



TRUMBULL COUNTY  
**Mental Health and Recovery Board**

Board Meeting Minutes  
September 21, 2021 4:30 PM

**Members Present:** Virginia Cluse, Carol Henderson, Lance Grahn, Jane Boutwell, Charles Baldwin, Carl Clark, Thomas Harwood, Cindy Klein, Rachel Nader, Larry Pavone, Maria Placanica, David Spies, Judy Toles, Debbie Tominey, Julia Wike, John Wilson

**Members Absent:** Louise Kline

**Staff Present:** Crystal Crites, Laura Domitrovich, John Myers, Valdeoso Patterson, Patricia Shepherd and Lauren Thorp

**Guests:** Brendan Keating, Attorney at Law; Niki Frenchko, Commissioner

**Virtual attendees:** Joe Shorokey, Alta; Matt Kresic, Cadence; Tammy Weaver, Coleman; Joe Caruso, Compass; Gary Seech, Glenbeigh; Vince Brancaccio, Help Network

**Preliminary**

1. President Virginia Cluse called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM
2. Attorney Brendan Keating swore in Julia Wike as new Board Member
3. Secretary Jane Boutwell called the roll of members and certified that a quorum was present
4. Carl Clark made a motion, seconded by Thomas Harwood, to approve the July 20, 2021 Board meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

**Report from the Director of Recovery and Youth Programs**

1. State Update – Lauren Thorp indicated that she'd be filling in for Executive Director April Caraway for the Board Meeting. Lauren shared information about RecoveryOhio's Overdose Strike Team. Trumbull County is one of the 23 counties that represent nearly 80% of Ohio's overdose deaths. ED Caraway met with Lori Criss, Director of the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) regarding the Strike Team. RecoveryOhio will have a representative at the next ASAP meeting to further the discussion. Their goal is to learn about our needs and challenges and build stronger local-state collaborations.

Lauren Thorp next reported that all the Board's carryover requests have been approved by OhioMHAS. The requests included addiction treatment and prevention funds, as well as special project funds.

Lauren shared that the Board will receive \$300,000 in regional funding. These funds are to be used for treatment for individuals with an opiate or alcohol use disorder.

The Board also received noticed that the SOR grant has been renewed for another year. These funds have been used to help Flying High and other treatment agencies and recovery houses. The budget for the new allocation is being created.

2. Local Update – Lauren Thorp spoke about an increase in overdoses between July and August. Fentanyl continues to be the main contributor to the overdoses and is being combined with many other substances. Fentanyl is being pressed into pills that mimic Xanax or OxyContin. These pills

have been found ground into other substances. One way for us to combat this issue is by promoting Naloxone usage.

The Board was given over 700 doses of Naloxone to be distributed in zip codes identified by OhioMHAS with high incidences of overdoses; all of the doses have been distributed. The Board ordered an additional 300 Naloxone kits for upcoming events. Lauren recognized Carol Henderson for her help in promoting and distributing the Naloxone. Carol Henderson and Bud Patterson distributed almost 200 Naloxone kits at the ASAP Recovery Rally.

Lauren then thanked everyone for their help and support at the ASAP Recovery Rally this past weekend. There were approximately 600 people in attendance. The event had 24 sponsors and 35 vendors participate. Donations of \$185 were received that day and 43 people received a Covid-19 vaccine provided by the Health Dept. Foster Living won the prize for the recovery house with the most people participating in the recovery walk, Compass was the agency with the most walkers, and the family with the most walkers was the Carnahan family. Thomas Harwood commended the staff and Board for a successful rally.

3. Finance Report – Patricia Shepherd, CPA, reviewed the July and August 2021 unaudited Revenue and Expenditure Reports. Shepherd reported that at the end of this month we will no longer be accepting any invoices for State Fiscal Year 2021. Shepherd also reported that the Board has been allocated \$2,141,324 by OhioMHAS for Fiscal year 22. This amount does not include the \$300,000 in regional funds and the approved carryovers totaling \$312,848. The first quarter of allocations has been received. Then Ms. Shepherd noted two mechanical errors on the July statements in YTD column, which will be corrected on statements sent to Auditors. The July monthly column figures are correct as stated and the August statement is accurate.

### **Committee Reports**

1. Addictions and Mental Health Program Committee – Vice President Carol Henderson summarized the September 7, 2021 meeting and highlighted some of the presentations outlined in the minutes contained in the Board packet.
2. Budget and Finance Committee – Treasurer Lance Grahn stated there was no formal meeting, but a few members attended a Budget Orientation meeting with ED Caraway and CFO Shepherd. They reviewed the budget in detail. He is looking forward to scheduling a meeting in the near future.
3. Administrative Committee –Rachel Nader announced there is not a meeting planned at this time but knows that at the next meeting they will revise the bylaws and policies.

### **Announcements/Community Partnerships/Information**

1. Lauren Thorp suggested everyone read the handouts from OACBHA from July and August.
2. Lauren thanked everyone for helping at the Board's only levy fundraiser- the golf outing. The final report included in the Board packet shows that over \$11,000 was raised. More than 100 golfers participated so it was a record setting year for the outing.
3. Lauren referenced the handout in the Board packet regarding the number of CIT trained officers in Trumbull County. John Myers reported that the number will reach 300 after the December training.
4. An announcement about Coleman's name change was shared. Coleman Professional Services will now be called Coleman Health Services.
5. Media coverage of ASAP's partnership with RecoveryOhio and the Ohio Hotel and Lodging Association was reviewed. The collaboration is working to get Narcan into hotels.
6. Lauren then mentioned the Tribune articles included in the Board packet. The articles featured stories about the Champion Rotary event where ED Caraway spoke, the Recovery Rally, and an Orchid for the MRSS Grant (a collaboration between TCMHRB and Coleman). Also included was

an article that Lauren Thorp was interviewed for, "Students Facing More Stress" and the health notes mentioning the Board.

**New Business**

1. Cindy Klein made a motion to approve the July 2021 Revenue and Expenditure Report held subject to audit. Judy Toles seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
2. Thomas Harwood made a motion to approve the August 2021 Revenue and Expenditure Report held subject to audit. Maria Placanica seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
3. John Wilson made a motion to reappoint Charles Billock, of Coleman Health Services as a health officer effective immediately. David Spies Seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

President Cluse opened the floor for additional topics:

Carol Henderson asked if there will be a drug summit this year. Lauren Thorp replied that due to the rates of COVID the drug summit has been postponed until it can be held safely.

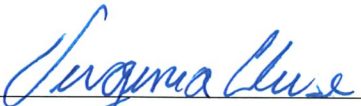
Crystal Crites then announced that next week is Appreciation Week. Board members are asked to volunteer to deliver thank you cards and donuts to Board contracted treatment agencies, police, and fire stations.

Commissioner Niki Frenchko thanked everyone on the Board for their efforts. She complimented the ASAP Rally and said it was phenomenal. Ms. Frenchko then stated that she would like to receive a letter from the Board in support of, or opposition to, WRTA transportation. She also asked the Board to send the Commissioners suggestions regarding the use of the opiate lawsuit settlement funds. Lauren Thorp indicated that ED Caraway will be back Monday. The topics will be discussed at Monday's staff meeting and at the next Program Committee meeting.


**Adjournment**

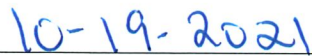
At 5:30 PM Thomas Harwood made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Larry Pavone seconded.

**Next Board Meeting – October 19, 2021 at 4:30 PM**

  
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Virginia Cluse, President

  
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Jane Boutwell, Secretary

  
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April J. Caraway, Executive Director

  
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Date

