



WASHINGTON COUNTY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD

www.wcbhb.org

Thursday, February 23, 2023 ~ 6:00 p.m.

Meeting held In-person

1115 Gilman Ave. Marietta, OH

I. Call to Order, Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by President Michael Beardmore at 6:00 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Welcome and Introductions

Present

Alicia Abramski
Jim Raney
Robert Marion
Tony Tuschner
Mike Beardmore
Brett Nicholas
Larry Schwendeman
Ron Rees

Absent

Larry Hall
David White
Jarrett Barnhouse
Laura Knab/Silwani
Beverly Prigge
Eric Fowler

Staff

David Browne
George Goddard
Tara Plaughter
Heather Parcell
Tim Hahn

Guests

Mike Dennis - House of Hope
Doug Pfeifer – Life & Purpose
Linda Sistrunk – Memorial Health Systems
Marissa Caudill – Memorial Health Systems
Candice Walker – Oriana House
Coda Kyle - Rigel Recovery/Oriana House
Hollie Orders – Washington County Home

IV. Oath of Office – Ron Rees was sworn in as a Washington County Behavioral Health Board member.

V. Public Statements – No Public statements were offered.

VI. Agenda Revisions – There were no revisions made to the agenda.

VII. Approval of Minutes – January 23, 2023

Motion #6.2023

It was moved and seconded (Dr. Raney, Larry Schwendeman) to approve the January 26, 2023 Board meeting minutes. The motion passed with the following votes:

Abramski	Barnhouse	Beardmore	Fowler	Hall	Marion	Nicholas	Prigge	Raney	Schwendeman	Silwani	Tuschner	Rees	White
Y		Y			Y	Y		Y	Y		Y	A	

Y= Yes

N= No

A= Abstain

VII. Treasurer’s Report

Members of the Board held a lengthy discussion on the January treasurer’s report.

Motion # 7.2023

It was moved and seconded (Brett Nicholas, Larry Schwendeman) to accept the January 2023 Treasurer’s report and disbursements. The motion passed with the following votes:

Abramski	Barnhouse	Beardmore	Fowler	Hall	Marion	Nicholas	Prigge	Raney	Schwendeman	Silwani	Touschner	Rees	White
Y		Y			Y	Y		Y	Y		Y	A	

VIII. Director’s Report

Executive Director David Browne shared the proposed fiscal year 2023 Sliding Fee Schedule for Washington County residents who do not qualify for Medicaid. For single individuals, if their monthly income level is less than \$1,677, they may qualify for Medicaid. For example, if their income exceeds \$1,677, and is less than \$1873, the board will pay 90% of what is charged for services. The client would be responsible for the remaining 10%. Further discussion will be postponed until the Planning, Program & Oversight (PP&O) Committee meeting on March 9, 2023.

IX. Staff Reports

Assistant Executive Director George Goddard of the WCBHB discussed that the Community Assessment Plan survey has been completed and submitted.

Both George Goddard and Tim Hahn met with Linda Sistrunk and Paige Smith from Memorial Health Systems to discuss the Vertical Triage project proposal. This project will assist with diverting people from the Emergency Department to get them connected with Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder (SUD) services more quickly while avoiding unnecessary medical processes.

George also discussed that several of the board staff met with representatives from OhioRise this month to develop a better understanding of the services and the expectations (if any) for the board. AD Goddard, Tara Plaugher, and AD Hahn met with Abbigayle Melton, Kayla Howard, and Lisa Campbell of Integrated Services to share information. Integrated Services for Behavioral Health is in the process of implementing the OhioRise services in Washington and several other counties. This program is a specialized Medicaid-managed care plan with tailored services to meet the needs of youth with complex needs.

Assistant Director Tim Hahn had no additional information to add to his reports with the exception of a typo, which is that our Culture of Quality certification ends in 2024, not 2023.

Tara Plaugher discussed that Peer Solutions has made its way across the river to Ohio and recently opened a women’s only, faith-based recovery house named Jess’s House located on 9th St. in Marietta.

The Right Path – There were no updates to the report or questions offered.

PAX – There were no updates to the report or questions offered.

Staff reports will be filed with the minutes.

X. Agency Reports

- A. Hopewell Health** - There was no representative in attendance. There were no updates to the report or questions offered.
- B. House of Hope**- Mike Dennis commented that they are still working on applying for grants to do improvements to the building. To assist in their application for funding, Mike reported that he would like to have an agreement with the commissioners for continued use of the facility in order to be able to qualify for more funding instruments. House of Hope has also submitted a new report to show what they are doing throughout the day to offer the board more information.
- C. Life & Purpose Behavioral Health** – Doug Pfeifer of Life & Purpose discussed their difficulties with hiring staff. This precipitated a conversation about the number of providers that are experiencing workforce issues. George Goddard stated that he would contact WCBHB contract agencies to determine how many vacancies providers are looking to fill in order to better define the behavioral workforce issues in the county.
- D. Rigel/Oriana House**- Coda Kyle representing Oriana House discussed that she has been promoted to Administrator for the South Eastern Ohio area. It was also discussed that they have been approved to add 3.1 level of care to their facility. They will have a 12 bed unit that offers a 24 hour safe environment and have structured activities throughout the day. They are looking for bicycle donations. If anyone is interested in donating a bicycle, please contact Carla Archer.
- E. Memorial Health Systems** – No Report Submitted. Linda Sistrunk from Memorial Health Systems discussed having a job share to see where providers are needing staff. She also would like to schedule another meeting with AD Hahn regarding the format for submitting reports to the board.
- F. Integrated Services** – There was no representative in attendance. There were no updates to the report or questions offered.
- G. Family Counseling & Rehabilitation Center of Ohio** – No Report Submitted. There was no representative in attendance.

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

XI. Committee Reports

A. Program Planning & Oversight/Community Relations – Dr. Raney agreed to assist as co-chair of the Program Planning & Oversight committee until the end of the fiscal year 2023. Alicia Abramski volunteered to be co-chair for the 2024 fiscal year.

XII. Old Business-

There was no old business discussed.

XIII. New Business

A. Memorial Health Systems Contract – A discussion was held regarding the proposal by MHS to implement a vertical triage pilot program at Marietta Memorial to divert mental health and SUD clients in the emergency department in order to avoid unnecessary medical treatments while linking people more rapidly with recovery services.

Motion #8.2023 –

It was moved and seconded (Dr. Raney, Brett Nicholas) - To authorize the executive director to negotiate a contract with Memorial Health Systems for up to \$44,000 to support the implementation of the Vertical Triage Pilot Program. The motion passed with the following votes:

Abramski	Barnhouse	Beardmore	Fowler	Hall	Marion	Nicholas	Prigge	Raney	Schwendeman	Silwani	Touschner	Rees	White
Y		Y			Y	Y		Y	Y		Y	Y	

XIX. Good of the Order

Next Program Planning & Oversight Committee meeting will be on March 9, 2023, at 5:15 PM.

There was a brief discussion regarding the new report on the possibility of Naloxone being available over the counter.

Tony Touschner mentioned the Mental Health Insurance (MHI) agency that aids those uninsured in accessing mental health and substance abuse disorder benefits and suggested we have someone call and be a liaison, Tara Plaughter said she would contact them.

XX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Next Meeting:
March 23, 2023

**Respectfully Submitted,
Heather Parcell**

Board President Signature