

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

OFFICIAL MINUTES  
*(Regular Board Meeting – Teleconference – April 8, 2021)*

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

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

On March 29, 2021, board members, contract organization directors, service area news media, county boards of commissioners, and state legislators were notified the Board of Directors would virtually meet in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 8, 2021. All parties were provided with meeting access information.

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

**III. ROLL CALL:**

Board Members Participating:

- *Jeff LeCocq, President (Muskingum County)*
- *William Johnson, Vice-President (Coshocton County)*
- *Sherile Beardmore (Guernsey County)*
- *Michael Bullock (Muskingum County)*
- *Sue Hoover (Muskingum County)*
- *Pamela Kirst (Muskingum County)*
- *Mindy Lowe (Noble County)*
- *Thomas Lynch (Coshocton County)*
- *Dan Scheerer, M.D. (Muskingum County)*
- *Bev Steinbrecher (Morgan County)*

Board member excused:

- *Jennifer Hanson (Muskingum County)*
- *Kelly Lynch (Guernsey County)*
- *Danielle Scott (Perry County)*

There being 10 board members in the meeting, a quorum was constituted for conducting official business.

Staff Members Participating:

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

**IV. INTRODUCTION OF GUEST:** Rainy Oliver, Dual Recovery Services Director for Allwell Behavioral Health Services, was present during the first part of the meeting for a special presentation about the Southeast Ohio CISM Team.

**V. AGENDA:** PAMELA KIRST MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR THE APRIL 8, 2021, MEETING AS MAILED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SHERILE BEARDMORE AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

- VI. **MEETING MINUTES:** It was noted that a copy of the minutes from the March 11 board meeting were mailed to board members on March 16, 2021.

SUE HOOVER MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 11, 2021, REGULAR BOARD MEETING AS SUBMITTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SHERILE BEARDMORE AND A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: SHERILE BEARDMORE, YEA; MICHAEL BULLOCK, YEA; SUE HOOVER, YEA; PAMELA KIRST, YEA; MINDY LOWE, YEA; THOMAS LYNCH, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; AND BEV STEINBRECHER, YEA. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED RECEIVING EIGHT POSITIVE VOTES. *(William Johnson was not present for the vote on this motion.)*

VII. **CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS MANAGEMENT TEAM:**

Rainy Oliver and Jamie McGrew, Co-Coordiators for the Southeast Ohio Critical Incident Stress Management Team, shared information about the regeneration of this group that is providing peer support to public safety agencies and other community entities that have been exposed to a critical event and who find themselves dealing with the aftermath of such exposure. *(Summary included in Board Meeting Highlights attached to the minutes.)*

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

Key issues from Misty Cromwell's Director's Report (Exhibit A) were:

◆ **Development of Parent Peer Support Program:** *(Summary included in Board Meeting Highlights attached to the minutes.)*

◆ **Leading in Appalachia Education Series:** Director Cromwell is participating in a 9-month education series — "Communicating in a Complex World" — that is a part of the Voinovich Academy for Excellence in Public Service that is affiliated with Ohio University. The six training sessions will address: Leading with Strengths, Effective Communication, Collaboration, Data Visualization, Leading with Emotional Intelligence, and Advocacy in Appalachia.

◆ **Outreach Meetings with Contract Providers' Board Members:** Misty has begun the MHRS Board's annual outreach meetings with contract organizations' board members. The first session was held on March 24, 2021, with board members from Allwell Behavioral Health Services. Misty provided information about the work of the MHRS Board and reviewed the five areas of focus in the Board's Strategic Plan. The remaining outreach sessions will take place in April, May and June.

◆ **SAMHSA Releases Special Funds:** *(Summary included in Board Meeting Highlights attached to the minutes.)*

◆ **Mobile Response and Stabilization Services for Children and Families:** As a part of Allwell Behavioral Health's COVID-19 Emergency Grant, planning is underway for the launch of Mobile Response & Stabilization Services (MRSS) for children and families in crisis. Plans include the development of a Crisis Call Center, a De-Escalation and Support Center, Intensive Home-Based Services, and Transitional Housing for Young Adults (already in existence). As the program is more fully developed, representatives from Allwell BHS will be scheduled to provide a presentation about MRSS at a future meeting of the MHRS Board of Directors.

◆ **Broadband Telehealth Grant Approved – Muskingum Valley Educational Services Center (MVESC):** *(Summary included in Board Meeting Highlights attached to the minutes.)*

◆ **RemoteEDx Grant Approved:** *(Summary included in Board Meeting Highlights attached to the minutes.)*

IX. **FINANCIAL ISSUES: (Dr. Dan Scheerer, Chair, Finance/Audit Committee)**

1. **March 2021 Financial Reports: (Exhibit B)**

Chairman Scheerer guided a thorough review of the MHRS Board's Financial Reports for the month of March 2021 that included: 1) a Reconciliation Report; 2) Contract Services Expenses for March 2021; 3) Balance Sheet as of March 31, 2021; and 4) the March 2021 Dashboard.

◆ *March 2021 Reconciliation Report:*

DAN SCHEERER MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE MARCH 2021 RECONCILIATION REPORT AS SUBMITTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY PAMELA KIRST.

Dr. Scheerer reviewed the all-inclusive report that showed deposits, checks written for MHRS Board operations, payments to in-network service providers, out-of-network community partners, and journal entries.

A ROLL CALL VOTE ON THE ABOVE MOTION WAS THEN TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: SHERILE BEARDMORE, YEA; MICHAEL BULLOCK, YEA; SUE HOOVER, YEA; WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; PAMELA KIRST, YEA; MINDY LOWE, YEA; THOMAS LYNCH, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; AND BEV STEINBRECHER, YEA. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED RECEIVING NINE POSITIVE VOTES.

2. **FY 2022 Tentative Allocations to Contract Organizations:** (Exhibit C)

DAN SCHEERER MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE TENTATIVE FUNDING ALLOCATIONS TO CONTRACT ORGANIZATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SHERILE BEARDMORE.

Dr. Scheerer reviewed the tentative allocations, noting that contract organizations are receiving some slight increases in funding for FY 2022 — until more specific information is known at the state level regarding the possibility of additional funding resources. Funding for alcohol/drug recovery contract providers totaled \$2,704,645 (\$47,009 more than last fiscal year) and funding for mental health contract providers totaled \$6,769,515 (\$154,835 more than last fiscal year).

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS THEN TAKEN ON THE ABOVE MOTION AS FOLLOWS: SHERILE BEARDMORE, YEA; MICHAEL BULLOCK, YEA; SUE HOOVER, YEA; WILLIAM JOHNSON, YEA; PAMELA KIRST, YEA; MINDY LOWE, YEA; THOMAS LYNCH, YEA; DAN SCHEERER, YEA; AND BEV STEINBRECHER, YEA. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED RECEIVING NINE POSITIVE VOTES.

X. **OLD BUSINESS:** (There was no Old Business.)

XI. **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Next Meeting:** The next virtual meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Thursday, May 13, 2021. The Finance/Audit Committee and Partners Workgroup will meet from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m., followed by the regular board meeting at 7:00 p.m.

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

◆ ***Meeting Materials:*** It was agreed that all meeting materials will now be emailed to board members.

◆ ***In-Person Meetings:*** It is hoped that the June 10, 2021, meeting can be in-person at the MHRS Board Office. Meeting materials will be shared on-screen; however, board members are welcome to bring laptops, so they can personally access e-mailed materials.

◆ ***Vaccinations:*** Dr. Scheerer referred to a current surge being experienced in new COVID-19 cases (including the British variation that is more easily transmitted) and individuals needing hospitalization. Everyone was encouraged to get vaccinated.

◆ ***Board Member Resignation:*** Director Misty Cromwell reported that Coshocton County Representative Thomas Lynch will be moving out-of-state and has resigned from the Board of Directors effective April 9, 2021. Thomas had served on the Partners Workgroup, bringing his valuable perspective to the table, especially as it

relates to the needs of troubled children and families. Misty noted, "Thomas has been a dedicated board member, thoughtfully considering issues brought before the MHRS Board and offering relevant input about network services." A *"Certificate of Awesomeness"* will be delivered to Thomas in the coming weeks.

**XIII ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 7:50 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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Jeff LeCocq, Board President