

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

OFFICIAL MINUTES
(January 13, 2022)

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

I. BOARD NOTIFICATION & COMPLIANCE WITH SUNSHINE LAW:

On January 4, 2022, 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, January 13, 2022 — 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 7:05 p.m.

III. ROLL CALL:

Board Members present:

- *William Johnson, President (Coshocton County)*
- *Sue Hoover, Vice President (Muskingum County)*
- *Pamela Kirst (Muskingum County)*
- *Jeff LeCocq (Muskingum County)*
- *Dan Scheerer, M.D. (Muskingum County)*
- *Ben Taylor (Perry County)*

Board members excused:

- *Jon Black (Guernsey County)*
- *Jennifer Hanson (Muskingum County)*
- *Tony Mayle, Jr. (Morgan County)*
- *Danielle Scott (Perry County)*

There being six 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*

Guest:

- *Randi Earnest, Potential Guernsey County Board Representative*

IV. AGENDA: There being no changes to the pre-mailed agenda, BEN TAYLOR MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE JANUARY 13, 2022, MEETING AGENDA AS MAILED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SUE HOOVER AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

V. MEETING MINUTES: It was noted that the minutes from the December 9 board meeting were e-mailed to board members on December 14, 2021.

SUE HOOVER MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 9, 2021, REGULAR BOARD MEETING AS SUBMITTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY BEN TAYLOR AND A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: SUE HOOVER, YEA; PAMELA KIRST, ABSTAIN; JEFF LeCOCQ, ABSTAIN; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; AND BEN TAYLOR, YEA. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED RECEIVING THREE POSITIVE VOTES AND TWO ABSTENTIONS.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

PAMELA KIRST MOVED THAT THE BOARD RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS CONTRACTING AND PERSONNEL ISSUES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY JEFF LeCOCQ AND A ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: SUE HOOVER, YEA; PAMELA KIRST, YEA; JEFF LeCOCQ, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; AND BEN TAYLOR, YEA. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED RECEIVING FIVE POSITIVE VOTES.

The Board of Directors recessed to Executive Session at 7:10 p.m.

JEFF LeCOCQ MOVED THAT THE BOARD RETURN TO OPEN SESSION. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY DAN SCHEERER AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:25 p.m.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

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

◆ **Emerging Behavioral Health Work:** Misty reviewed numerous state level initiatives to be addressed in Calendar Year 2022: The initiatives are: Crisis Services, 988 Implementation, Multi-System Adults, Next Generation Managed Care, OhioRISE, State Behavioral Health Data System, Senate Bill 2 Implementation, Health Equity Work, OneOhio Settlements, Overdose Strikeforce, Workforce Development, and Funding (Allocations, Grants, Special Projects).

◆ **Behavioral Health Urgent Care:** In collaboration with behavioral health stakeholders, the MHRS Board is considering the possibility of establishing a local Behavioral Health Urgent Care Center. The planners recently met with developers of such Centers in Licking and Richland Counties. A behavioral health urgent care center in our region would offer 'no-wrong-door' access to care for mental illness and substance use disorders—operating much like a hospital emergency department that accepts all walk-ins and ambulance, fire department, and law enforcement drop-offs. MHRS Board Director Misty Cromwell and Genesis Behavioral Health Unit Director Chrissy Parr are making plans for some site visits to already-existing centers.

◆ **OhioMHAS Grant to Enhance Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS) Services:** (Summary included in Board Meeting Highlights attached to the minutes.)

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

1. December 2021 Financial Reports:

Chairman Scheerer guided a thorough review of the MHRS Board's Financial Reports for December 2021 that included: 1) Reconciliation Report; 2) Contract Services Expense Reports; 3) Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2021; 4) Dashboard Report; and 5) Monthly Report of Network Funding Reserves.

◆ **December 2021 Reconciliation Report:**

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

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: SUE HOOVER, YEA; PAMELA KIRST, YEA; JEFF LeCOCQ, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; AND BEN TAYLOR, YEA. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED RECEIVING FIVE POSITIVE VOTES.

2. Resolution – Authorization to Pay 2021 Bills in 2022:

DAN SCHEERER MOVED THAT THE BOARD ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

It has been requested by the Fiscal Department to pay 2021 bills in 2022. This would include any unknown invoices dated for 2021 that are presented for payment in 2022. Any known 2021 expenses have been documented as a carryover expense. It is resolved that invoices dated for 2021 presented for payment in 2022 are approved for payment.

THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY PAMELA KIRST.

Chairman Scheerer noted that this is a standard motion that is acted upon each January to go on record that, over the next few months, the Board of Directors will be reviewing and acting on bills from 2021.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS THEN TAKEN ON THE ABOVE MOTION AS FOLLOWS: SUE HOOVER, YEA; PAMELA KIRST, YEA; JEFF LeCOCQ, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; AND BEN TAYLOR, YEA. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED RECEIVING FIVE POSITIVE VOTES.

3. State Opioid Response (SOR) 2.0/2022 Grant Sub-Awards:

PAMELA KIRST MOVED THAT THE BOARD ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING SOR GRANT SUB-AWARDS, CONTINGENT UPON OhioMHAS's OFFICIAL APPROVAL OF THE MHRS BOARD'S SOR GRANT.

Allwell Behavioral Health Services	\$ 91,420.00
Coshocton Behavioral Health Choices	\$ 77,653.30
Guernsey Health Choices	\$ 68,850.00
Muskingum Behavioral Health	\$130,604.46
Perry Behavioral Health Choices	\$115,500.00
Muskingum Valley Health Centers	\$ 35,000.00
Zanesville Treatment Center	\$ 43,946.53
Guernsey County Health Department	\$ 60,894.08
Zanesville – Muskingum County Health Department	\$ 59,241.63
Cambridge Municipal Court	<u>\$ 62,192.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$745,302.00

THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY JEFF LeCOCQ.

NOTE: Detailed information about how each of the service providers are using their grant dollars is included in the Board Meeting Highlights attached to the minutes.

A ROLL CALL VOTE ON THE ABOVE MOTION WAS THEN TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: SUE HOOVER, YEA; PAMELA KIRST, YEA; JEFF LeCOCQ, YEA;

DAN SCHEERER, YEA; AND BEN TAYLOR, YEA. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED RECEIVING FIVE POSITIVE VOTES.

4. Special Allocation Request – Guernsey Health Choices (GHC):

Board members extensively reviewed a special allocation request from Guernsey Health Choices in the amount of \$169,900.00 for the purchase of a building in Cambridge to serve as a men’s recovery house.

Board members noted their appreciation for recovery housing, recognizing that it is a much-needed service in the addiction recovery continuum of care. However, there were many questions about the proposed property, GHC’s ability to subsidize residents’ rental costs, and some other preliminary Guernsey County collaborative projects that are already under consideration for receiving funding reserves.

DAN SCHEERER MOVED THAT THE BOARD ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE TO TABLE THE SPECIAL ALLOCATION REQUEST FROM GUERNSEY HEALTH CHOICES, GIVING THE ORGANIZATION AN OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS BOARD MEMBERS’ CONCERNS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SUE HOOVER AND A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: SUE HOOVER, YEA; PAMELA KIRST, YEA; JEFF LeCOCQ, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; AND BEN TAYLOR YEA. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED RECEIVING FIVE POSITIVE VOTES.

5. Special Allocation Request #1 – Allwell Behavioral Health Services:

DAN SCHEERER MOVED THAT THE BOARD ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE TO APPROVE THE SPECIAL ALLOCATION OF \$86,592.00 TO ALLWELL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES TO COVER UNANTICIPATED RENOVATION COST OVERAGES FOR THE MOBILE RESPONSE AND STABILIZATION SERVICES SUPPORT CENTER FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY PAMELA KIRST.

It was pointed out that Allwell has already received \$500,000 in capital funding assistance for this project from the Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services (OhioMHAS), and the award of this special allocation will ensure the project can move forward to successful completion.

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

6. Special Allocation Request #2 – Allwell Behavioral Health Services:

DAN SCHEERER MOVED THAT THE BOARD ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE TO APPROVE A SPECIAL ALLOCATION OF \$27,000 TO ALLWELL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES TO PRIMARILY SUPPORT COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH ASSUMING THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PROVISION OF DRUG/ALCOHOL SERVICES IN NOBLE COUNTY. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY JEFF LeCOCQ.

Chairman Scheerer noted that the Board of Directors of Noble Behavioral Health Choices

(NBHC) recently made a decision to close NBHC effective January 31, 2022. Allwell Behavioral Health Services will now be assuming the responsibility for providing addiction recovery services out of the former NBHC office site in Caldwell, Ohio, and they are recruiting a qualified/licensed counselor to provide treatment services and general oversight of the new operations.

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

IX. PARTNERS WORKGROUP:

The Partners Workgroup heard two presentations about: 1) *Allwell Behavioral Health's Guardianship Program* (presented by Pam Easterly, Program Coordinator); and 2) an *Update about the Operations of NAMI Six County* (presented by Director Bonnie Burns). (Summaries of these presentations are included in the Board Meeting Highlights attached to the minutes.)

Partners Workgroup member Ben Taylor expressed appreciation for the new Guardianship Program at Allwell and noted that he considers the MHRS Board's support of this service to be a good investment.

X. OLD BUSINESS: There was no Old Business.

XI. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Thursday, February 10, 2022, at the MHRS Board office. As usual, committee meetings will be held from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

XII. COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

► **SPOTLIGHTS ON BOARD MEMBERS:** Jamie McGrew called attention to the 'Board Member Highlight' for Board President William Johnson that can be found on the Board's web page (www.mhrs.org) and on the Board's Facebook Page (www.facebook.com/mamhrsb). Jamie will be posting a board member highlight each month.

► **STRAKER FOUNDATION GRANT CYCLE:** Pamela Kirst noted that the next Straker Foundation Grant Cycle will open on February 28, 2022.

► **COVID UPDATE:** Dr. Scheerer noted that, even though the Omicron variant is considered less severe, it is much more easily transmitted than the Delta variant. Experts are now predicting that the Omicron surge may be receding and, by March, infection rates could be significantly reduced.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

SIGNATURES

SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

Linda Hand, Administrative Coordinator

Misty Cromwell, Executive Director

William Johnson, Board President