

**GEAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF MENTAL HEALTH
AND RECOVERY SERVICES**

Dr. Steven Oluic
Chairman of the Board

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Board Minutes

JANUARY 17, 2024

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ann Bagley, Reba Dykes, James Lee Holden, Kathy Johnson, Douglas Lundblad, Steven Oluic, Michael Petruziello, Mary Ruth Shumway, Patricia Varanese

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Alberta Chokshi, Martin Fay, Carolee Lesyk, Gregory O'Brien

STAFF PRESENT: Christine Lakomiak, Jim Mausser, Michelle Maneage, Teresa Slater

GUESTS: Tia Lawrence (Torchlight), Gail Roussey (Geauga League of Women Voters), Melanie Blasko (Lake-Geauga Recovery Centers), Mary Wynne Peaspanen (Signature Health), Vicki Clark (Ravenwood Health), Michelle Bertram (Catholic Charities), Andrea Gutka (WomenSafe)

I. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Dr. Oluic called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Mr. Holden called the roll for attendance purposes and the following Board members were present: Ann Bagley, Reba Dykes, James Lee Holden, Kathy Johnson, Douglas Lundblad, Steven Oluic, Michael Petruziello, Mary Ruth Shumway and Patricia Varanese. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.

II. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 15, 2023

Mr. Petruziello moved to approve the Minutes as written. Ms. Johnson seconded the motion. **Voice Vote: Ayes-9; Nays-0; Abstentions-0. Motion approved.**

III. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Dr. Oluic wished everyone a Happy New Year and said there are a lot of good things happening at the Board and in the community.

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Lakomiak gave a presentation with the following updates:

- OhioMHAS: The new Director is LEEANNE CORNYN; discussed larger allocations to Boards vs multiple small grants to allow local communities greater flexibility to meet their needs.
- Dr. Oluic and Director Lakomiak will attend Ohio Ethics Commission training and presentation for updated Auditor of State's Behavioral Health Handbook.
- Distributed Non-Medical Cannabis FAQ's.

- Transitional Living Center: Awarded \$1.1 million from OhioMHAS for expansion/update of the TLC; Board's match is \$126,000; letter head bids distributed on 12/1/2023; three architectural firms will be interviewed on 1/19/24.
- Agency Medical Necessity Reviews are complete and the purpose is to determine agency compliance with Board contract and OhioMHAS regulations, to establish accountability for the use of public funds, and promote appropriate, effective and quality services as outlined in ORC Chapter 340; some audits have resulted in agency paybacks; several quality improvement indicators were recommended.
- SFY2025 Request for Proposal: The draft was reviewed by Agency Relations; the final document should be published 2/1/24 with responses due by 3/22/24.
- Agency Outcomes: Agency Relations reviewed different formats for use by agencies to standardize reporting; outcomes will be reviewed twice a year.
- Development of Assisted Outpatient Treatment Program: Purpose is to deliver outpatient treatment pursuant to court order to adults with severe mental illness who meet certain criteria; policies and procedures written by staff and review by Board attorney; visited three AOT courts in Summit, Richland, Lorain counties.
- Explanation of Budget Cycles: The Board reports allocations/revenue/expenditures to OhioMHAS on a state fiscal year basis (July 1st to June 30th); Board reports allocations/revenue/expenditures to the Geauga County Commissioners on a calendar year basis (January 1st to December 30th); and other grant cycles as required.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Agency Relations

Ms. Johnson reported the committee met last night and discussed the following: Different ways for agencies to report outcomes in a consistent and easy format to present to the Board - the bar graph version was chosen as an easy and uncomplicated format; reviewed a draft version of the RFP for SFY2025 - a few changes will be made and then the final draft will be sent to all Board members; service specifications are being developed pursuant to the Ohio Administrative Code.

b. Finance

Mr. Petruziello reported the committee made the following recommendations: The financial reports will be presented in a condensed format, but the detail will always be available for review; a pie chart showing where funds come from (local, state, federal) will be included with the financial reports.

c. Planning and Policies

The committee did not meet yesterday due to the lack of a quorum.

d. Capital Planning

Ms. Dykes reported that the bulk of the meeting was about the Transitional Living Center expansion. Staff put together a housing inventory showing the types of housing the Board funds, along with other housing options available in Geauga that are not funded by the Board.

e. Opiate HUB

Ms. Miller will be stepping down as Chair. Tomorrow's meeting will be her last. A new Chair will be appointed by Dr. Oluic.

VI. BOARD REVIEW AND ACTION ITEMS

a. Resolution 24-01-1 Acknowledgement of County Budget for Calendar Year 2024

Mr. Holden moved to approve the Resolution. Mr. Petruziello seconded the motion. Discussion: Director Lakomiak said this is part of the Association's culture of quality review to assure that Boards receive this information. It was reviewed by the Finance committee. **ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES-9; NAYS-0; ABSTENTIONS-0. MOTION APPROVED.**

b. Resolution 24-01-2 Crisis Stabilization and Hospital Inpatient

Ms. Shumway moved to approve the Resolution. Ms. Johnson seconded the motion. Discussion: Boards are mandated to cover this service if a resident does not have insurance coverage or the funds to pay for it. These funds would be used first before accessing the Board's \$20,000 allocation on the System of Care. There have been bed and staff shortages at state hospitals and these funds were awarded so boards could place people in a private hospital and not have to use local funding. **ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES-9; NAYS-0; ABSTENTIONS-0. MOTION APPROVED.**

c. Resolution 24-01-3 Psychiatric Hospital Transitional Support Funding

Ms. Shumway moved to approve the Resolution. Mr. Petruziello seconded the motion. Discussion: Agencies work with the state hospitals to get people into the right accommodations and receive wraparound services after being in a hospital setting for a long time. Staff has been working to get one person out of the state hospital and hit many roadblocks. These funds were applied for to help the individual leave the hospital and go back into community. This funding is very flexible depending on the type of accommodation needed, but you have to apply separately for each person. It is not common for the state to provide this funding which can be used for very unique and difficult cases. It took approximately three weeks from applying to receiving approval. This sheds light on a bigger issue in that hospitals cannot release someone into the community if there is no appropriate place to go and that bed is then not available for someone else who may need it. **ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES-9; NAYS-0; ABSTENTIONS-0. MOTION APPROVED.**

d. Financial Reports

Mr. Mausser reported on the following through December 2023:

- 44.1% of the Board's SFY2024 administrative budget was expended.

- Calendar year expenditures were \$6,872,014.61.
- The Unencumbered Balance was \$2,529,511.57.
- Voucher Recap Schedule #689 for November 2023 itemized expenditures in the amount of \$763,730.22.
- Voucher Recap Schedule #690 for December 2023 itemized expenditures in the amount of \$149,399.84.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Geauga LOSS Team and several partner agencies are holding an event on Saturday, January 27th at the Chardon Methodist Church for those who have been affected by suicide. There is a registration fee of \$15.00.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING THE EMPLOYMENT OF A PUBLIC EMPLOYEE

Mr. Holden moved to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the employment of a public employee. Ms. Johnson seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES-9; NAYS-0; ABSTENTIONS-0. MOTION APPROVED.** The Board went into Executive Session at 7:00 PM. The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:30 PM and no action was taken.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Petruziello moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Shumway seconded the motion. The meeting was then adjourned at 7:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ms. Teresa Slater
Administrative/Office Manager

Dr. Steven Oluic
Chairman of the Board

Mr. James Lee Holden
Secretary of the Board