

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

OFFICIAL MINUTES
(July 11, 2024)

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

I. BOARD NOTIFICATION & COMPLIANCE WITH SUNSHINE LAW:

On July 1, 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, July 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 6:10 p.m.

III. OATH OFFICE: MHRS Board Office Manager Terri France administered the Oath of Office to Reid Carpenter who has been reappointed to a new 4-year term by the Noble County Commissioners.

IV. ROLL CALL:

Board Members Present:

- *Sue Hoover, President (Muskingum County)*
- *Leondra Davis, Vice President (Coshocton County)*
- *Reid Carpenter (Noble County)*
- *Randi Earnest (Guernsey County)*
- *Dennis Hitchcock (Muskingum County)*
- *William Johnson (Coshocton County)*
- *Dave Peoples (Guernsey County)*
- *Dr. Dan Scheerer (Muskingum County)*
- *Ben Taylor (Perry County)*
- *Bonnie Taylor (Muskingum County)*

Board Members Excused:

- *Abby Corder (Muskingum County)*
- *Sean Brady (Muskingum County)*
- *Tony Mayle, Jr. (Morgan County)*
- *Wendy Starlin (Perry County)*

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

Staff Members Present:

- *Misty Cromwell, Executive Director*
- *Rhonda Hanes, Associate Director / Director of Finance & Administration*
- *Sarah Reed, Director of Compliance and Quality Improvement*
- *Jamie McGrew, Director of Community Outreach & Programming*
- *Karl Hoop, Director of Community Engagement & Crisis Services*
- *Roger Birch, Director of Youth & Family Services*
- *Linda Hand, Administrative Coordinator*
- *Terri France, Office Manager (1st part of meeting)*

V. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:

- *James McDonald, President/CEO, Allwell Behavioral Health Services, was present for the Finance/Audit Committee meeting and the first part of the Regular Board Meeting*

Guests present for the Partners Workgroup meeting were:

- *Kris Headley, Chief Prevention & Recovery Support Officer, Muskingum Behavioral Health*
- *Three High School Student Interns*

VI. AGENDA: DENNIS HITCHCOCK MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR

THE JULY 11, 2024, BOARD MEETING AS MAILED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY WILLIAM JOHNSON AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

VII. MEETING MINUTES: BEN TAYLOR MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 13, 2024, BOARD MEETING AS SUBMITTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY LEONDRA DAVIS AND A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: REID CARPENTER, ABSTAIN; LEONDRA DAVIS, YEA; RANDI EARNEST, ABSTAIN; DENNIS HITCHCOCK, YEA; WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; DAVE PEOPLES, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; BEN TAYLOR, YEA; AND BONNIE TAYLOR, YEA. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED RECEIVING SEVEN POSITIVE VOTES AND TWO ABSTENTIONS.

VIII. SPECIAL FUNDING REQUEST:

In the Finance/Audit Committee meeting, James McDonald, CEO of Allwell Behavioral Health Services, asked the MHRS Board to give FY 2024 unspent levy dollars to the network contract organizations that are participating in the Open Minds Initiative, rather than holding those funds in reserves. Open Minds consultants are assisting the contract organizations by providing management advice and strategic insights through a 4-phased process. Mr. McDonald noted that the unspent levy dollars could be used to further the work of the Open Minds Project. Following Committee review, Finance/Audit Committee Chair Dr. Dan Scheerer reported a recommendation to table the funding request until decisions are made through the Open Minds initiative and a project budget has been submitted to the MHRS Board. It was felt that the full Board of Directors should hear more about the funding request from Mr. McDonald.

In the full board meeting, the request was thoroughly reviewed – with many thinking that the Open Minds Project is not that far along to take action on project funding. Following review, DAN SCHEERER MOVED THAT THE BOARD ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE TO TABLE THE FUNDING REQUEST UNTIL DECISIONS ARE MADE THROUGH THE OPEN MINDS INITIATIVE AND A PROJECT BUDGET HAS BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE MHRS BOARD. 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; DENNIS HITCHCOCK, YEA; WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; DAVE PEOPLES, ABSTAIN; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; BEN TAYLOR, YEA; AND BONNIE TAYLOR, YEA. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED RECEIVING EIGHT POSITIVE VOTES AND ONE ABSTENTION.

IX. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Director Misty Cromwell's July Report listed various activities, as staff members worked toward meeting the MHRS Board's Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives. Primary issues addressed were: 1) the MHRS Board's New Funding Process; 2) Community Transition Program funds; and 3) the Open Minds Initiative. In several areas, Director Cromwell asked for specific feedback from board members about various funding processes and the best ways to address service provider financial crises. Board member feedback will be transcribed and used in future funding application reviews.

X. OTHER FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE ISSUES: (Dr. Dan Scheerer, Chair)

1. June 2024 Financial Reports:

Board members reviewed the following June 2024 fiscal reports: 1) Balance Sheet as of June 30, 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.

June 2024 Reconciliation Report:

Following the report of Committee action, DAN SCHEERER MOVED THAT THE BOARD ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE TO

APPROVE THE JUNE 2024 RECONCILIATION REPORT AS SUBMITTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY DENNIS HITCHCOCK.

Dr. Scheerer 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: REID CARPENTER, YEA; LEONDRA DAVIS, YEA; RANDI EARNEST, YEA; DENNIS HITCHCOCK, YEA; WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; DAVE PEOPLES, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; BEN TAYLOR, YEA; AND BONNIE TAYLOR, YEA. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED RECEIVING NINE POSITIVE VOTES.

2. Hoagland Project for Veterans – Visits to Other Program Models:

Members thoroughly reviewed information about possible visits to other Veteran-assistance program models in the country, particularly: 1) Heroes and Horses based in Montana; and 2) Delancey Street Program in California.

Members were provided with detailed information about the above two models and discussion about the programs was extensive. Following the report of Committee action, DAN SCHEERER MOVED THAT THE BOARD ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE TO APPROVE THE ALLOCATION OF \$4,000.00 TO FACILITATE A VISIT BY FOUR HOAGLAND PROJECT PLANNERS TO THE DELANCEY STREET PROGRAM MODEL IN CALIFORNIA. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY WILLIAM JOHNSON AND A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: LEONDRA DAVIS, YEA; RANDI EARNEST, YEA; DENNIS HITCHCOCK, YEA; WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; DAVE PEOPLES, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; BEN TAYLOR, YEA; AND BONNIE TAYLOR, YEA. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED RECEIVING EIGHT POSITIVE VOTES. (*Reid Carpenter was not available for the vote on this motion.*)

XI. PARTNERS WORKGROUP: (*Randi Earnest, Chair*)

- 1. Special Prevention Programs Provided by Muskingum Behavioral Health:** Randi Earnest reported on information shared by Kris Headley in the Partners Workgroup meeting about the WISE Program (for seniors) and HALO Program (for pre-schoolers). Kris is Muskingum Behavioral Health's Chief Prevention and Recovery Support Officer. (*Summary provided in Meeting Highlights attached to the minutes.*)

XII. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Collaborative County Fair Project with Service Area Farm Bureaus:

Sarah Reed reported on the "Check Your Fence / Check Your Neighbor" project designed to increase outreach to the rural farming community. (*Summary included in Meeting Highlights attached to the minutes.*)

XIII. NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Virtual Lunch-and-Learns – "Recovery University":** Will begin on August 6 and then be offered on a quarterly basis. The first session will address basic information about the MHRS Board, the overall system of care, and Mental Health / Primary Care. The November session will cover the growing number of peer services within the network. These sessions are open to the general public.

- XIV. NEXT MEETING:** The MHRS Board will not be meeting in August. The next meeting will be: **Thursday, September 12, 2024, @ 6:00 pm** – 1500 Coal Run Road, Zanesville (The Finance/Audit Committee and Partners Workgroup will meet from 5:00 to 6:00 pm.)

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

SIGNATURE PAGE

SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

Linda Hand, Administrative Coordinator

Misty Cromwell, Executive Director

Sue Hoover, Board President