



WASHINGTON COUNTY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD
www.wcbhb.org

Thursday, April 28~ 6:00 p.m.
Meeting held via Zoom and In-person
1115 Gilman Ave. Marietta, OH

I. Call to Order, Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by President Mike Beardmore at 6:01 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Welcome and Introductions

Present

Alicia Abramski, LCPP-S
Jarrett Barnhouse, 18:02
Michael Beardmore
Eric Fowler, J.D.
Larry Hall, left 18:31
Laura Knab, J.D.
Brett Nicholas, zoom
Beverly Prigge
Jim Raney, Ph. D.
Larry Schwendeman
Anthony Touschner, J.D., 18:09
David White

Absent

Staff

David Browne
Shaeleigh Sprigg
Tara Plaughter

Guests

Mike Dennis, HoH
Dick Wittberg, CHIA
Jennifer Simmons, FCFC
Stephanie Miller, FCFC
Deanna Green, County Home
Beth Miller, County Home

IV. Public Statements

Deanna Green, Administrator, and Beth Miller, Director of Nursing, of the County Home expressed concern of mental health and resources that are available to support individuals when they can no longer be kept safe at the County Home facility. They recently had a resident who has suffered with mental health her entire life and had notably declined until she could no longer be kept safe at the facility. She was assessed and transported to Columbus for psychiatric services. The County Home worked closely with Memorial Health Systems and implemented many behavior adjustments prior to the need to increase her level of care outside of the County Home facility. Deanna and Beth noted their presence was to become part of the solution and collaborate for future needs of the residents of the County Home.

V. Agenda Revisions

- Add Oath of Office after Agenda Revisions
- Move New Business A. 2023 Tax Budget under Treasurer’s Report

X. Director's Report

David Browne shared that the Stonewall Group Levy Renewal advertisement is live and Board members should be seeing TV commercials and digital ads. He asked that Board members continue to encourage residents to Vote "Yes" on the Mental Health Levy Renewal May 3rd (next week!)

XI. Staff Reports

There were no updates to the report or questions offered. Mike Beardmore commended the staff for all of the hard work.

Staff reports will be filed with the minutes.

XII. Agency Reports

- A. **Hopewell Health**- There were no updates to the report or questions offered.
- B. **Integrated Behavioral Health**- There were no updates to the report or questions offered.
- C. **Life & Purpose** – There were no updates to the report or questions offered.
- D. **Rigel/Oriana House**- There were no updates to the report or questions offered.
- E. **Memorial Health Systems** – There were no updates to the report or questions offered.
- F. **Community Health Improvement Associates (CHIA)** – Dick Wittberg shared that CHIA is finalizing the application for Recovery Housing Certification. He wanted to provide a shout-out to Tara Plaugher for assisting with preparing for applying for certification.
- G. **House of Hope** – Mike Dennis invited everyone to the House of Hope's 2nd annual open house on May 21st. He shared that there will be free food and door prizes. On the Road to Recovery, an organization that captures recovery testimonies to offer hope that recovery is possible will be in attendance for anyone wanting to share their story.
- H. **The Right Path** – Mike Beardmore shared that Friday, May 13th the Right Path is having their annual Fish Fry at the VFW. Judge Williams will be frying the fish for the event. Tickets are \$12 per person and the dinner is all you can eat!

The agency reports were received and will be filed with the minutes.

XIII. Committee Reports

- A. **Program Planning & Oversight/ Community Relations** – The committees are currently on "pause" while the Political Action Committee Meetings occur every Tuesday evening, at 5:15 p.m. at 1115 Gilman Avenue, Marietta to discuss the levy renewal. Jim Raney shared the PAC has not met the previous two weeks since the advertising is live. He shared that those that help put out yard signs will need to collect them after Tuesday's election.

XIV. Old Business-

None Offered.

XV. New Business-

B. WC Sheriff Dept. Therapy Dog Proposal- David Browne expressed that the Board is aware of a grant that may be able to cover the entire budget included in the proposal. Shaeleigh Sprigg added that the Board has been informed of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) money that has been designated to the Ohio Department of Public Safety. \$75 million has been allocated for Officer Wellness, Resilience, Recruitment, and Retention. The Ohio Department of Public Safety has had meetings with the School Safety Center on accepting proposals to fund therapy dogs and training. The Request for Proposal is expected to be released on May 2nd when we will have more detailed information on this funding. David shared this funding would alleviate the Board and other interested parties from funding the project. He noted that the schools have been receiving wellness dollars, and since they would benefit from the therapy dogs, perhaps they may want to kick in some of the funding for the project if we cannot get the budget covered by the ARPA funds.

Motion # 18.2022

It was moved and seconded (Laura Knab, Eric Fowler) to pursue funding to support the therapy dog proposal provided by the Washington County Sheriff’s Department. The motion passed with the following votes:

Abramski	Barnhouse	Beardmore	Fowler	Hall	Knab	Nicholas	Prigge	Raney	Schwendeman	Touschner	White
A	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y

C. Good of the Order

David Browne shared to go “Vote Yes” on the Mental Health Levy Renewal.

Mike Beardmore welcomed Alicia Abramski as the newest Board member of the Washington County Behavioral Health Board.

D. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Next Meeting:

May 26, 2022

When: May 26, 2022, 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Register in advance for this meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZolfuysrDwpEtem7XgUgrwTc_h_vJIRsoUj

**Respectfully Submitted,
 Shaeleigh Sprigg**

Board President Signature