

Tri-County Board of Recovery & Mental Health Services
Board of Directors' Meeting
Minutes

September 20, 2023

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Rod Austin
Velina Bogart
Dennis Butts
Jerry Herbe
Ann Runner
Jason Wagner

BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED

Joe Gebhart
Marty Hobart
Terrie Hottle
Chuck Wirick

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

BOARD STAFF PRESENT

Beth Buchanan
Terri Becker
Steve McEldowney
Brad Reed

GUESTS PRESENT

Amy Bracken, Family Resource Center of
Northwest Ohio
Michelle Mason, Community Housing
Jim Mc Nerney
Chris Pinkleman, TCN
Cynthia Wion, Recovery & Wellness Centers
of Midwest Ohio

The Tri-County Board of Recovery and Mental Health Services met at the Board Administration & Training Center in Troy Wednesday, September 20, 2023. Board Chair Dennis Butts called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

Board staff member Brad Reed took roll call. Six Board members attended, with four Board members excused. Four Board staff and five guests were present.

APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY

Jerry Herbe agreed to be appointed secretary to attest to the Board meeting minutes for tonight's meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA & MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Board reviewed the agenda for the evening. Jerry Herbe moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Velina Bogart. Motion carried on voice vote.

The Board reviewed the minutes of the July Board of Directors' meeting. Rod Austin moved to approve the minutes of the July 19 2023 Board of Directors' meeting as presented, seconded by Jason Wagner. Motion carried on voice vote.

BOARD GOVERNANCE

Dennis Butts and Terri Becker recognized Board staff reaching work anniversary milestones. Vicki Rush, Account Specialist, will reach 20 years of service October 1. Brad Reed, Associate Director and Chief of Community Engagement, reached 10 years of service August 29.

In discussion about Board meeting days and times, Terri Becker presented results of a survey of current Board members. She said the current meeting time – 6:45PM on the third Wednesday of the month, was nobody’s first choice. She said a noon meeting time is the best choice, based on everyone’s availability. The third Tuesday was the best available day. By consensus, Board meetings will move to the third Thursday of the month at noon, beginning in January. Finance will tentatively be set at 11:30 pending confirmation of availability of Committee members.

Terri Becker provided updates on the implementation of Strategic Plan 2020-2022 initiatives. Each of the six strategic priorities showed some progress and a few are considered completed. Some of the initiatives were to some degree affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. A summary report will be posted to the Board’s website. Terri then presented the draft of the 2023-25 Strategic Plan for Board consideration. The plan identifies six strategic priorities:

1. Enhance Prevention Across the Lifespan
2. Enhance Access to Services
3. Reduce the Impact of Suicide
4. Address Inequities
5. Engage in Community Harm Reduction Efforts
6. Promote Awareness and Understanding of the Tri-County Behavioral Health System

Terri said Board staff used a multi-faceted process to arrive at the priorities, including the Community Assessment and Plan report developed for OMHAS requirements, the Health Equity plan developed by the Board in late 2022, and a web-based survey of consumers of services and their families, provider agency staff, and persons working in various helping professions including courts, law enforcement, education, and social service agencies. Terri said the Board Strategic Plan aligns with the OMHAS planning cycle and other community assessment efforts, including public health’s Community Health Improvement Assessment and Plan. After discussion, Ann Runner moved to adopt the Three-Year Strategic Plan 2023-25 as presented, seconded by Jerry Herbe. Motion carried on voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE COMMITTEE – Jason Wagner

Minutes of the July Finance Committee meeting were included in the Board packet for review. Jason Wagner moved to approve the minutes of the July 19 2023 Finance Committee meeting as presented, seconded by Rod Austin. Motion carried on voice vote.

Financial Statements for July-August 2023 were included in the Board packet for review. Statements are cumulative and through August are 17% of the way through the Fiscal Year on a cash basis. FY24 revenue is at 37.1% and expenditures are at 14%. Staff will continue to close out contracts over the next few weeks so that final FY23 financial statements can be ready for review at the next meeting. Steve McEldowney said the Board has received the building fund money held at the Troy Foundation of approximately \$633,000. He said revenue is at 31% because we received almost half of levy collections and a couple of state line items at 100% in the first quarter. Steve said the Board was able to get the 25A property classified as tax exempt and we received a refund for the prior years’ taxes paid. He said expenses are in line with expectations, as some expenses such as Board Association dues are only paid once a year. Jason Wagner moved to accept the Financial Statements as presented, seconded by Velina Bogart. Motion carried by voice vote.

Steve McEldowney said the auditor files audits with the state by June 30, and the State Auditor has done a desk review of the Board’s CY2022 audit and found it acceptable. We are waiting for them to officially release it.

Terri Becker gave an update on the building project. Terri said the remaining equipment has arrived and the installation process is under way. We have done an 11-month walkthrough review with corrective work hopefully to be done by the Annual Meeting in October.

Terri said that the Board's \$500,000 request for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds has been awarded. The Northwest Region received \$10.5 million. The Board's project request is for a hospital diversion/step-down unit. After the award, OMHAS moved the grant funds under Capital Appropriations, which complicates the project with lots of approval requirements. We had considered using part of the Stouder Building where the Board offices had been, but OMHAS doesn't want to do renovations and a long-term lease with a commercial landlord. We had explored the campus of Upper Valley Medical Center but UVMC/Premier has concerns about a lien on their property, and discussion of alternative arrangements are ongoing. Board staff is meeting with the Troy Zoning Board to determine what zoning requirements we will run into. We have space on the 25A property to build, but the timeline under the grant is probably too short given the approvals OMHAS will require. With so many moving parts, Terri asked the Board for authorization to explore all options at our disposal. Jason Wagner moved to authorize the Executive Director to explore all options, including but not limited to: lease, purchase and renovate, purchase and build, or build on board property; to enter into a contingent offer for property purchase pending Board approval if necessary and to enter into any necessary agreements in order to secure a site for the project, seconded by Rod Austin. Motion carried on voice vote.

Terri, Steve and Brad met with the Budget Commission August 30 to review the Budget Packet and to discuss programs, initiatives and budget issues. The Commission comprises the Auditor, Prosecutor and Treasurer from each of the counties that we serve. The meeting and discussion went well and the Commission approved our millage for 2023. Our Board must now approve and members will need to sign the resolution that was distributed. Jason moved to accept the tax rates as determined by the Joint Budget Commission for the year 2023, seconded by Jerry Herbe. Motion carried on voice vote. Members in attendance must sign two copies of the resolution.

Terri Becker updated the Board on discussion with Ascend Innovations regarding a proposal to help the Board with data access and analysis. Ascend send a revised proposal for a process to help Board staff understand what data needs we have. Jason moved to approve the Statement of Work between the Tri-County Board and Ascend Innovations for an amount not to exceed \$10,000 and to authorize the Executive Director to execute the agreement, seconded by Velina Bogart. Motion carried on voice vote.

The next Finance Committee meeting will be November 15 2023 at 6:00 PM.

PLANNING COMMITTEE – No Report

The next Planning Committee meeting is to be determined.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE – No Report

The next Community Relations Committee is to be determined.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE – Jerry Herbe

Jerry Herbe read the nomination of Velina Bogart to fill the vacant seat of Vice Chairperson for Fiscal Year 2024. No other nominations were offered from the floor. Ann Runner moved to approve Velina Bogart for Vice Chairperson for Fiscal Year 2024, seconded by Rod Austin. Motion carried on voice vote.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Terri Becker

Terri Becker reported that as part of the strategic planning process, she had asked Director of Clinical Services Beth Buchanan to reach out to provider agencies about staff vacancies. In our three principal providers there are currently 18 vacancies, with a high turnover rate. That impacts continuity of care, since when clinicians leave, the client is faced with starting over.

Terri said the Kevin Hines event September 18 was very well received. More than 600 high school students from 14 schools attended the morning session, and more than 200 general attendees came to the evening session. She thanked Board staff for all their efforts, and said the Arbogast Performing Arts Center is a beautiful venue and their staff was great to work with. She thanked Copeland and the other sponsors for making the event possible.

Terri said this week is OACBHA's Week of Appreciation for provider staff. They will receive a messenger bag inscribed with "Carry a message of hope," a Kevin Hines book, and other items of appreciation.

She reminded Board members of the upcoming Annual Meeting and Art of Recovery Reception and Open House October 18. The art will be on display at Edison Community College until September 28, then moved to the Administration & Training Center to be on display until the Annual Meeting.

Terri said she is trying to get required annual Board member training scheduled for November, and will let everyone know if we have to modify the schedule.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business what brought before the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Velina Bogart moved to adjourn at 7:23 p.m., seconded by Jason Wagner.

The next Full Board meeting will be November 15 2023 at 6:45 PM, unless the start time needs to be adjusted for Board training.

Dennis Butts, Chairperson

Jerry Herbe, Secretary

Brad Reed