

Land of Sky Regional Council  
October 30, 2019  
Regular Meeting



*Please mute all electronic devices, including cell phones, laptops, tablets, and recorders. Delegates are requested to state their names when moving on orders of business. Thank you!*

**AGENDA**

***Special Presentation: US Forest Service- New Plan, Presented by Alice Cohen (12:45pm)***

- I. Call to Order (1:15pm)**
- II. Invocation**
- III. Pledge of Allegiance**
- IV. Roll Call**
- V. Modification and Approval of Agenda**
- VI. Public Comment**
- VII. Recognition of Special Guests**
- VIII. Chairman's Comments and Roundtable**
- IX. Approval of Minutes from the September Regular Meeting**
- X. Consideration and Approval of Consent Agenda Items**
- XI. Presentations/Recognition**
  - A. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Overview & Announcement of Public Comment Period – Erica Anderson, Director of Economic and Community Development
- XII. Old Business**
- XIII. New Business**
- XIV. Executive Director's Report**
  - A. Council Awards Nominations
  - B. LOSRC Open House- December 4, 2019
- XIV. Important Dates**
  - A. Next Regular Regional Board Meeting is scheduled for January 22, 2020
- XV. Adjournment**



## **BOARD OF DELEGATES AGENDA ITEM**

- Subject:** September Board of Delegates Meeting Minutes
- Item Number:** X. Approval of Minutes from the September Regular Meeting
- Responsible Party:** Zia Rifkin, Administrative Services
- Attachment(s):** Minutes from the September 2019 Meeting
- Background:** A quorum was present to conduct business at the September 2019 meeting and the minutes provide a recap of the special presentation by Vaya Health regarding Medicaid Transformation and Behavioral Health and Intellectual/Development Disabilities services in Western North Carolina. In addition, Justin Hembree provided an update on the NEMT Call Center and announced the annual LOSRC awards presentation/open house on December 4, 2019.
- Staff Recommendation:** Recommend acceptance of the September 2019 meeting minutes
- Suggested Motion(s):** Move to approve the September minutes as submitted

**Meeting of  
Land of Sky Regional Council Board of Delegates  
September 25, 2019**

**Minutes**

Special Presentation – Vaya Health: Medicaid Reform and Behavioral Health and Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Services in Western North Carolina – Christina Dupuch and Angela Garner were present to provide information about the Medicaid transformation currently underway in the state. Christina Dupuch shared that this is a very transformational time for the state (and the Medicaid System). What is coming in the system, as reflected by the General Assembly's actions, is a transformation to bring more people, who are eligible, into the Medicaid System. Vaya Health represents the 22 western-most counties and they are a managed care provider, serving people with mental health, substance use and developmental disabilities. Historically, Vaya began over 50 years ago with seven counties in the western region. Over time, there has been a lot of consolidation with other systems including the Western Highlands Network, which served the LOSRC region. The budget is over \$400 million and most of those funds come from Medicaid. Vaya receives "maintenance of effort" funds, derived from the state's ABC tax. As the state receives grants from the federal government, Vaya providers receive those grants to expand mental health and developmental disability services. In WNC, 165,000 individuals in the 22 western most counties have a Medicaid card, of those about 60,000 are receiving mental health or developmental disability services. Vaya Health has many providers, which are agencies that provide disability supports and treatments. Prior to managed care, the Medicaid System was in debt by millions of dollars. Vaya has big contracts with NC DHHS. Vaya works with the most complicated individuals. Vaya Health is an insurance company and does not directly provide services. Vaya's board of directors is comprised of those individuals who have expertise in managed care. Lawyers who specialize in healthcare also serve on the board. Additionally, there are board members who are direct recipients of services.

Christina Dupuch shared about Medicaid Transformation, which is designed to improve the health of North Carolinians. A goal under the transformation is to provide whole-health services to Medicaid recipients through localized care in a local facility that also provides case-management. Medicaid Transformation is predicated on two plans: standard plans and tailored plans. For Medicaid recipients, who have a mild to moderate mental health or intellectual/developmental disability, care is received at a primary care facility through a standard plan. Tailored plans cover those individuals who have the most severe mental health, substance use or intellectual/developmental disabilities. Four private insurance companies were competitively selected to provide the standard plans. A provider-led entity are those groups of doctors that come together to provide standard plans. Under managed-care, private insurance companies would provide care under the standard plans for individuals who have mild to moderate care needs. Vaya Health provides services to those with the most severe and chronic conditions. Currently, the four commercial insurance companies are working to get contracts in place with healthcare providers. Christina Dupuch provided a timeline of activities to bring on managed care. North Carolina has a \$14 billion Medicaid System. She explained about Enrollment Brokers and the role they play under managed care, which is to help people make a choice about the best healthcare plan for them under managed care. The Enrollment Brokers are mandated to be conflict-free and they are the only people who can talk to Medicaid recipients about the care plans and help them make a choice. Information was also provided about The Healthy Opportunities Pilot funding, which is about \$52 million from the federal government. Under managed care, there would be an ombudsman program to assist in resolving issues. Ombudsman agencies would serve either physicians or patients. Vaya is projecting that by 2021, they would only be managing those with the most severe needs through the tailored plans.

- I. Call to Order – Chairman Larry Harris called the meeting to order at approximately 1:30pm.
- II. Invocation – Chairman Harris gave the invocation.
- III. Pledge of Allegiance – All stood as Chairman Harris led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- IV. Roll Call – Justin Hembree called the roll. The following members were present: Larry Rogers, Wayne Brigman, Mike Hawkins, George Goosmann, Larry Harris, Maggie Tuttle, Albert Gooch, Bob Davy, Barbara Volk, Nancy McKinley, Nathan Bennett, Kitty Fouche, Patrick Fitzsimmons, George Morosani, and Bob

Tomasulo. The following guests were present: Angela Garner, Christina Dupuch, and, Freddie Harrill. Justin Hembree announced a quorum was present to conduct business.

- V. Modification and Approval of Agenda – The agenda was presented with no modification requested.  
***George Morosani moved to approve the agenda as presented. Bob Davy seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.***
- VI. Public Comment – No public comments were made.
- VII. Recognition of Special Guests – Erica Anderson recognized Stuart Bass, a new Planner with the ECD. She also introduced Emily Scott-Cruz, the new Transportation/Transit Planner with the MPO.
- VIII. Chairman’s Comments and Round Table – Wayne Brigman – Shared that Madison County has the county fair coming up. George Goosmann – Shared that the Town of Biltmore Forest just completed the new Public Works building. Albert Gooch – Shared that the Village of Flat Rock is looking forward to a spirited election. Maggie Tuttle – Shared that the Town of Black Mountain is working on a partnership with a very well established daycare to develop a larger facility.
- IX. Approval of Minutes from the August Regular Meeting –  
***Bob Davy moved to approve the minutes of the August 2019 meeting as submitted. Albert Gooch seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.***
- X. Consideration and Approval of Consent Agenda Items –
- XI. Presentations/Recognition –
- XII. Old Business –
- XIII. New Business –  
A. Change to October Board of Delegates Meeting Date – Justin Hembree shared that the NADO Annual Training Conference is occurring the fourth week of October and staff plan to attend this event.  
***Nancy Allen moved to move the October meeting to the fifth (30th) Wednesday of October. Albert Gooch seconded and the motion carried without further discussion.***
- XIV. Executive Director’s Report –  
A. NEMT Call Center – Justin Hembree shared that there is a possibility that the NEMT Call Center would continue to serve some of the Medicaid recipients in Buncombe County for their healthcare transportation. Those Medicaid recipients who also receive Medicare (nearly 1000 individuals) would not transition to managed care and would be served by their county-of-residence. At this time, LOSRC is in negotiations with the County for the NEMT contract. It is a wait and see atmosphere.  
B. Upgrades to AV Equipment – Justin Hembree shared that staff are working to follow the proper procurement procedures to acquire the AV equipment. At the latest, the equipment should be in place by the December Board of Delegates meeting. The goal is to make the meeting experience better for those who attend in person as well as those that need to conference call into the meeting. Chair Harris communicated that it is important to stay on top of how Delegates attend meetings and having the ability to provide virtual meetings could be a very positive occurrence. The A/V upgrade should also make the MPO and RPO meetings better as those meetings use the projector for the agenda items and presentations. The upgrades should also make the meeting experience better for the folks who call into the meetings. Justin Hembree noted that virtual meetings are the evolution of how business is being conducted.  
C. Holiday Open House – Justin Hembree announced that December 4 is the annual awards presentation and LOSRC open house. There will not be a regular Board of Delegates meeting. He shared that the three traditional awards that the Council has always presented are the Charles H. Campbell Regional Leadership

Award, the Robert G. Parrish Intergovernmental Relations Award and the Robert E. Shepherd Excellence in Local Government Award. The nomination form will be distributed at the October 30 Board meeting.

- XV. Important Dates – The next LOSRC Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 30, 2019.
- XVI. Adjournment – Chair Harris adjourned the meeting, as there was no further business.



## COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

**Subject:** CEDS Public Notice

**Item Number:** XI. Presentations; Item A.

**Responsible Party:** Erica Anderson

**Attachment(s):** <https://arcg.is/1vXu59>

**Background:** One of Land of Sky's responsibilities as the Economic Development District (EDD) is the development of the regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). The CEDS is revised every 5 years and reported on annually. The CEDS Workgroup has been meeting to draft the new 2015 Strategy to reflect our region's emerging economic priorities. This begins the 30 day public comment period.

**Staff Recommendation:**

**Suggested Motion(s):** None needed



## **BOARD OF DELEGATES AGENDA ITEM**

- Subject:** Executive Director's Report
- Item Number:** XIV. Executive Director's Report
- Responsible Party:** Justin Hembree, Executive Director
- Attachment(s):** Parrish, Campbell, and Shepherd Noimination Letter 2019
- Background:** The following items will be presented as part of the Executive Director's Report:
- A. Council Awards Nominations
  - B. LOSRC Open House- December 4, 2019
- Staff Recommendation:** N/A.
- Suggested Motion(s):** N/A

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### **Announcement: October 30, 2019**

Nominations are now being accepted for three awards to be presented at Land of Sky Regional Council's Board Meeting on December 4, 2019.

#### **THE CHARLES H. CAMPBELL REGIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD**

This award may be given **only** by the Council's Executive Committee. The award was established in 1983 in the name of the four-time Council Chairman and long-time Brevard Mayor, who received a national award for regional leadership in 1977. It may be given annually to one Council member who has made a major long-term contribution to the Council and its governance.

#### **THE ROBERT G. PARRISH INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS AWARD**

This award, also presented at the discretion of the Council's Executive Committee, is to an elected or appointed official who has made significant contributions to improve intergovernmental cooperation within the region. This award honors the memory of the late Council Chairman and long-time Fletcher Mayor Robert Parrish, who received the 2000 NC Intergovernmental Relations Award.

#### **THE ROBERT E. SHEPHERD EXCELLENCE IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT AWARD**

This award is presented at the Council's discretion to a local government professional who has shown great leadership in improving governance and service delivery, especially in the areas of regional cooperation and collaboration. This awards honors Land of Sky Regional Council's first Executive Director of 30 years.

Q: When is the deadline?

**A: Nominations must be received by Wednesday, November 20, 2019.**

Q: Where do I send my nomination?

**A: Please email nominations forms to [christina@landofsky.org](mailto:christina@landofsky.org) or fax to 828.251.6353.**

**You may also mail nomination packets to:**

Regional Award Nominations

Land of Sky Regional Council

339 New Leicester Hwy, Suite 140, Asheville, NC 28806



**NOMINATION FORM**  
**LAND OF SKY REGIONAL COUNCIL AWARDS**

Deadline for submission is **Wednesday, November 20, 2019**. Awards will be presented at Land of Sky Regional Council's Board Meeting on December 4, 2019.

***Please check the award for which you are submitting a nomination:***

Robert Parrish Award

Charles Campbell Award

Robert Shepherd Award

Note: Before completing, please refer to the attached document for award criteria.

Name of Nominee (individual or organization):

Address:

Phone Number(s):

Describe major area(s) of accomplishment for person or organization:

List of leadership/responsibilities for the nominee as they relate to their accomplishments:

Describe traits of leadership exhibited by the nominee which were instrumental in his/her regional accomplishments:

Describe obstacles (if any) which nominee faced in this accomplishment and how these were overcome:

Describe importance or impact of the above to the Region (Buncombe, Henderson, Madison and Transylvania Counties) or the multiple jurisdictions involved (for Parrish award):

Additional Comments:

Note: You may enclose no more than two newspaper articles, supportive letters or other documentation to support the nominee's credentials for this award.

Name of person making nomination:

Signature:

Address:

Phone Number:

### **THE CHARLES H. CAMPBELL REGIONAL AWARDS**

1984	Roy M. Trantham, Asheville
1985	William M. Ives, Transylvania County
1986	James T. Ledford, Madison County
1987	John J. Carter, Laurel Park
1988	Norma T. Price, Asheville
1990	Cornelius Hunt, Brevard
1992	Fran Waser, Transylvania County
1993	Gene Rainey, Buncombe County
1995	Vollie G. Good, Henderson County
2000	Robert F. Parrish, Sr.
2001	Fred H. Niehoff, Jr.
2003	Jerry Plemmons
2004	David Gantt
10/2004	Eliza Graue
2005	Raymond D. Miller, Transylvania County
2007	Charles "Pal" Grimes – Biltmore Forest
2008	Rodney Locks, City of Brevard
2009	Eddie Fox
2010	Chuck McGrady
2012	Joe McKinney
2015	Phil Monk
2016	George Goosmann
2017	Dr. Charles Dickens
2018	Jack Cecil

### **ROBERT G. PARRISH INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS AWARD**

2001	Fred H. Niehoff, Jr.
2002	C. Thomas Sobol, Jr.
2003	James Westbrook
2004	Arthur "Artie" Wilson
2005	NC Representative Raymond Rapp, Madison County
2006	NC Representative Wilma Sherrill, Buncombe County
2007	Chris Carter
2008	David Young
2009	Trudi Walend
2010	Mark Burrows
2012	Letta Jean Taylor
2015	Bob Davy
2018	Mike Hawkins

### **ROBERT E. SHEPHERD EXCELLENCE IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT AWARD**

2016	Robert E. Shepherd
2017	Susan Frady
2018	John Connet