

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

**OFFICIAL MINUTES**  
*(September 9, 2021)*

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

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

On August 30, 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 person on Thursday, September 9, 2021 — with the schedule of activities to include: 6:00 p.m., separate meetings of the Finance/Audit Committee and Partners Workgroup; and 7:00 p.m., regular board meeting.

**II. CALL TO ORDER:** President William Johnson called the regular board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**III. OATH OF OFFICE:** Associate Director Elaine Shuster administered the Oath of Office to ***Tony Mayle, Jr.***, who was recently appointed to the Board of Directors by the Morgan County Commissioners.

**IV. ROLL CALL:**

Board Members present:

- ***William Johnson, President (Coshocton County)***
- ***Jon Black (Guernsey County)***
- ***Jennifer Hanson (Muskingum County)***
- ***Sue Hoover (Muskingum County)***
- ***Pamela Kirst (Muskingum County)***
- ***Jeff LeCocq (Muskingum County)***
- ***Tony Mayle, Jr. (Morgan County)***
- ***Dan Scheerer, M.D. (Muskingum County)***
- ***Ben Taylor (Perry County)***

Board members excused:

- ***Michael Bullock, Vice President (Muskingum County)***
- ***Erin Heard (Coshocton County)***
- ***Danielle Scott (Perry County)***

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

Staff Members present:

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

Four PAX Partners were present to give a presentation about PAX programming in their respective school districts:

- ***Amanda Bright (Buckeye Trail – East Guernsey Schools)***
- ***Reid Carpenter (Zanesville City Schools – John McIntire Elementary)***

- *Joyce Girord (East Muskingum Schools)*
- *Van Hoyt (Rolling Hills Schools)*

V. **AGENDA:** President William Johnson noted there were no revisions to the pre-mailed agenda. BEN TAYLOR MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 9, 2021, MEETING AGENDA AS MAILED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY JEFF LeCOCQ AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

VI. **MEETING MINUTES:** It was noted that a copy of the minutes from the August 12 board meeting were e-mailed to board members on August 18, 2021.

PAMELA KIRST MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 12, 2021, REGULAR BOARD MEETING AS SUBMITTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY JON BLACK AND A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: JON BLACK, YEA; JENNIFER HANSON, YEA; SUE HOOVER, YEA; PAMELA KIRST, YEA; JEFF LeCOCQ, ABSTAIN; TONY MAYLE, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; AND BEN TAYLOR, YEA.. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED RECEIVING SEVEN POSITIVE VOTES AND ONE ABSTENTION.

VII. **ANNUAL PAX PROGRAM UPDATE:** *Summary included in Board Meeting Highlights attached to the minutes.*

VIII. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:**

Key issues from Misty Cromwell’s Director’s Report were:

- ◆ **“Friend of Recovery” Awards Ceremony:** The presentation of the MHRS Board’s “Friend of Recovery” awards will take place at 10:00 am on Wednesday, September 29, 2021, at Chef Steve’s, 730 Putnam Avenue, Zanesville.
- ◆ **Priorities for Additional Funds:** Outreach meetings are being held with contract service providers and other community stakeholders to identify regional priorities for any additional funds that may come down via the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), One Ohio Addiction Settlement Funds, and special Federal Block Grants.
- ◆ **“Connections App” – CHESS Health System:** The MHRS Board and network contract service providers are currently vetting a “Connections Recovery App” that features: Digital Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Substance Use Disorders and Opioid Use Disorder, Sobriety Tracking, Appointment and Medication Reminders, a ‘Recovery Help’ Button, Support Meetings, and a Social Determinants of Health Directory. (A representative from the CHESS Health System will be scheduled to present a brief app demo at the October 14<sup>th</sup> board meeting.)
- ◆ **Guernsey County Work Session:** A virtual meeting was recently held with Cambridge City Magistrate Terri Liston and other Guernsey County stakeholders to discuss: 1) network Detox services; 2) the development of an Outpatient Competency Restoration Program; and 3) Ways to Address Client Crises and unusual incidents at the State-Operated Group Homes – Liberty Manor and Country Garden Manor.
- ◆ **Guardianship Program – Allwell Behavioral Health Services:** (Summary included in Board Meeting Highlights attached to the minutes.)
- ◆ **Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA):** Director Cromwell has been working with contract service providers to prepare for the FFPSA requirements that will become effective October 1, 2021. On September 23, Scott Britton, Assistant Director of the Public Child Services Association of Ohio, will be giving a virtual presentation about FFPSA for mental health and addiction recovery professionals, local Family & Children First Councils, and Children Services in the AppCare Region.
- ◆ **Client Rights & Grievances:** On September 13, a network basic training will be held for new Client Rights Officers about the rights guaranteed to individuals receiving public mental health and addiction services in Ohio.
- ◆ **Week of Appreciation (September 20-26):** “Appreciation” Bags will soon be prepared for service area education employees, as well as law enforcement officers in Noble County. Planning is also underway for the dissemination of the bags.
- ◆ **Understanding Addiction Through a Child’s Eyes:** (Summary included in Board Meeting Highlights attached to

the minutes.)

- ◆ **Smart Choices . . . Healthy Families:** (Summary included in Board Meeting Highlights attached to the minutes.)
- ◆ **Operation Signal 4:** (Summary included in Board Meeting Highlights attached to the minutes.)
- ◆ **Celebrations of Recovery:** (Summary included in Board Meeting Highlights attached to the minutes.)

## IX. FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT: *(Dr. Dan Scheerer, Chair)*

### 1. August 2021 Financial Reports:

Chairman Scheerer guided a thorough review of the MHRS Board's Financial Reports for the month of August 2021 that included: 1) A Reconciliation Report; 2) Contract Services Expense Reports (for FY 2021 and August 2021); 3) Balance Sheet as of August 31, 2021; 4) a Dashboard Report; and 5) Report of Network Levy Balances as of August 31, 2021.

#### ◆ **August 2021 Reconciliation Report:**

*Committee Recommendation: William Johnson moved that the Finance/Audit Committee recommend to the full Board approval of the August 2021 Reconciliation Report as submitted. The motion was seconded by Jon Black and unanimously approved.*

DAN SCHEERER MOVED THAT THE FULL BOARD ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 2021 RECONCILIATION REPORT AS SUBMITTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SUE HOOVER.

Dr. Scheerer provided a specific review of this all-inclusive 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: JON BLACK, YEA; JENNIFER HANSON, YEA; SUE HOOVER, YEA; PAMELA KIRST, YEA; JEFF LeCOCQ, YEA; TONY MAYLE, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; AND BEN TAYLOR, YEA. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED RECEIVING EIGHT POSITIVE VOTES.

### 2. Certification of Tax Levies – Calendar Year 2022:

*Committee Recommendation: Jeff LeCocq moved that the Finance/Audit Committee recommend to the full Board acceptance of the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commissions of Coshocton, Guernsey, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble & Perry Counties—and authorize the necessary tax levies and certify them to the applicable County Auditors: Coshocton (8/10 Mill), \$337,170.00; Guernsey (1 Mill), \$849,580.00; Morgan (8/10 Mill), \$191,084.00; Muskingum (1 Mill), \$1,362,118.94; Noble (7/10 Mill), \$420,000.00; and Perry (1 Mill), \$458,500.00. The motion was seconded by Pamela Kirst and unanimously approved.*

DAN SCHEERER MOVED THAT THE BOARD ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE TO ACCEPT THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSIONS OF COSHOCTON, GUERNSEY, MORGAN, MUSKINGUM, NOBLE AND PERRY COUNTIES – AND AUTHORIZE THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFY THEM TO THE APPLICABLE COUNTY AUDITORS:

Coshocton County (8/10 Mill)	\$ 337,170.00
Guernsey County (1 Mill)	\$ 849,580.00
Morgan County (8/10 Mill)	\$ 191,084.00
Muskingum County (1 Mill)	\$1,362,118.94

Noble County (7/10 Mill)	\$ 420,000.00
Perry County (1 Mill)	\$ 458,500.00

THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY JON BLACK.

Dr. Scheerer noted that, per requirements of the Ohio Revised Code, MHRS Boards are required to (in September of each year) accept the amounts and rates of the six tax levies in effect in our service area and authorize and certify them to the applicable County Auditors.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS THEN TAKEN ON THE ABOVE MOTION AS FOLLOWS: JON BLACK, YEA; JENNIFER HANSON, YEA; SUE HOOVER, YEA; PAMELA KIRST, YEA; JEFF LeCOCQ, YEA; TONY MAYLE, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; AND BEN TAYLOR, YEA. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED RECEIVING EIGHT POSITIVE VOTES.

**Levy Fund Balances:** Board members also reviewed a report of Levy Fund Balances as of August 31, 2021. Dr. Scheerer noted that Finance/Audit Committee members have asked MHRS Board staff to present a proposed policy to the Board of Directors on October 14 — detailing the processes for the management of levy fund balances at the end of the fiscal year.

**X. PARTNERS WORKGROUP:** (*Jamie McGrew, Care Management Director*)

**1. Annual Report of Client Rights Grievances and Major Unusual Incidents:**

A summary of this report is included in the Board Meeting Highlights attached to the minutes.

**XI. OLD BUSINESS:**

**1. Quarterly Review of FY 2021-2023 Strategic Plan:**

A summary of this report is included in the Board Meeting Highlights attached to the minutes.

**XII. NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Next Meeting:**

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 14, at the MHRS Board office.

Director Cromwell thanked board members for their willingness to attend in-person meetings at a time when the Delta Variant of COVID is on the upsurge. Efforts are underway at the state level to draft legislative language that would separate ‘volunteer’ public bodies from ‘elected’ public bodies. If this legislation is eventually approved, MHRS Boards would once again have the authority to meet virtually.

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

► **COVID Update:** Dr. Scheerer noted that 64 people are currently hospitalized due to COVID at Genesis, with 12 of those persons on ventilators in the hospital’s critical care unit. The vast majority of current cases are unvaccinated people. Dr. Scheerer noted, “We can help end this pandemic with the vaccines,” and he encouraged unvaccinated individuals and their families to get vaccinated.

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 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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William Johnson, Board President