



TRUMBULL COUNTY
Mental Health and Recovery Board

Board Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2021 4:30 PM

Members Present: Virginia Cluse, Carol Henderson, Lance Grahn, Jane Boutwell, Charles Baldwin, Carl Clark, Thomas Harwood, Cindy Klein, Loise Kline, Rachel Nader, Maria Placanica, Judy Toles, Debbie Tominey, Julia Wike

Members Absent: Larry Pavone, David Spies, John Wilson

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

Virtual attendees: Joe Shorokey, Alta; Tammy Weaver, Coleman; Shannan Ritchie, Family and Community Services; Vince Brancaccio, Help Network

Preliminary

1. Vice President Carol Henderson called the meeting to order at 4:32 PM.
2. Secretary Jane Boutwell called the roll of members and certified that a quorum was present.
3. Thomas Harwood made a motion, seconded by Cindy Klein, to approve the September 21, 2021 Board meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Report from the Executive Director

1. State Update – ED Caraway described the regional crisis focus groups and the data collection underway at OhioMHAS. She said that Trumbull County’s issues continue to mirror those of the larger Boards. ED Caraway reported continued advocacy for access to Medicaid data so that Boards can fulfill their statutory requirements for planning and ensuring no duplication of services across agencies or counties. Currently there is no state-wide system for billing and data collection, but one is being developed by OhioMHAS. ED Caraway called attention to the handout, “Multi-System Adult Program Recovery Supports”. Trumbull County received a total of \$55,932 with a cap of \$4,000 per person to help those with severe and persistent mental health issues who have multiple hospitalizations and other issues described in the handout. Thomas Harwood asked how many people will be served and ED Caraway responded that OhioMHAS identified 44 Trumbull County residents that meet the criteria. Clients who go in and out of jail as a result of their mental health issues cannot benefit by the funding if they don’t meet the eligibility criteria set by the state. OhioMHAS has been asked to consider expanding the program to benefit those clients.
At 4:48 President Cluse arrived at the meeting and took over for Vice President Carol Henderson.
2. Local Update – ED Caraway reported that new Board member Julia Wike completed board orientation on October 12, 2021. Julia Wike stated she is honored and blessed to be a Board Member. Next, Caraway thanked Lauren Thorp for speaking at the Flying High Ribbon Cutting Event. Caraway said she’s pleased so much progress has been made over the years with welcoming addiction treatment and recovery agencies into the community. Lauren Thorp spoke of the event and said it was so great to see the community support and to see others recognize how people in recovery can contribute to rebuilding our economy. Lance Grahn also attended the event and

commented that he feels it's an ideal location and that it was an upbeat and positive occasion. Next on the agenda was Week of Appreciation. Lauren Thorp thanked all who delivered donuts, thank you cards and tumblers to TCMHRB contract agencies and fire and police departments in areas of the County with the highest rate of overdoses. Lauren then thanked Crystal Crites for ordering the donuts and coordinating the delivery. Social media posts about the week were positive. Debbie Tominey said that it really made the Niles Police officers' day! ED Caraway reported that Ilona Roth Cohn's last day will be next Friday. She invited Board members to stop by to say their goodbyes at a luncheon Wednesday at TMHA. ED Caraway announced that Katie Cretella will start Monday as the Director of Clinical Services. She said Katie has been working on the provider side of projects with Lonnie so the transition should be pretty rapid. Caraway mentioned the motions under new business on the agenda regarding the staff changes.

3. Finance Report – Patricia Shepherd, CPA, reviewed the September 2021 unaudited Revenue and Expenditure Reports. Shepherd stated the reports reflect one quarter of the fiscal year. Items at 100% are one-time expenditures. Line items requiring additional funding like postage and office supplies will be addressed at the next Budget and Finance Committee meeting next Tuesday. Shepherd also reported that September 30th was the last day to bill FY21 and she then reviewed the FY21 report for the period ending June 30, 2021. Patty reported adjustments were made within provider allocations, but overall budgets were not increased for any provider.

Committee Reports

1. Addictions and Mental Health Program Committee – Director of Planning & Evaluation, John Myers, summarized the October 5, 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 will be a meeting next Tuesday at 3PM to address some of the issues CFO Patricia Shepherd had just gone over in her finance report.
3. Administrative Committee –Rachel Nader announced a meeting will occur in January 2022 to revise the Board bylaws and policies.

Announcements/Community Partnerships/Information

1. April Caraway suggested everyone read the Tribune Articles that are in the Board Packet. Articles include the ASAP Rally for Recovery and the LOSS Support group that gathered to remember people lost to suicide.
2. April Caraway suggested everyone read the OACBHA handout “How Can I be a Champion of Recovery?”
3. April Caraway thanked Lauren Thorp for covering for her at the September Board meeting and thanked the entire staff for stepping in while she has been dealing with some family issues.
4. Cindy Klein brought cheesecake and lemonade to celebrate her last radiation treatment. Cindy then thanked everyone for the cards, emails and kind words that were sent to her during this time.

New Business

1. Charles Baldwin made a motion to approve the September 2021 Revenue and Expenditure Report held subject to audit. Judy Toles seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
2. Judy Toles made a motion to approve the year-end FY21 Revenue and Expenditure Report held subject to audit. Carol Henderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

3. Cindy Klein made a motion to accept the resignation of Ilona Roth-Cohn, Associate Director, effective October 29, 2021. Thomas Harwood regretfully seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
4. Lance Grahn made a motion to appoint Lauren Thorp as Associate Director at an annual salary of \$85,000. Jane Boutwell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
5. Charles Baldwin made a motion to approve the employment of Katie Cretella as Director of Clinical Services at an annual salary of \$77,000. Carol Henderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
6. Thomas Harwood made a motion to promote Laura Domitrovich to Director of Youth Programs at an annual salary of \$71,000. Jane Boutwell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

President Cluse opened the floor for additional topics.

Carl Clark spoke of how the schools are struggling right now and are in need of substitute teachers and secretaries. He left a handout for everyone about Howland School's open interview event taking place tomorrow between 2pm-6pm.


Adjournment

At 5:13 PM Cindy Klein made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Charles Baldwin seconded.

Next Board Meeting – November 16, 2021 at 4:30 PM




Virginia Cluse, President



Jane Boutwell, Secretary



April J. Caraway, Executive Director



Date

