendation was made to partially fund this request at \$42,000. With no further discussion, revisions, or questions, upon motion by Mr. Burgess, seconded by Mrs. Massey Groves, the recommendation was unanimously approved (11-0).

Ouachita Council on Aging – “Senior Wellness Re-Engagement Initiative” – requested \$30,000 of \$30,000 total project, to provide professional instructors and purchase exercise equipment for expanded physical fitness programs at the regional senior center in Monroe. Recommendation was made to partially fund this request at \$15,000 for the class instructors. With no further discussion, revisions, or questions, upon motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mrs. Sanchez Corral, the recommendation was unanimously approved (11-0).

Pinnacle Family Health, Inc. dba GO CARE Community Health Center – “Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) Testing Program” – requested \$8,471 of \$26,571 total project, to purchase required ADHD assessment testing kits. It was noted that the Foundation funded the dental chairs for a new dental suite last cycle. Recommendation was made to fully fund this request at \$8,471. With no further discussion, revisions, or questions, upon motion by Mrs. Sanchez-Corral, seconded by Mrs. Getret-Ford, the recommendation was unanimously approved (11-0).

The Arc of Ouachita (ARCO) – “Community Inclusion – Building Bridges” – requested \$88,912 of \$487,483 total project, for costs (fuel, maintenance, repairs, insurance) for a government funded van; and, provide bridge funding for required clinical personnel until government funding is secured. It was noted that the Foundation has funded the organization in the past. Recommendation was made to partially fund the request at \$30,000 for the clinical personnel. With no further discussion, revisions, or questions, upon motion by Mr. Welch, seconded by Mr. Burgess, the recommendation was unanimously approved (11-0).

The Center for Children and Families, Inc. – “Children’s Advocacy Center” – requested \$50,000 of \$621,034 total project, for mental health professionals for children suffering from crisis-related trauma (abuse, sex-trafficking, other) due to a recent 40% cut in state funding. It was noted that the Foundation has funded this organization in several past cycles, and that they are a designated and only site for child trauma services through state funding regionally. Recommendation was made to fully fund this request at \$50,000. With no further discussion, revisions, or questions, upon motion by Mrs. Massey Groves, seconded by Mr. Phillips, the recommendation was unanimously approved (11-0).

Town of Farmerville – “Farmerville Teen Center” – requested \$65,000 of \$985,522 total project, to build a music/performance space at the new Teen Center located by the current Boys & Girls Club building; purchase supplies/tools; create a marketing campaign across social media and public radio. It was noted that the Foundation funded the startup of the club last cycle, and that there was large broad-based community and regional support for the project. Recommendation was made to partially fund the request at \$25,000 for the music performance center and other supplies for specialty labs. With no further discussion, revisions, or questions, upon motion by Mrs. Sanchez-Corral, seconded by Mrs. Massey Groves, the recommendation was unanimously approved (11-0).

ULM School of Allied Health – “Dementia Compassion Project Part 2” – requested \$11,400 of \$47,654 total project, to expand and build on the pilot project; provide virtual dementia support and train community and professionals in dementia care/support; provide immersive simulation experiences and build on future education/training; improve quality of life for dementia patients and their caregivers; and, train clinical professionals to better support the population. It was noted that the Foundation funded the startup of this program last cycle, and that community and professional participation and project results had been highly successful. Recommendation was made to fully fund this request at \$11,400. With no further discussion, revisions, or questions, upon motion by Mrs. Massey Groves, seconded by Mr. Phillips, the recommendation was unanimously approved (11-0).

ULM The GERO Institute – “Meeting the Mental Health Needs of the Caregivers of Dementia Patients through Support & Education” – requested \$13,600 of \$23,600 total project, to provide education, mentoring, training for caregivers through face-to-face and virtual programs taught by professionals; provide supplies and materials; and, create a marketing campaign across social media and public radio. It was noted that the Foundation previously funded this project, and it was focused to caregivers and professionals for supportive services with positive results. Recommendation was made to fully fund this request at \$13,600. With no further discussion, revisions, or questions, upon motion by Mr. Burgess, seconded by Dr. Huffstutter, the recommendation was unanimously approved (11-0).

ULM School of Business & Social Studies – “Helping the Elderly Abolish Loneliness using Technology at Home (HEALTH)” – requested \$6,500 of \$10,000 total project, to purchase equipment for telehealth; provide education for digital literacy with seniors; and, provide check-ups on elderly to stem loneliness. Recommendation was made to fully fund this request at \$6,500 as a pilot project. With no further discussion, revisions, or questions, upon motion by Mrs. Massey Groves, seconded by Dr. Huffstutter, the recommendation was unanimously approved (11-0).

Village of Grayson – “Park Playground & Health Equipment ” – requested \$95,201 of \$95,201 total project, to purchase fitness equipment for an existing walking trail; improve access for physically challenged children; and, provide accessible park equipment for outdoor activities. Recommendation was made to partially fund this request at \$12,750 for equipment. With no further discussion, revisions, or questions, upon motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Dr. Huffstutter, the recommendation was unanimously approved (11-0).

Zion Helping Hands, Inc. – “Food Pantry Expansion” – requested \$12,050 of \$52,050 total project, to support this large food provision program; purchase additional freezer and dollies for expanded storage space; and purchase a laptop and printer. It was noted that the Foundation has funded this food disparity project for Morehouse Parish for 2 years for other needs. Recommendation was made to partially fund this request at \$7,500 for equipment. With no further discussion, revisions, or questions, upon motion by Mr. Burgess, seconded by Mr. Seegers, the recommendation was unanimously approved (11-0).

Additional information was then provided for the next applicant, The NELA Children’s Museum.

NELA Children's Museum – "Support for the NELCM Healthcare Medical Zone" – The Museum has requested \$100,000 of \$7,500,000 total project, for the healthcare and medical gallery including 1000 square feet within the Career Pathways area of the proposed Museum, and which would include naming rights, assistance in design of the healthcare gallery, and other community projects and collaborations. It was noted that this project offered the Foundation an opportunity for a large community impact project with ongoing local and regional support for the well-being of children. It was noted that the museum has many outreach educational and interactive programs that include at-risk children or those who might not get to come to the museum in Monroe.

It was reported that, to date, over \$4,150,000 has been raised, with other pledges forthcoming from state, Federal, foundation, and other contributors and supporters, and the organization has been very proactive in securing funding and support from the region with a focused plan. It was noted that there were numerous opportunities within programming to improve health and well-being for children, and that there were avenues of interactive programming and education for improving behavioral health. There are also avenues to expose them to future life interests and possible career options, and to build their self-esteem and self-worth. The programming and impact of this organization has been evident in its outreach, involvement of children across all socio-economic areas, and expanded educational offerings.

After discussion, and with focus to the collaborative and networking opportunities within the request, recommendation was made to fully fund the request at \$100,000, and to amend the budget as needed to include this project. With no further discussion, revisions, or questions, upon motion by Mrs. Massey Groves, seconded by Mrs. Getret-Ford, the recommendation was unanimously approved (11-0).

This concluded the consideration of grant applications within the Grant Cycle 2024. As all requests for grants had now been presented, it was determined that the total amount proposed for funding the Grant Cycle 2024 requests, including the school-based health centers, was now \$932,534. All grants with determined conflicts would now be presented to the HSD #1 Board of Commissioners for final approval.

The Board expressed appreciation to the Committee for an efficient and thorough review during the process, as well as to the staff for the details and tools provided on the grants. Dr. Gibson was also recognized for her part in the process and her input as a Board Advisor.

Items to consider from the Finance/Investment Committee:

1st Amendment to the 2024 Operating Budget – An amendment to the 2024 budget was then presented based on increased revenues expected and the determination of awarded grants as now approved.

Upon the recommendation from the Programs/Grant Review Committee, and now approved by the Board of Directors, the grant cycle requirements were now \$632,534, and the SBHC Initiative requirements were now \$300,000, for a total budget of \$932,534 for these two line items. All other line items were amended as applicable for projected 2024 performance at this time. It was noted that the Finance/Investment Committee had previously proposed an amended budget prior to the award of grants, and that the approved grant awards were reasonable within the overall projected operations budget of the Foundation.

Recommendation was made to amend the budget to accommodate the grant awards in total, as well as to adjust for increased revenues and other known variances to the budget. After discussion, upon motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Welch, the recommendation was unanimously approved (11-0). This item will be presented to the HSD #1 Board of Commissioners.

Mrs. Getret-Ford then exited the meeting due to a schedule conflict.

RFP Process for Investment Management – Information was then presented on the request from Argent Financial Group for a rate increase, and the need for the Foundation to conduct a new Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It was noted that the last RFP was conducted in 2019, with determination at that time to remain with Argent based on the lowered fee schedule. Mr. Burgess, as Vice Chair of the Finance/Investment Committee and upon the recent approvals by the Committee to begin the preparation for a process, indicated that he and Mr. Welch, with the President/CEO, would meet to review a format for the process, with a timeline near the first of 2025 or sooner, if possible, upon all required approvals. After further discussion, upon motion by Mr. Burgess, seconded by Mrs. Rambo, the recommendation to pursue planning and structure for the RFP process was unanimously approved by all members then present (10-0).

As time constraints now limited other information or presentation, and all agenda items with votes had been discussed and concluded, and as all remaining agenda items were updates only, the following items were reported in one discussion as information only for the Board at this time. It was noted that all information had previously been forwarded to Board Directors by e-mail.

Investment Portfolio Performance Report – Information from the quarterly portfolio review recently presented to the Finance/Investment Committee by Argent Financial Services was provided to Directors.

2023 Reports – The 2023 audit report, the 2023 Form 990 tax return, and the 2023 compliance certificate, and all previously approved in Committees, were made available for Directors.

Insurance Renewals 2024-2025 – A schedule of insurance, with limits and coverage, was provided to Directors, with an update that renewals are due by October 2024. More information would be forthcoming to the Executive Committee in September as the risk manager reviewed current policies and terms, and applications were submitted for renewal quotes.

No action was necessary on any of these three updates at this time.

Other Comments – Further thanks and commendations were offered regarding the grants considerations and the success of the large cycle. It was reported that Mrs. Rambo has submitted her resignation from the Board of Directors effective August 30, 2024, due to professional conflicts with her time, and she was thanked for her service and grants work.

President/CEO Report – No further report at this time.

Board Chair Report – No further report at this time.

There being no other activities, and no Committee members or members of the public wished to make any further comments, upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.


Chair

Secretary