

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

OFFICIAL MINUTES
(April 11, 2024)

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

I. BOARD NOTIFICATION & COMPLIANCE WITH SUNSHINE LAW:

On April 2, 2024, board members, contract organization directors, service area news media, county boards of commissioners, and state legislators were notified the Board of Directors would meet on Thursday, April 11, 2024, at the MHRS Board Office — with the schedule of activities to include: 5:00 to 6:00 p.m., meetings of Finance/Audit Committee and Partners Workgroup; and 6:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting.

II. CALL TO ORDER: President Sue Hoover called the regular board meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

III. ROLL CALL:

Board Members Present:

- *Sue Hoover, President (Muskingum County)*
- *Leondra Davis, Vice President (Coshocton County)*
- *Sean Brady (Muskingum County)*
- *Reid Carpenter (Noble County)*
- *Abby Corder (Muskingum County)*
- *Randi Earnest (Guernsey County)*
- *William Johnson (Coshocton County)*
- *Wendy Starlin (Perry County)*
- *Ben Taylor (Perry County)*
- *Bonnie Taylor (Muskingum County)*

Board Members Excused:

- *Dr. Dan Scheerer (Muskingum County)*
- *Dennis Hitchcock (Muskingum County)*
- *Tony Mayle, Jr. (Morgan County)*

There being ten board members present, a quorum was constituted for conducting official business.

Staff Members Present:

- *Misty Cromwell, Executive Director*
- *Elaine Shuster, Associate Director*
- *Sarah Reed, Quality Improvement and Compliance Director*
- *Jamie McGrew, Care Management Director*
- *Rhonda Hanes, Fiscal Operations Director*
- *Karl Hoop, Criminal Justice & Crisis Services Coordinator*
- *Roger Birch, Youth & Family Services Coordinator*
- *Linda Hand, Administrative Coordinator*

IV. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:

Present for a Funding Application Review for the Southeastern Ohio Counseling Center were:

- *Mandy Mcglumphy, Executive Director*
- *Nicole Huey, Chief Operating Officer*

V. AGENDA: WILLIAM JOHNSON MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR THE APRIL 11, 2024, BOARD MEETING AS MAILED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY RANDI EARNEST AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

VI. MEETING MINUTES: SEAN BRADY MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 14, 2024, BOARD MEETING AS SUBMITTED. THE MOTION

WAS SECONDED BY BEN TAYLOR AND A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: SEAN BRADY, YEA; REID CARPENTER, YEA; ABBY CORDER, YEA; LEONDRA DAVIS, ABSTAIN; RANDI EARNEST, YEA; WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; WENDY STARLIN, YEA; BEN TAYLOR, YEA; AND BONNIE TAYLOR, YEA. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED RECEIVING EIGHT POSITIVE VOTES AND ONE ABSTENTION.

VII. HEARING REVIEW – FY 2025 SERVICE PROVIDER FUNDING APPLICATION:

MHRS Board staff and board members reviewed an FY 2025 Funding Application from Southeastern Ohio Counseling Center. The Q/A portions of the hearing was recorded, and those transcribed interactions will help to improve the RFA process and facilitate informed decision-making.

VIII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

Director Misty Cromwell’s April Report listed various activities, as staff members worked toward meeting the MHRS Board’s Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives. | During March considerable attention continued to be given to Guernsey Health Choices and the overall financial health of all contract service providers. | Staff traveled throughout the six-county area to meet with providers, community partners, and stakeholders to discuss opportunities, provide education, eliminate barriers, and explore collaborations. *(Some activity summaries are included in the Board Meeting Highlights attached to the minutes.)*

IX. FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE: (Leondra Davis, Interim Finance/Audit Committee Chair)

1. March 2024 Financial Reports:

Board members reviewed the following March 2024 fiscal reports: 1) Balance Sheet as of March 31, 2024; 2) Dashboard Report; 3) Monthly Report of Network Funding Reserves; 4) a ‘Year-to-Date’ Status Report for the MHRS Board’s Operating Budget; 5) Contract Services Expenses; and 6) Reconciliation Report.

March 2024 Reconciliation Report:

After reporting Committee action, LEONDRA DAVIS MOVED THAT THE BOARD ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE TO APPROVE THE MARCH 2024 RECONCILIATION REPORT AS SUBMITTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SEAN BRADY.

Fiscal Director Rhonda Hanes reviewed this report that shows 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 WAS THEN TAKEN ON THE ABOVE MOTION AS FOLLOWS: SEAN BRADY, YEA; REID CARPENTER, YEA; ABBY CORDER, YEA; LEONDRA DAVIS, YEA; RANDI EARNEST, YEA; WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; WENDY STARLIN, YEA; BEN TAYLOR, YEA; AND BONNIE TAYLOR, YEA. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED RECEIVING NINE POSITIVE VOTES.

2. Appropriation Transfer:

After reporting Committee action, LEONDRA DAVIS MOVED THAT THE BOARD ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF \$26,856.00 FROM THE CONTINGENCIES LINE ITEM TO THE EMPLOYEE SALARIES LINE ITEM. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY REID CARPENTER, AND A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: SEAN BRADY, YEA; REID CARPENTER, YEA; ABBY CORDER, YEA; LEONDRA DAVIS, YEA; RANDI EARNEST, YEA; WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; WENDY STARLIN, YEA; BEN TAYLOR, YEA; AND BONNIE TAYLOR, YEA. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED RECEIVING NINE POSITIVE VOTES.

3. Revenue Adjustment – ARPA Funds:

After reporting Committee action, LEONDRA DAVIS MOVED THAT THE BOARD ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE TO APPROVE THE INCLUSION OF \$3,000,000.00 IN THE ARPA REVENUE LINE ITEM – TO ACCOUNT FOR THE NEWLY-APPROVED ARPA FUNDING IN THE MHRS BOARD’S CY 2024 BUDGET. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY BEN TAYLOR AND A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: SEAN BRADY, YEA; REID CARPENTER, YEA; ABBY CORDER, YEA; LEONDRA DAVIS, YEA; RANDI EARNEST, YEA; WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; WENDY STARLIN, YEA; BEN TAYLOR, YEA; AND BONNIE TAYLOR, YEA. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED RECEIVING NINE POSITIVE VOTES.

4. Special Allocation – Perry County Children Services Board – Foster Home Treatment Pilot:

Director Misty Cromwell reported on her approval of a special allocation of \$16,666.00 to the Perry County Children Services Board – as part of a state pilot program for the development of Treatment Foster Care Networks. Other service area CSBs are also interested in applying for this opportunity to better serve our region. The hope is that such Foster Care Treatment Networks will help to decrease the number of youths being placed in residential facilities and private treatment foster homes and will provide a step-down from those facilities for kids that are ready to do so.

5. Guernsey Health Choices:

Fiscal Director Rhonda Hanes documented key points from her April Fiscal Monitoring Meeting with Guernsey Health Choices:

- GHC plans to begin paying \$1,800 to the Board on a monthly basis (5% of revenues) – as a part of paying back funding advances from the MHRS Board.
- GHC has not had a CareSource Medicaid contract since October of 2022. They have now received a contract and are waiting for a welcome letter and an effective date.
- Current Medicaid billing that GHC has received this calendar year:
 - January 2024 \$18,446.57
 - February 2024 \$28,507.64
 - March 2024 \$37,346.72
- Since the March board meeting, GHC has lost another clinician – a total of four employees have left the organization in recent months.
- GHC Corrective Action Plan Point: GHC’s productivity rates are to be 75-80%. As of April 9, one clinician is at 71%, one at 67%, and one at 44%.
- GHC Corrective Action Plan Point: Insync issues have been mostly resolved, but the organization only has a 35% successful reimbursement rate. This is in part due to not being able to bill CareSource claims. MHRS Board has \$0 in GOSH billings to be paid in the next 30 days.

Misty Cromwell shared some recent information received from GHC’s Board of Directors that could hopefully provide a pathway for turning things around at the organization. She also noted that GHC’s Board of Directors are very interested in any efforts to keep GHC’s doors open for residents who are in need of treatments and support for substance use disorders.

After reporting Committee action, LEONDRA DAVIS MOVED THAT THE BOARD ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE TO CONTINUE CONTRACTING WITH GUERNSEY HEALTH CHOICES IN FISCAL YEAR 2025. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY REID CARPENTER AND A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: SEAN BRADY, YEA; REID CARPENTER, YEA; ABBY CORDER, YEA; LEONDRA DAVIS, YEA; RANDI EARNEST, YEA; WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; WENDY STARLIN, YEA; BEN TAYLOR, YEA; AND BONNIE TAYLOR, YEA. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED RECEIVING NINE POSITIVE VOTES.

6. Tentative Allocations to Contract Organizations for Fiscal Year 2025:

After the report of committee action, LEONDRA DAVIS MOVED THAT THE BOARD ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE TO APPROVE THE TENTATIVE FY 2025 FUNDING ALLOCATIONS FOR CONTRACT ORGANIZATIONS AS PRESENTED — TOTALING \$10,377,129.00. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY BEN TAYLOR.

Fiscal Director Rhonda Hanes reported that the tentative allocations were developed, taking into account the latest levy certification amounts and using historical percentage numbers for respective allocations. As the MHRS Board's new RFA process proceeds, allocation amounts will be developed differently.

A ROLL CALL VOTE ON THE ABOVE MOTION WAS THEN TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: SEAN BRADY, YEA; REID CARPENTER, YEA; ABBY CORDER, YEA; LEONDRA DAVIS, YEA; RANDI EARNEST, YEA; WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; WENDY STARLIN, YEA; BEN TAYLOR, YEA; AND BONNIE TAYLOR, YEA. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED RECEIVING NINE POSITIVE VOTES.

7. Open Minds Consulting Proposal:

After the report of Committee action, LEONDRA DAVIS MOVED THAT THE BOARD ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE TO APPROVE THE OPEN MINDS CONSULTING PROPOSAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$131,500.00 — FOR COLLABORATING WITH CONTRACT ORGANIZATIONS IN CONSIDERING WAYS TO IMPROVE HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND VALUE, STRENGTHEN LOCAL COMMUNITIES, AND CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR CUSTOMIZING CONTRACT MANAGEMENT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY WILLIAM JOHNSON.

Members felt that Open Minds could help the MHRS Board and its network of service providers to find a collective path to financial sustainability for better supporting clients, strengthening their position in the competitive local marketplace, and solving workforce issues.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS THEN TAKEN ON THE ABOVE MOTION AS FOLLOWS: SEAN BRADY, YEA; REID CARPENTER, YEA; ABBY CORDER, YEA; LEONDRA DAVIS, YEA; RANDI EARNEST, YEA; WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; WENDY STARLIN, YEA; BEN TAYLOR, YEA; AND BONNIE TAYLOR, YEA. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED RECEIVING NINE POSITIVE VOTES.

8. MHRS Board Payment for Services Not Covered under Commercial Insurance:

At the April 17th meeting of the MHRS Board's Care Management Council, staff will review the existing process for management of "*Commercial Insurance Payments and GOSH*," specifically pointing out the clause pertaining to pre-authorization of services and financial hardship forms.

X. PARTNERS WORKGROUP:

1. Crisis Services and Ohio's Stepping Up Initiative:

(Summary included in Board Meeting Highlights attached to the minutes.)

XI. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Updates – Community Assessment & Plan – and Ascend Data Project:

(Summary included in Board Meeting Highlights attached to the minutes.)

XII. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Policy IV-N.11 — Health, Life & Other Insurances:

Associate Director Elaine Shuster noted that this policy was revised to remove sections related to COBRA coverage, which no longer applies to the MHRS Board.

SEAN BRADY MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE REVISED POLICY IV-N.11 – HEALTH, LIFE, AND OTHER INSURANCES, AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY RANDI EARNEST, AND A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: SEAN BRADY, YEA; REID CARPENTER, YEA; ABBY CORDER, YEA; LEONDRA DAVIS, YEA; RANDI EARNEST, YEA; WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; WENDY STARLIN, YEA; BEN TAYLOR, YEA; AND BONNIE TAYLOR, YEA. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED RECEIVING NINE POSITIVE VOTES.

2. **Policy IV-N.12 – Health Insurance Coverage Following Separation – COBRA:**

WILLIAM JOHNSON MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE DELETION OF POLICY IV-N.12, HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOLLOWING SEPARATION – COBRA, AS IT NO LONGER APPLIES TO THE MHRS BOARD. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SEAN BRADY AND A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: SEAN BRADY, YEA; REID CARPENTER, YEA; ABBY CORDER, YEA; LEONDRA DAVIS, YEA; RANDI EARNEST, YEA; WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; WENDY STARLIN, YEA; BEN TAYLOR, YEA; AND BONNIE TAYLOR, YEA. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED RECEIVING NINE POSITIVE VOTES.

XIII. **NEXT MEETING:**

The Board of Directors will meet at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 9, 2024, at the MHRS Board Office. (Committee meetings will be held from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.)

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

- ***Retirement of Associate Director Elaine Shuster:*** Board members and staff members expressed appreciation to Elaine for her 41+ years of service in the MHRS Board’s network of care, having been a network clinician and service provider agency director prior to coming to the MHRS Board about five years ago.

SIGNATURES

SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

Linda Hand, Administrative Coordinator

Misty Cromwell, Executive Director

Sue Hoover, Board President