

MINUTES

ARKANSAS PANS/PANDAS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Monday, June 14, 2021

1:00 PM

Room B, MAC

Little Rock, Arkansas

Advisory Council members present: Senator Kim Hammer, Chair; Representative Les Warren, Vice Chair; Natalie Bradford, Matt Brumley, Ashley Collins, Dan Honey, Cathy Puckett, Sue Tedford, and Joel Tumblison

Other members present: Senator Linda Chesterfield and Representative Johnny Rye

Sen. Hammer called the meeting to order.

Appointment of PANS/PANDAS Advisory Council Member

Ms. Bradford made a motion to appoint Matt Brumley to the PANS/PANDAS Advisory Council, seconded by Rep. Warren, and the motion carried.

Adoption of PANS/PANDAS Advisory Council Rules of Procedure [Exhibit C]

Without objection, the committee adopted the PANS/PANDAS Advisory Council Rules of Procedure.

Consideration of a Motion to Authorize Chairs to Approve Special Expenses Incurred by the Arkansas PANS/PANDAS Advisory Council

Without objection, the committee authorized the Chairs to approve special expenses incurred by the Arkansas PANS/PANDAS Advisory Council.

Consideration to Approve December 4, 2020, Meeting Minutes [Exhibit E]

Rep. Warren made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Brumley, and the motion carried.

Update—University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) Childhood Post-Infectious Autoimmune Encephalopathy (CPAE) Clinic [Exhibit F]

Dr. Aravindhan Veerapandiyan, Co-Medical Director CPAE Clinic-Arkansas Children's Hospital (ACH), Director Comprehensive Neuromuscular Program, and Medical Director Headache Clinic-ACH, Assistant Professor of Pediatric Neurology-UAMS, gave background information on the Regional Center of Excellence and provided a clinical update. Mr. Paul Ryan, Co-Founder and President, PACE Foundation, gave a brief overview of the PACE Foundation. Mr. Michael Keck, UAMS Institutional Relations Liaison, provided an overview of the Regional Center of Excellence collaboration between UAMS and ACH, its leadership changes, and the Center's full time nurse.

Discussion of Acts 430, 637, and 1054 of 2021 [Exhibit G]

Ms. Alix Stephens, Legislative Attorney, Bureau of Legislative Research (BLR), explained Acts 430, 637, and 1054 of 2021. Ms. Jessica Beel, Legislative Attorney, BLR, explained Act 637 authorizes the Arkansas Medicaid Program to provide coverage for off-label use of drug treatments including IVIG, to Medicaid beneficiaries who are diagnosed with PANS/PANDAS.

Discussion of Subcommittees

Sen. Hammer announced Rep. Cloud as the Chair of the Education Subcommittee and Rep. Warren as the Chair of the Outreach Subcommittee.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.