

SLDS Governing Board

First Floor East Conference Room
Woolfolk Building
501 North West Street
Jackson, MS

MINUTES

January 16, 2020

In Attendance:

Dr. Andrea Mayfield, Executive Director, Mississippi Community College Board
Dr. Thomas Dobbs, State Health Officer, Mississippi Department of Health
Dr. Adam Swanson, MGCCC Representative
Ms. Audrey McAfee, Management Information Systems Director, Mississippi Department of Corrections
Mr. Chris Howard, Executive Director, Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services
Mr. Jacob Black, Mississippi Department of Human Services Representative
Mr. Mike McGrevey, Mississippi Development Authority Representative
Dr. Kim Gallaspy, Assistant Commissioner for government Relations, Mississippi IHL
Mr. John Kraman, Chief Information Officer, Mississippi Department of Education
Ms. Jackie Turner, Executive Director, Mississippi Department of Employment Security

Call to Order: Andrea Mayfield called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Introductions.

Board reviewed minutes from the last meeting. There were no corrections.

Chair Mayfield opened discussion of the appropriation for LifeTracks/SLDS and noted there were talking points in the board package. Board members discussed how to refine talking points to include strategy and be less technical while highlighting the value of LifeTracks to the state as a whole. Board unanimously agreed to support and recommend the Mississippi Development Authority serve as the agency where the appropriation of grant funds would reside.

Mayfield opened the floor for discussion on the MOU for the third party to serve as the state data clearinghouse. John Kraman expressed concerns about the MOU language and specifically about a termination clause as it relates to the adherence to procurement law. Dr. Steven Grice read the termination clause aloud for the Board. Board members discussed the MOU and the subgrant agreement. It was noted the MOU describes responsibilities of the third party selected to manage and maintain the SLDS data system and the subgrant agreement ensures funds appropriated by the legislature are transferred to the grantee. The Board unanimously voted to have Mississippi State University's (MSU) NSPARC be the third party vendor and serve as the state data clearinghouse for another five year cycle.

Chair Mayfield opened discussion on strategic planning. The Chair noted the Board should consider where things are and the direction the Board would like to go. Mayfield mentioned the Board could consider having a working session to lay out plans for a strategic plan. Thomas Dobbs noted that a history lesson would be helpful for new Board members. Jackie Turner agreed with Dobbs. Kraman mentioned there are lots of ways to go about creating a strategic plan including having a third party facilitate. Mayfield asked for clarification on the third party and if Kraman meant a consultant. Kraman noted a team of people. Timing was discussed and the importance of aligning with the plans of the new Governor and keeping the legislative calendar in mind were pointed out. Dobbs mentioned the Board could have a history lesson first and then work toward a strategic plan.

Chair Mayfield called on Dr. Mike Taquino to give the state data clearinghouse report. Dr. Taquino shared the reports that have been completed and provided an update on the latest reports being available on the LifeTracks website.

Chair Mayfield called on Dr. Gordon Cannon to give the Research Review and Standards Committee (RRSC) report. Dr. Cannon gave a brief biographical summary and noted that the transition of the RRSC from the University of Mississippi to the University of Southern Mississippi had been very smooth.

Chair Mayfield opened the floor for discussion on potential additional data contributors. Head Start, the Mississippi Department of Public Safety, and the Division of Medicaid were mentioned as possible additional data contributors. Mayfield noted that a history lesson would be scheduled for the next meeting.

Chair Mayfield called on Mr. John Kraman to provide share the MDE informational items. Kraman provided updates and discussed a research alliance or other type of collaboration. Kraman raised the idea of making student-level records available. Jacob Black asked about the possibility of data sharing to assist agencies with case management as part of a research alliance.

Chair Mayfield opened the floor for discussion regarding the State Data Clearinghouse MOA. Chair Mayfield asked for more information on the MOA. Mike Taquino gave an overview of clearinghouse activities.

Adjournment: Chair Mayfield adjourned at 2:10 p.m.