

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

GOVERNING BOARD OF DIRECTORS – REGULAR BOARD MEETING
(April 9, 2026)

I. BOARD NOTIFICATION & COMPLIANCE WITH SUNSHINE LAW:

On March 30, 2026, board members, contract organization directors, service area news media, county boards of commissioners, and state legislators were notified that the Governing Board of Directors would meet on Thursday, April 9, 2026, at the MHRS Board Office — with the schedule of activities to include: 5:00 to 6:00 p.m., Committee Meetings; and 6:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting.

II. CALL TO ORDER: Board President Leondra Davis called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

III. ROLL CALL:

Board Members Present:

- *Leondra Davis, Board President (Coshocton County)*
- *Ben Taylor, Vice President (Perry County)*
- *Reid Carpenter (Noble County)*
- *Abby Corder (Muskingum County)*
- *Randi Earnest (Guernsey County)*
- *William Johnson (Coshocton County)*
- *Dr. Dan Scheerer (Muskingum County)*
- *Tony Mayle, Jr. (Morgan County)*
- *Wendy Starlin (Perry County)*
- *Sean Brady (Muskingum County)*
- *Dennis Hitchcock (Muskingum County)*

Board Members Excused:

- *Sue Hoover (Muskingum County)*
- *Bonnie Taylor (Muskingum County)*
- *Cambridge Police Chief Dave Peoples (Guernsey County)*

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

Staff Members Present:

- *Misty Cromwell, Executive Director*
- *Rhonda Hanes, Associate Director – Business Manager*
- *Lee Barnhart, Incoming Director of Finance & Administration*
- *Jamie McGrew, Director of Community Outreach & Programming*
- *Linda Hand, Administrative Coordinator*
- *Terri France, Administrative and Operations Coordinator*

IV. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:

- *Jason Vinskovich, Operations Manager, Genesis Hospital; and Chrissy Parr, Genesis Hospital Behavioral Health Director (for review of RFA)*
- *Tyra Hixon and Jeanette Hall, Co-Directors, Coshocton Behavioral Health Choices (for review of RFA)*
- *Several Sheridan FFA Students were present during the Program Committee to share their presentation for an upcoming State AG Conference*

V. AGENDA: Leondra Davis noted there were no changes to the pre-mailed agenda. SEAN BRADY MOVED THAT THE GOVERNING BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR THE APRIL 9, 2026, BOARD MEETING AS MAILED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY REID CARPENTER AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE.

- VI. MEETING MINUTES:** WILLIAM JOHNSON MOVED THAT THE GOVERNING BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 12, 2026, BOARD MEETING AS SUBMITTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY ABBY CORDER AND A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: SEAN BRADY, ABSTAIN; REID CARPENTER, YEA; ABBY CORDER, YEA; RANDI EARNEST, YEA; DENNIS HITCHCOCK, YEA; WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; TONY MAYLE, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; WENDY STARLIN, YEA; AND BEN TAYLOR, YEA. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED RECEIVING NINE POSITIVE VOTES; AND ONE ABSTENTION.
- VII. REVIEW HEARINGS – FY 2027 SERVICE PROVIDER REQUESTS FOR FUNDING:** MHRS Board staff and board members reviewed FY 2027 funding applications from 1) Genesis Healthcare System’s Behavioral Health Youth Crisis Stabilization Unit; and 2) Coshocton Behavioral Health Choices. Action on RFA’s will be made once all hearings have been conducted. Note: Concerns remain about possible funding cuts in State and Federal funding for behavioral health services, along with ongoing discussions about the possibility of eliminating property taxes.
- VIII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:**
- ▶ Director Misty Cromwell’s April Board Report listed various activities, as staff members worked toward meeting the MHRS Board’s Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives.
 - ▶ Misty introduced new employee Lee Barnhart, who is taking over the role of Director of Finance and Administration; and Terri France, who is now the MHRS Board’s Administrative and Operations Coordinator.
 - ▶ *(Some other activity summaries are included in the Board Meeting Highlights attached to the minutes.)*
- IX. FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT: (Dr. Dan Scheerer, Chair)**
1. **Financial Reports:**
Board members reviewed the following March 2026 financial reports: 1) Balance Sheet as of March 31, 2026; 2) Dashboard Report; 3) Report of Network Funding Reserves; 4) Year-to-Date Status Report for the MHRS Board’s Operating Budget; and 5) Reconciliation Report.
▶ **March 2026 Reconciliation Report:**
Following report of Committee action, DAN SCHEERER MOVED THAT THE GOVERNING BOARD OF DIRECTORS ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE TO APPROVE THE MARCH 2026 RECONCILIATION REPORT AS SUBMITTED. 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; RANDI EARNEST, YEA; DENNIS HITCHCOCK, YEA; WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; TONY MAYLE, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; WENDY STARLIN, YEA; AND BEN TAYLOR, YEA. The motion was unanimously approved receiving 10 positive votes.
 2. **‘Then and Now’ Certificate:**
Following report of Committee action, DAN SCHEERER MOVED THAT THE GOVERNING BOARD OF DIRECTORS ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE TO APPROVE A ‘THEN AND NOW’ CERTIFICATE FOR THE FOLLOWING PURCHASE ORDER: FENIX MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION, PO #26-121002 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,338.10. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY DENNIS HITCHCOCK AND A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: SEAN BRADY, YEA; REID CARPENTER, YEA; ABBY CORDER, YEA; RANDI EARNEST, YEA; DENNIS HITCHCOCK, YEA; WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; TONY MAYLE, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; WENDY STARLIN, YEA; AND BEN TAYLOR, YEA. The motion was unanimously approved receiving 10 positive votes.

3. Tentative FY 2027 Funding Allocations for Contract Organizations:

Following report of Committee action, DAN SCHEERER MOVED THAT THE GOVERNING BOARD ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE TO APPROVE TENTATIVE FY 2027 FUNDING ALLOCATIONS TO CONTRACT ORGANIZATIONS, TOTALING \$10,035,657.60. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY ABBY CORDER.

(Includes \$1.4 million in unallocated funds to address FY 2027 funding uncertainties related to possible State and Federal cuts, as well as concerns about changes in property taxes.

A ROLL CALL VOTE ON THE ABOVE MOTION WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: SEAN BRADY, YEA; REID CARPENTER, YEA; ABBY CORDER, YEA; RANDI EARNEST, YEA; DENNIS HITCHCOCK, YEA; WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; TONY MAYLE, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; WENDY STARLIN, YEA; AND BEN TAYLOR, YEA. The motion was unanimously approved receiving 10 positive votes.

4. Amended Coshocton Behavioral Health Capital Project:

Following report of Committee Action, DAN SCHEERER MOVED THAT THE GOVERNING BOARD OF DIRECTORS ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE TO APPROVE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ASSISTANCE FOR UP TO 50% OF TOTAL COSTS (up to \$1,000,000) IN CAPITAL PROJECT IMPROVEMENTS AT 610 WALNUT STREET, COSHOCTON (PRIMARILY TO REPLACE THE BUILDING'S ROOF). THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY WILLIAM JOHNSON AND A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: SEAN BRADY, YEA; REID CARPENTER, YEA; ABBY CORDER, YEA; RANDI EARNEST, YEA; DENNIS HITCHCOCK, YEA; WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; TONY MAYLE, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; WENDY STARLIN, YEA; AND BEN TAYLOR, YEA. The motion was unanimously approved receiving 10 positive votes.

X. PROGRAM COMMITTEE: Members of the Sheridan FFA shared with the Program Committee a presentation they will be making in a competition at the upcoming State AG Conference. The students' skit addressed the many challenges agricultural families are facing and the importance of supporting mental health in rural Ohio.

XI. OLD BUSINESS: Members discussed the work of the Perry County Levy Campaign Committee whose members are getting the word out about the importance of passing the renewal levy on the May 5, 2026, ballot.

NEXT MEETING: The Board of Directors will next meet at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 14, 2026, at the MHRS Board Office. Committees will meet from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. .

COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

► Misty Cromwell announced that Administrative Coordinator Linda Hand is retiring from the MHRS Board effective April 17, 2026. MHRS Board employee Terri France has been promoted to the position of Administrative and Operations Coordinator.

► **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

SIGNATURES

SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

Linda Hand, Administrative Coordinator

Misty Cromwell, Executive Director

Leondra Davis, Board President