

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

OFFICIAL MINUTES
(March 9, 2023)

I. BOARD NOTIFICATION & COMPLIANCE WITH SUNSHINE LAW:

On February 27, 2023, 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, March 9, 2023, at the MHRS Board Office — with the schedule of activities to include: 6:00 p.m., Meetings of 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 7:10 p.m.

III. ROLL CALL:

Board Members present:

- *William Johnson, President (Coshocton County)*
- *Reid Carpenter (Noble County)*
- *Leondra Davis (Coshocton County)*
- *Randi Earnest (Guernsey County)*
- *Megan Gee (Guernsey County)*
- *Jennifer Hanson (Muskingum County)*
- *Tony Mayle, Jr. (Morgan County)*
- *Dan Scheerer, M.D. (Muskingum County)*
- *Ben Taylor (Perry County)*

Board Members excused:

- *Sean Brady (Muskingum County)*
- *Sue Hoover, Vice President (Muskingum County)*
- *Larisa Harper (Muskingum County)*
- *Wendy Starlin (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*
- *Karl Hoop, Crisis/Criminal Justice Coordinator*
- *Jamie McGrew, Care Management Director*
- *Rhonda Hanes, Fiscal Operations Director*
- *Roger Birch, Youth & Family Services Coordinator*
- *Linda Hand, Administrative Coordinator*

IV. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS: Sarah Beardmore, a Grant Manager for Washington-Morgan County Community Action, was present for the Partners Workgroup meeting.

V. AGENDA: President Johnson noted one addition to the pre-mailed agenda: *MHRS Board Commitment to the SCOPE Grant*. LEONDRA DAVIS MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE MARCH 9, 2023, MEETING AGENDA AS AMENDED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY BEN TAYLOR AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

VI. MEETING MINUTES: Minutes from the February 9th board meeting were e-mailed to board members on February 15. REID CARPENTER MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 9, 2023, MEETING AS SUBMITTED. THE MOTION WAS

SECONDED BY RANDI EARNEST, AND A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: REID CARPENTER, YEA; LEONDRA DAVIS, YEA; RANDI EARNEST, YEA; MEGAN GEE, ABSTAIN; JENNIFER HANSON, ABSTAIN; TONY MAYLE, JR., YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; AND BEN TAYLOR YEA. The motion was approved receiving six positive votes and two abstentions.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Key issues from Misty Cromwell's March Director's Report were:

◆ **Foodworks Alliance:** Misty recently met with the Director of the local Foodworks Alliance that offers a 'Recovery with a Purpose' Program to hire and train women in recovery in kitchen skills and operations management. Program Director Amy Aurore noted how rewarding it is to watch the women take the steps necessary to rebuild their lives. In the 12 weeks they are in training, the women often achieve great heights — completing group programs, getting their licenses and cars back, obtaining independent housing, and regaining partial or full custody of their children. Misty and Amy are exploring the possibility of the MHRS Board helping to sustain this good work.

◆ **Data Analytics:** Misty has been talking with Mark Cappone from Ohio University about developing a strategy to effectively share, report, and use data within the network of care and the service area community in meaningful ways. They have also discussed ways to support succession planning as the MHRS Board works to modernize current data collection and analysis processes (through Ascend) to include data analytics as a skill set future recruitment efforts.

◆ **Planning for Additional Guardianship Services:** (Summary included in Board Meeting Highlights attached to the minutes.)

◆ **Community-Wide Behavioral Health Collaborative:** (Summary included in Board Meeting Highlights attached to the minutes.)

◆ **Movement to Install Naloxone Lock Boxes in Service Area School Buildings:** (Summary included in Board Meeting Highlights attached to the minutes.)

◆ **Xylazine Threats:** (Summary included in Board Meeting Highlights attached to the minutes.)

◆ **"Both Sides of the Desk"** — This film, produced by the Southeast Ohio Trauma-Informed Care Collaborative, has been selected to be a part of the Cinema Columbus Film Festival in late April. Interviews with Director Cromwell and Care Management Director Jamie McGrew are included, focusing on the importance and value of trauma-informed care.

◆ **First Meeting of Coshocton County Criminal Justice Collaborative:** Will take place from 12:00 noon to 1:30 pm on April 4 in the Community Room of the Coshocton County Department of Public Health. Over thirty persons have RSVP'd to attend this important meeting to discuss criminal justice issues of mutual concern.

VIII. FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT: (Dr. Dan Scheerer, Chair)

1. February 2023 Financial Reports:

Board members reviewed the MHRS Board's Financial Reports for February 2023 that included: 1) Reconciliation Report; 2) Contract Services Expense Reports; 3) Balance Sheet as of February 28, 2023; 4) Dashboard Report; 5) Monthly Report of Network Funding Reserves; and 6) a 'Year-to-Date' Status Report for the MHRS Board's CY 2023 Operating Budget.

◆ **February 2023 Reconciliation Report:**

After the report of Committee action, DAN SCHEERER MOVED THAT THE FULL BOARD ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 2023 RECONCILIATION REPORT AS SUBMITTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY BEN TAYLOR.

Dr. Scheerer provided a thorough 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:

REID CARPENTER, YEA; LEONDRA DAVIS, YEA; RANDI EARNEST, YEA; MEGAN GEE, YEA; JENNIFER HANSON, YEA; TONY MAYLE, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; AND BEN TAYLOR, YEA. The motion was unanimously approved receiving eight positive votes.

2. MHRS Board Calendar Year 2024 Operations Budget:

After the report of Committee action, DAN SCHEERER MOVED THAT THE BOARD ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE TO APPROVE THE MHRS BOARD'S CALENDAR YEAR 2024 OPERATING BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,138,670.48. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY REID CARPENTER.

Dr. Scheerer noted: 1) the Salary Line Item includes a 3% pay increase for MHRS Board employees effective July 1, 2023; 2) the Advertising & Recruitment Line Item was decreased, as in CY 2024 the MHRS Board will have only one levy renewal issue on the ballot (in Guernsey County); and 3) the Audit Fees Line Item was increased, as audit services are expected to be more costly.

A ROLL CALL VOTE ON THE ABOVE MOTION WAS THEN TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: REID CARPENTER, YEA; LEONDRA DAVIS, YEA; RANDI EARNEST, YEA; MEGAN GEE, YEA; JENNIFER HANSON, YEA; TONY MAYLE, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; AND BEN TAYLOR, YEA. The motion was unanimously approved receiving eight positive votes.

3. Community-Wide Behavioral Health Collaborative:

After the report of Committee action, DAN SCHEERER MOVED THAT THE BOARD ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE TO APPROVE A SPECIAL ALLOCATION REQUEST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$70,968.00 TO HELP FUND THE WORK OF THE COMMUNITY-WIDE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COLLABORATIVE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY RANDI EARNEST.

For several months, Director Cromwell has been joining representatives from Genesis, Muskingum Valley Health Centers, and Allwell Behavioral Health to look at making improvements to a continuum of care that would focus on clients needing intensive wraparound services — with the goal of facilitating successful community living and preventing admissions to inpatient psychiatric units. At the group's last meeting, it was agreed to contract with Guidehouse Consulting to guide the Collaborative's work. The above special allocation represents the first quarter payment for the consultant's work (at the April 13 board meeting, some ancillary expenses will be reviewed and acted upon). It is anticipated that other consulting firm payments will be shared among partners.

A ROLL CALL VOTE ON THE ABOVE MOTION WAS THEN TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: REID CARPENTER, YEA; LEONDRA DAVIS, YEA; RANDI EARNEST, YEA; MEGAN GEE, YEA; JENNIFER HANSON, YEA; TONY MAYLE, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; AND BEN TAYLOR, YEA. The motion was unanimously approved receiving eight positive votes.

4. Special Allocation Request – Big Brothers / Big Sisters:

After the report of Committee action, DAN SCHEERER MOVED THAT THE BOARD ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE TO APPROVE A SPECIAL ALLOCATION OF \$10,000.00 TO BIG BROTHERS AND BIG SISTERS OF ZANESVILLE FOR THE PURCHASE AND TRAINING OF A THERAPY DOG. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MEGAN GEE.

BB/BS notes the therapy dog will be visiting school ‘lunch buddy’ activities and also attending other activities with the ‘littles,’ their families, and the ‘bigs.’ It was noted Big Brothers and Big Sisters serves Muskingum, Guernsey, Noble and Morgan Counties.

A ROLL CALL VOTE ON THE ABOVE MOTION WAS THEN TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: REID CARPENTER, YEA; LEONDRA DAVIS, YEA; RANDI EARNEST, YEA; MEGAN GEE, YEA; JENNIFER HANSON, YEA; TONY MAYLE, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; AND BEN TAYLOR, YEA. The motion was unanimously approved receiving eight positive votes.

5. Special Allocation Request – Muskingum Behavioral Health (MBH):

After the report of Committee action, DAN SCHEERER MOVED THAT THE BOARD ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE TO APPROVE A SPECIAL ALLOCATION OF \$83,000.00 TO MUSKINGUM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TO HELP SUPPORT SOME UNFUNDED PREVENTION SERVICES THROUGH THE END OF FY 2023. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY BEN TAYLOR.

These funds would be used to support the organization’s Education, Information Dissemination, and Jail Group Programs. MBH CEO Yolanda Taylor highlighted the value of these services and noted that she is planning to make some strategic process changes in the organization’s FY 2024 budget planning, so that they will not be faced with future funding shortages.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS THEN TAKEN ON THE ABOVE MOTION AS FOLLOWS: REID CARPENTER, YEA; LEONDRA DAVIS, YEA; RANDI EARNEST, YEA; MEGAN GEE, YEA; JENNIFER HANSON, YEA; TONY MAYLE, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; AND BEN TAYLOR, YEA. The motion was unanimously approved receiving eight positive votes.

6. Building Alterations – Perry Behavioral Health Choices (PBHC):

Director Cromwell reported that PBHC will be using already-allocated levy funds (in the amount of \$55,000) to make some needed building alternations that will help to sustain and improve the care of clients needing medically monitored withdrawal management and recovery residential services.

IX. PARTNERS WORKGROUP:

1. SSGT Fox Suicide Prevention Grant:

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

X. OLD BUSINESS: (None)

XI. NEW BUSINESS:

1. MHRS Board Commitment to SCOPE (Strategies to Coordinate Overdose Prevention Efforts) Grant:

Care Management Director Jamie McGrew briefly explained a \$500,000 SCOPE grant she is submitting to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to support trainings of some local first responders on the administration of the opioid-reversing drug naloxone (or Narcan), Narcan leave-behind bags, and referring patients to local addiction recovery organizations. The grant requires the inclusion of a

Letter of Commitment from the MHRS Board of Directors to “support cross-systems collaboration and coordination by making treatment resources readily available and increasing access to treatment through first responders.”

Following review, DAN SCHEERER MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE LETTER OF COMMITMENT TO BE INCLUDED WITH THE SUBMISSION OF THE SCOPE GRANT TO SAMHSA. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY REID CARPENTER AND A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: REID CARPENTER, YEA; LEONDRA DAVIS, YEA; RANDI EARNEST, YEA; MEGAN GEE, YEA; JENNIFER HANSON, YEA; TONY MAYLE, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; AND BEN TAYLOR, YEA. The motion was unanimously approved receiving eight positive votes.

2. **Next Meeting:** The Board of Directors will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 13, 2023, at the MHRS Board Office, 1500 Coal Run Road, Zanesville. (Committee meetings will be held from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.)

XII. COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- **Health Equity Moment:** *“In a purpose-driven system, all partners at all levels align around transformative values, relationships and goals — moving towards racial equity, integrating an emphasis on doing less harm and supporting actions that heal and transform.”* On his meeting evaluation form, board member Tony Mayle, Jr. noted: “This is a great topic which reflects the butterfly effect.”
- **Workforce Development Presentation:** Director Cromwell reported that the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities has scheduled Muskingum County Chamber of Commerce President Dana Matz for a breakout session on Workforce Development at the upcoming Ohio Opiate Conference.

XIII. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

SIGNATURES

SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

Linda Hand, Administrative Coordinator

Misty Cromwell, Executive Director

William Johnson, Board President