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**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** MICHAEL BOYD  
**FROM:** BRAD LITTON  
**SUBJECT:** MS STATE MENTAL HEALTH QUARTERLY MEETING, MARCH 24, 2000  
**DATE:** 3/27/2000

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About 30-35 people were in attendance at the meeting, which lasted from 9:30 to noon.

Dr. Randy Hendrix discussed all bills that were still alive in the Senate and the House, which had relevance to mental health. He explained their importance and expressed his opinion on their ability to pass.

Nominations for the Planning Council Board were approved for the next two years. All current members committed to another two years on the board.

Ms. Tessie Smith outlined the calendar of events and discussed the budget for the next year.

One important issue that was discussed was the new crisis centers being established around the state. Local towns have already approved seven within one to two days of the initial proposal. The government is allotting about two million dollars per building construction. The only requirement is that the building be erected within half a mile of a hospital. One center was to be located in Jackson, but the no one can agree to a location. This has been an ongoing problem for the past six years. Ideas were offered on how to speed up the process in Jackson: (i.) new committee members should be working on the plan, (ii.) move it to Rankin or Madison counties, (iii.) getting the communities involved in the decision making process.