**GEAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF MENTAL HEALTH**

**AND RECOVERY SERVICES**

**Ann Bagley 13244 Ravenna Road**

**Chairman of the Board Chardon, Ohio 44024**

**James C. Adams Phone: (440) 285-2282**

**Chief Executive Officer Fax: (440) 285-9617**

**Board Minutes February 17, 2021**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ann Bagley, Alberta Chokshi, Martin Fay, Jimmy Lee Holden, Carolee Lesyk, Linda Miller, Gregory O’Brien, Steven Oluic, Michael Petruziello, Mary Ruth Shumway, Leila Vidmar

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Walter Claypool, Jennifer Malainy

**GUESTS:** There was no attendance taken of other meeting participants

**STAFF PRESENT:** Jim Adams, Savannah Florkowski, Amie Martin-D’Arienzo, Jim Mausser, Teresa Slater

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Ms. Bagley called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Ms. Vidmar called the roll for attendance purposes.

1. **APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES FROM JANUARY 20, 2021**

Ms. Miller moved to approve the Minutes as written. Ms. Chokshi seconded the motion. There was no discussion: **ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES-10; NAYS-0; ABSTENTIONS-1. MOTION APPROVED.**

1. **OUTCOMES PRESENTATION BY VICKI CLARK, CEO OF RAVENWOOD HEALTH**

Ms. Bagley introduced Vicki Clark. Ms. Clark then introduced several Board members and staff from Ravenwood Health. Handouts about outcomes and the SOR grant were sent to Board members prior to the meeting.

Ms. Clark introduced Megan Mackura, the Performance Improvement Director at Ravenwood Health. Ms. Mackura monitors outcomes, reviews quality assurance benchmarks, and implements performance improvement measures for each program. She also ensures that the agency maintains compliance with their OhioMHAS certifications and Joint Commission accreditations. The agency evaluates performance, compliance, and patient outcomes through the following committees: Utilization Review, Risk Management, Peer Review, Records Review, and Program Outcomes.

Ms. Mackura said Ravenwood uses the Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS), which is a nationally recognized set of performance measures widely used by the managed care industry. Each program has a specific set of outcomes that are reported on and reviewed on a regular basis. The agency also report to and receives data from various insurance companies. Ravenwood is a member of the Ohio Behavioral Health Provider Network in Ohio (OBHPN). This group focuses on the health and wellbeing of their patients using cost effective care management, through monitoring quality assurance measures and reviewing new and emerging trends in behavioral health.

The agency receives daily hospitalization reports from OPTUM insurance that includes admissions and discharges. They receive a weekly medication refill report that can be used to see if a client is medication compliant. If not, the agency can intervene with those clients, help them overcome any barriers, and hopefully keep them out of the hospital. For the first half of SFY2021, 99% of clients who were hospitalized received some type of follow up from Ravenwood within seven days of being discharged. There is also a report that reviews clients which have utilized more than $25,000 or more of service. Ravenwood can review this data and potentially intervene differently to keep the client out of the hospital. OPTUM has a provider management system that tracks individual and agency trends. The agency also reports on nine HEDIS measures for all Medicare clients on an annual basis.

Ms. Bagley asked if Ravenwood is notified when a Geauga resident is hospitalized but is not part of the Ravenwood Health system. Ms. Mackura said they do not. Ms. Bagley asked if there is any follow up with clients that are not connected to any mental health agency. Ms. Mackura responded normally if a client is hospitalized a social worker would connect that person to services. Ms. Clark clarified that would happen if the client was at a state hospital, but not necessarily if they were at a private facility. She said if Ravenwood is contacted, they do follow up with the individual. Mr. Adams said someone admitted to the Cleveland Clinic or University Hospital may also be referred to a private for-profit organization if they have insurance. Ms. Miller asked what percentage of Ravenwood’s clients are involved with OPTUM. Ms. Mackura didn’t know the exact number but she can get that information. Mr. Petruziello asked how many hospitalizations there are at a particular time. Ms. Mackura said it ebbs and flows, but they have seen a decrease lately through OPTUM in that there were only two clients in the last six month reporting period. Mr. Petruziello asked if there is any requirement that the Board must be notified if someone from Geauga County is hospitalized. Mr. Adams said the staff receives daily reports on who is hospitalized anywhere in Ohio in the public hospital system. Private hospitals do not have to report to us because they are not being billed to the public sector.

Ms. Clark then introduced Brock Bodenbender, the Director of Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) and Residential Substance Use Disorder Services at Ravenwood. He is also on the faculty and a clinical research staff person at Cleveland State University. Mr. Bodenbender said that Ravenwood has been blessed to be a beneficiary of both SORS grants, which have been focused on opioid and stimulate use disorders. They have been expanding and launching new programs which they hope to be self-sustaining in the future. There are currently nine projects the SOR grant funds are used for: Medication Assisted Treatment, Medications, Substance Use Marriage & Family Treatment, Case Management/Therapeutic Behavioral Support, Peer Support, Transportation, Quick Response Team, Employment Support, and Recovery Housing.

Mr. Bodenbender said the MAT program has grown by a magnitude of 10 since it was launched five years ago, but that probably only a tenth of the population in need is receiving these services. Frequently clients are either under-insured or have no insurance coverage at all. A single injection can cost $1,800 after insurance. Substance abuse doesn’t just live in a singular person, but also affects the whole family and they now have staff who can work with the family unit. Ravenwood is expanding their case management services to be integrated with the MAT program in order to achieve better results. They have expanded their social engagement and peer support programs to work with individuals in recovery. They have also expanded coordination with the Geauga County Sheriff and Chardon Police Department for an opioid-related overdose response team. They have increased recovery housing for women with children and women who have lost custody of their children. One client who never had custody of her children now has full custody. They are expanding the employment support program to help clients find gainful employment. Ravenwood will soon be opening two new recovery houses. They are dedicated to removing every barrier they can for their clients.

Mr. Bodenbender then shared outcomes data on several programs. Ms. Vidmar commented on their great outcomes and asked how long they follow up with clients. Mr. Bodenbender said the MAT program is open ended and he has some clients with five years of data, but the average is 18 to 24 months. Mr. Petruziello referenced the positive/negative scales chart and asked Mr. Bodenbender to explain where the numbers on the horizontal/vertical axis come from. Mr. Bodenbender said this is self- reported data and is not a professional’s view of how treatment is going. Mr. Bodenbender then explained the various data points used, and how they are computed to generate the scores shown. These scores show the average for 120 clients whose ages ranged from 19 to 82. Some have been using alcohol for many years, or it may be their first time, or they may be involved with the criminal justice system. Mr. Petruziello said those are big numbers and the standard deviation should be down to 3 or 4. Mr. Bodenbender said in a county as broad and wide as Geauga he would never expect to be at 3 or 4. If so, he is not doing his job. Mr. Petruziello asked about the statement that only one tenth of those in need are being served. Mr. Bodenbender said this information comes from the penetration rate data algorithm developed by Ms. Martin-D’Arienzo. Mr. Petruziello asked Ms. Martin-D’Arienzo to share that information with the Board. She replied that she will send this information out again. Ms. Bagley asked what steps are being taken to improve the penetration rate. Mr. Bodenbender replied that is one of the ways where the SOR grant funds come in. Ravenwood will continue to expand these programs when they are able. The truly tragic piece of MAT and the other associated projects is that it can be very difficult for a nonprofit agency to sustain or even get these programs started.

1. **CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

Ms. Bagley asked Mr. Petruziello to chair the Finance committee and he has agreed to do so.

1. **CEO REPORT**

Mr. Adams said the Governor has released his proposed state budget. He will share information with the Board once he receives more detail. He does not anticipate any big cuts in state or federal funding.

1. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
	1. **Agency Relations**

Ms. Miller said the meeting schedule has been set for the upcoming allocation process. The funding applications were released to agencies last week. The first joint meeting of Agency Relations and Finance will be on February 24th via Zoom to discuss what outcomes and metrics the Board would like to see from agencies. The subsequent meetings will include presentations from each agency on a specific day and time. She said those meetings will also be held virtually and will start at 6:00 PM. The meeting schedule list is included in Mr. Adams’s written report. Ms. Slater will also send the list to Board members in a separate email. Ms. Miller said the staff will review the requests for proposals received and will then consolidate the information for the Board during agency presentations. In an effort to streamline the process, Ms. Miller encouraged all Board members to attend when possible so they can ask questions of the agencies at that time. At the end of the review process, the Board will vote on the final allocations and grant awards to agencies for SFY2022.

* 1. **Finance**

Mr. Petruziello had no update at this time.

* 1. **Planning and Policies**

Ms. Vidmar reported that the committee met on January 27, 2021. It is her understanding that Mr. Adams will be making some slight modifications and asked him for an update. Mr. Adams said the committee talked about the goals and outcomes for 2021-2022. Planning and Policies will need to forward recommendations to the Board for our Strategic Plan. This is needed for auditing purposes and the Board’s three year Culture of Quality Certification. He also adapted some of the goals and objectives based on the input from that meeting. Technically, the goals and objectives do not need to go through the Board for approval, but everyone should receive what was approved by Planning and Policies.

Mr. Adams said he recently received a two year capital budget plan from the state that sets aside money for building/renovating/purchasing property used for mental health and alcohol services. This comes at a time when the Board has been talking about the need for additional housing. He will discuss this further at the Finance/Agency Relations meeting next week and see if there is interest in pursuing these funds. There is a 90 day window to complete this application. It is a big process to put together a capital plan in the time frame allotted. He would then present the proposed plan to the full Board in March.

* 1. **Housing**

Mr. O’Brien said he is waiting on information from Mr. Adams in order to move forward. Mr. Adams said he has had several conversations with individuals about housing needs in the county. Mr. Rice said they are in the process of countersuing the EPA about the water system. There is also a plan to break up the property into several parcels. The sheltered industries portion will be given to Job and Family Services, the portion of the property that includes the bus depot is being used by West Geauga Schools, and then the residential houses would be addressed. He does not expect anything to happen before June or July, and maybe not even then depending on the evolution of this whole process. Mr. Adams said the property is owned by the Commissioners, but is partially controlled by the Cleveland Foundation. There are some deed restrictions stating that the property must be used for developmental disabilities services and they are trying to get those restrictions removed.

Mr. O’Brien commented that there are a lot of issues and nothing is probably going to happen soon or even over the next 6-9 months. Mr. Adams said the capital plan would come into play for additional housing options within the next few years. He has received information from the agencies about their housing needs which will help formulate a 2-5 year plan whether it is at Metzenbaum or not. Mr. O’Brien will follow up with Mr. Adams to decide where to go from here.

Mr. Petruziello asked for an inventory of current agency housing capacity what their projections are for the next 2-5 years. Mr. Adams said he has asked each agency to submit information about their residential facilities that includes age, value, and what condition the facility is in, along with the occupation rate of each facility. This should provide a good overview and may generate additional questions.

Ms. Miller asked if there is buildable vacant land where the apartments are located. Mr. Adams said the apartments and the Transitional Living Center are located on the 5 acre lot at the corner of Aquilla and Ravenwood. The architect planned the space so that it could accommodate another facility, but he is not sure what the square footage of a new building may be.

1. **BOARD REVIEW AND ACTION ITEMS**
	1. **Financial Reports**

Mr. Mausser reported that 47.2% of the Board’s budget has been expended through January. There were no expenditures from the Community Education budget. The County Budget Performance Report shows expenditures of $600,138.94. The Auditor’s Fund Unencumbered Balance on January 31st was $3,447,676.01. He is waiting for some deposits from the state for the funding sources that are shown as negative amounts on the SFY2021 Cash Balances by Source of Funds report.

* 1. **Approval of Voucher Recap**

Ms. Miller moved to approve Voucher Recap Schedule #655 in the amount of $600,446.38. Ms. Chokshi seconded the motion. There was no discussion. **ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES-10; NAYS-0; ABSTENTIONS-0. MOTION APPROVED.** Ms. Shumway left the meeting prior to voting on the Voucher Recap.

* 1. **Resolution 21-02-1 Payment of Vendor Fees**

Mr. Petruziello moved to approve the Resolution. Dr. Lesyk seconded the motion. Discussion: Mr. Petruziello asked Mr. Mausser if he has talked to the County Auditor about making electronic payments for reoccurring bills. Mr. Mausser replied that he has not but will ask if that is a possibility. **ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES-10; NAYS-0; ABSTENTIONS-0. MOTION APPROVED.**

1. **OLD BUSINESS**

Ms. Miller said a few years ago the Board was required by the legislature to convene a coalition called the County HUB to combat opioid addiction locally. Most of the projects planned for last year were group activities and could not be done due to Covid. A meeting of all HUB members is scheduled for February 25th at 10:00 AM, and will be held virtually. There are four subcommittees – Prevention and Education, Treatment and Recovery, Community Training and Outreach, and Business Support and Workforce Development.

1. **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business discussed.

1. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Petruziello moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Miller seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 PM.

**Respectfully submitted by:**

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**Ms. Teresa Slater**

**Secretary/Receptionist**

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**Ms. Ann Bagley**

**Chairman of the Board**

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**Ms. Leila Vidmar**

**Secretary of the Board**