

MENTAL HEALTH & RECOVERY SERVICES (MHRS) BOARD  
*Serving Coshocton, Guernsey, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble & Perry Counties*  
 1500 Coal Run Road – Zanesville, OH, 43701

OFFICIAL MINUTES  
*(Regular Board Meeting – Teleconference – January 14, 2021)*

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**I. BOARD NOTIFICATION & COMPLIANCE WITH SUNSHINE LAW:**

On January 4, 2021, board members, contract organization directors, service area news media, county boards of commissioners, and state legislators were notified the Board of Directors would meet in regular session (via teleconference) at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 14, 2021. All parties were provided with meeting access information.

**II. CALL TO ORDER:** President Jeff LeCocq called the regular board meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**III. ROLL CALL:**

Board Members Participating:

- *Jeff LeCocq, President (Muskingum County)*
- *William Johnson, Vice-President (Coshocton County)*
- *Sherile Beardmore (Guernsey County)*
- *Michael Bullock (Muskingum County)*
- *Sue Hoover (Muskingum County)*
- *Pamela Kirst (Muskingum County)*
- *Thomas Lynch (Coshocton County)*
- *Dan Scheerer, M.D. (Muskingum County)*
- *Danielle Scott (Perry County)*

Board members excused:

- *Jennifer Hanson (Muskingum County)*
- *Mindy Lowe (Noble County)*
- *Kelly Lynch (Guernsey County)*
- *Bev Steinbrecher (Morgan County)*

There being 9 board members in the meeting, a quorum was constituted for conducting official business.

Staff Members Participating:

- *Misty Cromwell, Executive Director*
- *Elaine Shuster, Associate Director / Systems Manager*
- *Jamie McGrew, Care Management Director*
- *Rhonda Hanes, Fiscal Operations Director*
- *Roger Birch, Youth & Family Services Coordinator*
- *Linda Hand, Administrative Coordinator*

**IV. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** No guests were present via RingCentral; however, the meeting was live-streamed on the MHRS Board's Facebook Page.

**V. AGENDA:** President LeCocq noted two changes to the pre-mailed agenda under Financial Issues: (1) Item 6b., *Appropriation of Unencumbered Funds from Calendar Year 2020*, has been deferred until the February 11, 2021, board meeting; and (2) the addition of 6.e., *State Opioid Response (SOR) Grant Sub-Awards*. PAMELA KIRST MOVED THAT THE BOARD

APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR THE JANUARY 14, 2021, MEETING AS AMENDED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SHERILE BEARDMORE AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

#### VI. MEETING MINUTES:

It was noted that board members had received a copy of the minutes from the meeting held on December 10, 2020.

SHERILE BEARDMORE MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 10, 2020, REGULAR BOARD MEETING AS SUBMITTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY WILLIAM JOHNSON AND A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: SHERILE BEARDMORE, YEA; MICHAEL BULLOCK, YEA; SUE HOOVER, YEA; WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; PAMELA KIRST, YEA; THOMAS LYNCH, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; AND DANIELLE SCOTT, YEA. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED RECEIVING EIGHT POSITIVE VOTES.

#### VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Misty Cromwell reviewed her Director's Report that was e-mailed to board members on January 7 (*included as a part of the minutes – Exhibit A*). Topics covered:

◆ **Muskingum Chamber of Commerce 'Lunch & Learns':** Muskingum County Board Representative Pam Kirst and Michelle Price from the Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation recently provided Chamber members with an overview of the Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) and Working Minds trainings that are supported and/or sponsored by the MHRS Board. Pam was able to share how MHFA, much like physical first aid, can be used to assist individuals in the workplace who are experiencing mental health or addiction issues until professional help can be obtained. Michelle shared how suicide prevention awareness can be achieved in the workplace by using skills developed through the Working Minds Program that explores ways to increase conversations and critical thinking about workplace mental health challenges and the ability to promote help-seeking and help-giving in the workplace.

◆ **Ohio's 2021 Opiate and Other Drugs Conference:** This conference will be held on May 11-13 and will be conducted virtually. For more details, contact Michaela Radich at [mradich@oacbha.org](mailto:mradich@oacbha.org).

◆ **Legislative Contacts:** Director Cromwell has scheduled outreach meetings with service area state legislators as follows: REPRESENTATIVE ADAM HOLMES (Guernsey and Muskingum Counties), 9:00 am on January 19 (in-person meeting at the MHRS Board Office); REPRESENTATIVE DON JONES (Noble County), 2:00 pm on January 19 (virtual meeting); SENATOR FRANK HOAGLAND (Noble County), 10:00 am on January 29 (virtual meeting); SENATOR JAY HOTTINGER (Coshocton and Perry Counties), 2:00 pm on January 26 (arrangements not yet fully finalized). Board members interested in participating should contact Misty Cromwell at 740.454.8557.

◆ **Cambridge Area Psychiatrists Agree to False Claims Act Settlement:** In a False Claims Act Settlement signed this week, two eastern Ohio psychiatrists (who provided treatment at the Cambridge Behavioral Hospital, a for-profit facility) agreed to pay more than \$500,000 to the United States for submitting false claims to Medicare. This facility primarily provided inpatient treatment for persons battling addictions or those with a dual diagnosis of addiction and mental illness. The Cambridge Behavioral Hospital is not affiliated with the MHRS Board's network of care.

◆ **PAX Program Update:** (Summary included in 'Board Meeting Highlights' attached to the minutes.)

◆ **Suicide in the Black Community Initiative | De-Escalation Training | and Youth Mental Health First Aid:** (Summaries of these topics are included in the 'Board Meeting Highlights' attached to the minutes.)

VIII. **FINANCIAL ISSUES: (Dr. Dan Scheerer, Chair, Finance/Audit Committee)**

1. **Authorization to Pay 2020 Bills in 2021:**

DAN SCHEERER MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

*It has been requested by the Fiscal Department to pay 2020 bills in 2021. This would include any unknown invoices dated for 2020 that are presented for payment in 2021. Any known 2020 expenses have been documented as a carryover expense. It is resolved that invoices dated for 2020 presented for payment in 2021 are approved for payment.*

THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY WILLIAM JOHNSON.

Chairman Scheerer noted that this a standard motion that is acted upon each January to go on record that, over the next few months, the Board of Directors will be reviewing and acting on bills from 2020.

A ROLL CALL VOTE ON THE ABOVE MOTION WAS THEN TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: SHERILE BEARDMORE, YEA; MICHAEL BULLOCK, YEA; SUE HOOVER, YEA; WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; PAMELA KIRST, YEA; THOMAS LYNCH, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; AND DANIELLE SCOTT, YEA. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED RECEIVING EIGHT POSITIVE VOTES.

2. **December 2020 Financial Reports:** (Exhibit B)

Chairman Scheerer guided a review of the MHRS Board's Financial Reports for the month of December 2020 that included: 1) a Reconciliation Report; 2) Contract Services Expenses for the period July- December 2020; 3) Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2020; 4) December 2020 Dashboard; and 5) Revenue and Expense by Funding Source. Improvements to these reports are ongoing.

◆ **December 2020 Reconciliation Report:**

DAN SCHEERER MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE DECEMBER 2020 RECONCILIATION REPORT AS SUBMITTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SHERILE BEARDMORE.

Dr. Scheerer noted that this report replaces the former Accounts Payable listings that were prepared every other week. This report is all-inclusive, showing deposits, checks written for MHRS Board operations, payments to in-network service providers, and out-of-network community partners, and journal entries.

A ROLL CALL VOTE ON THE ABOVE MOTION WAS THEN TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: SHERILE BEARDMORE, YEA; MICHAEL BULLOCK, YEA; SUE HOOVER, YEA; WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; PAMELA KIRST, YEA; THOMAS LYNCH, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; AND DANIELLE SCOTT, YEA. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED RECEIVING EIGHT POSITIVE VOTES.

3. **Transfer of Appropriations – Calendar Year 2021 Budget:**

DAN SCHEERER MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE FOLLOWING TRANSFER IN THE MHRS BOARD'S CALENDAR YEAR 2021 BUDGET: \$54,893.00 FROM THE CONTINGENCIES LINE ITEM (852-584-511400) TO THE CONTRACT SERVICES LINE ITEM (852-584-504022). THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SHERILE BEARDMORE.

Dr. Scheerer noted that this transfer was needed to shift Bureau of Workers Compensation grant funds to an expense code, so that payments can be processed to program participants as they are invoiced.

A ROLL CALL VOTE ON THE ABOVE MOTION WAS THEN TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: SHERILE BEARDMORE, YEA; MICHAEL BULLOCK, YEA; SUE HOOVER, YEA; WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; PAMELA KIRST, YEA; THOMAS LYNCH, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; AND DANIELLE SCOTT, YEA. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED RECEIVING EIGHT POSITIVE VOTES.

**4. State Opioid Response (SOR) Grant Sub-Awards:**

DAN SCHEERER MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE FOLLOWING SOR GRANT SUB-AWARDS, CONTINGENT UPON OhioMHAS's OFFICIAL APPROVAL OF THE MHRS BOARD'S SOR GRANT NOTICE OF STATE AWARD:

**SOR GRANT 2.0:**

➤ Allwell Behavioral Health	\$96,820.00
➤ Coshocton Behavioral Health Choices	\$138,393.00
➤ Cambridge Municipal Court	\$56,160.00
➤ Guernsey Health Choices	\$36,295.00
➤ Guernsey Health Department	\$21,298.00
➤ Muskingum Behavioral Health	\$207,996.00
➤ Muskingum Health Department	\$30,867.00
➤ Perry Behavioral Health Choices	\$129,100.00
➤ MHRS Board	\$28,373.00
<b>TOTAL SOR 2.0:</b>	<b>\$745,302.00</b>

**SOR – No-Cost Extension:**

➤ Guernsey Health Department	\$45,136.00
➤ Muskingum Health Department	\$53,237.00
➤ MHRS Board MAT	\$221,627.00
<b>TOTAL SOR No-Cost Extension:</b>	<b>\$320,000.00</b>

**TOTAL SOR FUNDS: \$1,065,302.00**

THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY WILLIAM JOHNSON.

These funds will allow increased access to addiction treatment and recovery supports. The goal for all treatment components is that participants will learn about addiction and recovery skills through the use of evidence-based services.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS THEN TAKEN ON THE ABOVE MOTION AS FOLLOWS: SHERILE BEARDMORE, YEA; MICHAEL BULLOCK, YEA; SUE HOOVER, YEA; WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; PAMELA KIRST, YEA; THOMAS LYNCH, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; AND DANIELLE SCOTT, YEA. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED RECEIVING EIGHT POSITIVE VOTES.

**IX. OLD BUSINESS:** There was no Old Business.

**X. NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Capital Project Resolution – Pearl House Zanesville:**

PAMELA KIRST MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

*The Muskingum Area Mental Health & Recovery Services Board hereby resolves to support the Pearl House Zanesville Capital Application prepared by Muskingum Behavioral Health — with an assurance to support applicant’s program consistent with their application and, in addition, to annually monitor the programs and operations of the facility to assure compliance. Further, the MHRS Board authorizes its Executive Director to sign official documents related to this project.*

THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SHERILE BEARDMORE.

This standard resolution is required by the Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services for any service area capital projects. Construction has already begun on Pearl House Zanesville. A summary of the project is included in the ‘Board Meeting Highlights’ attached to the minutes.

A ROLL CALL VOTE ON THE ABOVE MOTION WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: SHERILE BEARDMORE, YEA; MICHAEL BULLOCK, YEA; SUE HOOVER, YEA; WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; PAMELA KIRST, YEA; THOMAS LYNCH, YEA; AND DAN SCHEERER, YEA; THE MOTION WAS APPROVED RECEIVING SEVEN POSITIVE VOTES. *(Danielle Scott was not available for the vote on this motion.)*

**2. Designation of Health Officer:**

SHERILE BEARDMORE MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE DESIGNATION OF ALLWELL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CLINICIAN MARLAYNA ADAMIC AS A SYSTEM HEALTH OFFICER. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SUE HOOVER.

Members reviewed education/licensure documentation (Exhibit C) for the above clinician. It was noted that Ms. Adamic is credentialed according to MHRS Board and Allwell policies and meets all the licensure and training requirements for providing crisis services. Designated Health Officers are responsible for determining if a person is subject to involuntary hospitalization for mental illness.

A ROLL CALL VOTE ON THE ABOVE MOTION WAS THEN TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: SHERILE BEARDMORE, YEA; MICHAEL BULLOCK, YEA; SUE HOOVER, YEA; WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; PAMELA KIRST, YEA; THOMAS LYNCH, YEA; AND DAN SCHEERER, YEA; THE MOTION WAS APPROVED RECEIVING SEVEN POSITIVE VOTES. *(Danielle Scott was not available for the vote on this motion.)*

**3. Policy – Delegation of Contracting Authority to the Executive Director: (Exhibit D)**

PAMELA KIRST MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE POLICY #I-A-6, DELEGATION OF CONTRACTING AUTHORITY TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SHERILE BEARDMORE.

This policy stipulates that, “In accordance with the requirements of Section 340.03(F) of the Ohio Revised Code, the MHRS Board’s Executive Director is authorized to execute

contracts without prior Board approval if the value of the contract is twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) or less.”

A ROLL CALL VOTE ON THE ABOVE MOTION WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:  
SHERILE BEARDMORE, YEA; MICHAEL BULLOCK, YEA; SUE HOOVER, YEA;  
WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; PAMELA KIRST, YEA; THOMAS LYNCH, YEA; DAN  
SCHEERER, YEA; AND DANIELLE SCOTT, YEA. THE MOTION WAS  
UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED RECEIVING EIGHT POSITIVE VOTES.

- 4. **Next Meeting:** The next teleconferenced meeting of the Board of Directors will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 11, 2021.

**XI. COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

◆ **COVID-19 VACCINE:** Dr. Scheerer encouraged everyone to be vaccinated for COVID-19 and reviewed the various stages of Phase 1B that is primarily for persons 65+. More details about arrangements for the various age ranges can be found at the website for the Genesis Healthcare System – [www.genesishcs.org](http://www.genesishcs.org).

**XII. ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

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**SIGNATURES**

SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

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Linda Hand, Administrative Coordinator

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Misty Cromwell, Executive Director

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Jeff LeCocq, Board President