

WASHINGTON COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD MEETING MINUTES

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Thursday, March 28~ 7:00 p.m.

Washington County Behavioral Health Board Office
344 Muskingum Drive, Marietta, OH 45750

I. Call to Order, Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Karen Binkley.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Welcome and Introductions

Present

Stacey Adams
Jarrett Barnhouse
Karen Binkley, Ed. D.
Eric Fowler
Brett Nicholas
Charles Pridgeon, Ph. D.
Jim Raney, Ph. D.
Stephen Schwartz
Larry Schwendeman
Anthony Touschner
David White

Absent

Michael Beardmore
Larry Hall

Staff

Hilles Hughes
Tara Plaughter

Guests

Dr. Wittberg – WCHD
Christa Holman- Oriana
Mike Dennis- HoH
Geoff Shenkel-City
Tammy Harris – PAX
Doug Pfeifer- L&P
Judge Janet Welch
Michele Sturgeon- VISTA
Chris Linscott- WC resident
Bill Vernon- WC resident
Marc Bradley- WC resident
Brett Frye- WC resident
Jessica Wood- WCHD
Alicia Roberson- Oriana
Doreen Horne- EVE Inc.
John Jack- WC resident

IV. Public Statements

Judge Janet Welch reported that the Opioid HUB committee continues to meet regularly and is making significant progress. Staff from the Washington County Public Health Department will be offering their assistance in Strategic Planning for the Opioid HUB.

Multiple Washington County residents (WCR) were in attendance to voice their concerns in regards to the location of the residential treatment facility that recently opened in March.

Brett Frye, WCR, shared two handouts with attendees. The first was a letter of concern from the Diocese of Steubenville that was addressed to Joe Matthews, Mayor of

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Marietta as well as Mr. Joshua Schlicher, President of Marietta City Council. The second handout was an article from 2017 entitled “Oriana House Challenged by Opiate Epidemic”. Mr. Frye voiced his disapproval of the facility’s location and asked that the Board reconsider their involvement with Oriana House, or consider bringing the Washington County Home (WCH) location back up for discussion with Washington County Commissioners. Mr. Frye stated that providing Oriana House funds to open a residential treatment facility is bad stewardship of his levy money.

Brett Nicholas corrected Mr. Frye by explaining that the funds provided to Oriana House to establish a residential treatment facility are not from the Mental Health Levy. The \$300,000 State funds were earmarked for establishing a new facility or continuing a current residential treatment facility for Washington County residents.

John Jack, WCR, stated that the Catholic school is dependent on new enrollments; he believes the 3rd street facility will be the demise of St. Mary’s Catholic school.

Eric Fowler was recognized for a Point of Order. He reminded the Board that this was a time for public statements, not for debate.

Bill Vernon, WCR, stated that he believes the facility being located near a school is a problem and it would be great if Oriana would move the facility to the WCH. He believes the facility is needed but safety of the children at St. Mary’s school is most important. To avoid any incident from occurring, he recommended moving “them” to the County Home. He then asked Board members if they would be willing to take another run at meeting with County Commissioners in regards to utilizing a portion of the WCH as an alternate residential treatment facility location.

President of the Washington County Behavioral Health Board (WCBHB), Dr. Karen Binkley responded to Mr. Vernon by stating the requests would be something the Board would need to discuss.

The WCBHB statement regarding the opening of the Oriana House, Inc. Rigel Recovery Residential Center at 812 Third Street, Marietta was shared with attendees while Public Statements took place.

V. Agenda Revisions

- New Business B. Contract Modification
- C. Response to County Commissioner
- Old Business B. Updated Standing Rules & Procedures/ By-laws

VI. Epidemiology- As shown in the report shared with attendees, from 2013-2018 there were a total of 49 deaths due to accidental opioid overdoses, 69% were male. The full report is available upon request. The next step is to contact next of kin via phone or face to face to obtain additional information on physical and mental health of the deceased.

VII. PAX- The Washington County PAX data report was included in the Board packet. As of February 27, 2019, 242 school staff have completed PAX training. The first round of data shows a 49% average decrease of disruptive behaviors within a 15 minute span from the five participating districts. There is a growing list of teachers interested in participating in the next training. PAX Coordinator, Tammy Harris plans to include the outcome of “teacher burnout” in the second round of data collection. Five staff members from both Life and Purpose and Hopewell Health will participate in PAX partner training in April. Dr. Wittberg and Tammy Harris expressed their gratitude to the Washington County Behavioral Health Board for the initial contribution to bring PAX Good Behavior Game training to Washington County and for their continued support of the program.

VIII. Approval of Minutes – February 28, 2019

Motion #17.2019

It was moved and seconded (Dr. Pridgeon, Stacie Adams) to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2019 Board meeting. The motion to approve the February 2019 minutes passed with a unanimous “yes” roll call vote.

IX. Treasurer’s Report

No updates were offered.

Motion #18. 2019

It was moved and seconded (Tony Tuschner, Dr. Pridgeon) to approve the Treasurer’s report. The motion passed with a unanimous “yes” roll call vote.

X. Director's Report

In addition to Executive Director Browne's report, Hilles Hughes stated that there is a meeting with Kevin Gillespie of Integrated Services to further discuss mental health housing options for Washington County is scheduled to take place next week. Hilles informed attendees that Flite Freimann also plans to attend the mental health housing meeting.

XI. Deputy Director's Report

Hilles introduced Michele Sturgeon as the new VISTA who will be working closely with both the Washington County Behavioral Health and Public Health staff on current and upcoming projects. Efforts continue with the Quick Response Team (QRT). Miriam and Hilles are working on getting the referral process operating more efficiently. The Washington County Recovery is Beautiful Scholarship committee met and provided an application criteria outline for a Master's and Bachelor's Degree. Dave Browne and Dr. Binkley plan attend the next scholarship committee meeting to discuss further details of the scholarship program.

XII. Prevention and Recovery Advocate

The annual Suicide Awareness Alliance's "Walk to Remember" is scheduled for April 13 at Indian Acres Park starting at 9 a.m. Members of the National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA) Crisis Response Team (CRT) hope to have the program up and running by June, 2019. As stated on the NOVA website, "A NOVA Crisis Response Team is a group of individuals specifically trained to provide trauma mitigation, education and emotional first aid in the aftermath of a critical incident, either small-scale or mass-casualty. NOVA CRT members each have a minimum of twenty-four hours of skill-based, field-tested training. Most teams have extensive training and experience in the widest range of traumatic events, from mass shootings to natural disasters."

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

XIII. Agency Reports

- A. House of Hope** – Mike Dennis stated that he is working on a five year plan for the House of Hope (HoH). Once the HoH Board has approved the plan it will be shared with the WCBHB.
- B. The Right Path** – The annual Righditarod is scheduled for Saturday, April 6 starting at 11 a.m. located at the Belpre Kroger.
- C. Life & Purpose** – Janice McFarland will be attending the Ohio Recovery Housing Conference in Columbus; she plans to share her experience at the

conference during a future Board meeting. Minor renovations to the Resource Center located in downtown Marietta are underway.

- D. **EVE, Incorporated** – The representative for EVE left prior to the agency report.
- E. **Oriana House**- Alicia Roberson provided an update on the Washington County Compass Drug Court. The program currently has 11 clients, most are required to check in daily either through drop in or by using the new app “Connect Comply” by Call2Test. The app takes a picture of the clients face (selfie) and shows the background and location of the picture that is sent to staff. Christa Holman stated that Oriana submitted a grant to SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) to help with funding up to five Peer Recovery Supporters. The 812 3rd street site inspection with OMHAS (Ohio Mental Health and Addition Services) went well. The facility will be equipped with inside and outside cameras as well as locking doors that require approval for entrance.
- F. **Hopewell Health**- No updates were offered.

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

XIV. Committee Reports

- A. **Program Planning & Oversight** – The committee met twice during the month of March (12 & 26). The committee further discussed Culture of Quality policies that were shared with Board members during the February meeting. A list of suggested motions were shared with Board members that will be discussed later in the meeting.
- B. **Public Information and Education** – The committee did not meet during the month of March. The article on Peer Recovery Supporters, authored by Dr. Binkley will be published in the Marietta Times.
- C. **AoD**- The Recovery Day event is scheduled for September 22 located at the Marietta Armory, 241 Front street. The event will include live music, food vendors, and local service providers. The committee members plan to extend invitations to State senators to attend the annual Recovery Day. The next committee meeting is scheduled for May 23 at 6 p.m.

XV. Old Business

A. Culture of Quality Items (Health & Safety)-

- **Board Safety Officer**

Motion #19.2019

It was moved and seconded (Dr. Raney, Stacey Adams) to approve the policy entitled “Board Safety Officer” and to appoint the Executive Director as the Board Safety Officer. The motion to approve the Board Safety Officer policy and appoint the Executive Director as the Board Safety Officer passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

- **Office Safety Practice, Use of Alcohol & Illegal Drugs, Board Incidents & Reporting**

Motion #20.2019

It was moved and seconded (Dr. Raney, Tony Tuschner) to approve the following policies:

- Office Safety Practices
- Use of Alcohol & Illegal Drugs
- Board Incidents & Reporting

The motion to approve Office Safety, Use of Alcohol & Illegal Drugs, and Board Incidents & Reporting passed with a unanimous “yes” roll call vote.

- **Reasonable Accommodation in Employment**

Motion #21.2019

It was moved and seconded (Dr. Raney, Larry Schwendeman) to approve the policy entitled “Reasonable Accommodation in Employment” and appoint the Executive Director as the Board EEO Officer. The motion to approve the Reasonable Accommodation policy passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

- **No Weapons**

Motion #22.2019

It was moved and seconded (Dr. Raney, Dr. Pridgeon) to approve the revised “No Weapons” policy that was shared with attendees at the beginning of the meeting. The revised policy follows the current Ohio Revised Code. Dr. Raney read the revised policy aloud. The motion to approve the revised No Weapons policy passed with three “no” votes, Eric Fowler, Dave White, and Tony Tuschner.

B. Bylaws and Standing Rules and Procedures

Motion #23.2019

It was moved and seconded (Dr. Pridgeon, Dr. Raney) to approve the revised Bylaws and Standing Rules and Procedures documents that were shared with attendees.

Dr. Pridgeon recommended that Board members take time to review both documents before discussing them at the April meeting.

XVI. New Business

A. Culture of Quality Items (Human Resources) - The following proposed policies were shared with Board members.

- Personnel Files
- Employee Conduct/Discipline
- Recruitment/Selection/Hiring
- Employee Evaluation
- Personnel Development
- Whistleblower
- Affirmative Action
- Office Technology
- Performance Evaluation

B. Contract Modification- Dr. Raney made a recommendation to authorize the Executive Director to amend or delete section 11.6.6 of the current Life and Purpose Non Medicaid contract that reads “Only WCBHB local levy dollars will be used for pre-payment of services”.

Motion #24.2019

It was moved and seconded (Dr. Raney, Brett Nicholas) to authorize the Executive Director to renegotiate and amend or delete section 11.6.6 of the Life and Purpose Behavioral Health Non Medicaid contact with the WCBHB. The motion passed with a unanimous “yes” roll call vote.

C. Response to County Commissioners- Dr. Raney suggested that the WCBHB respond to the request from the Board of County Commissioners to align its employee compensation policy with that of most county employers, by sending a letter declining to change its policy and giving the rationale for the decision. The WCBHB members considered four alternate policies and found that each would exceed current compensation.

Motion #25.2019

It was moved and seconded (Dr. Raney, Dr. Pridgeon) to send a letter of declination to change the current employee compensation policy providing rational for the decision to the Board of County Commissioners. The motion to send

a letter to the Board of County Commissioners declining the requested change to the employee compensation policy passed with a unanimous “yes” roll call vote.

XVII. Good of the Order

Tony Touschner would like to see a member of the Board study Mike DeWine’s continued efforts to combat the opioid epidemic.

XVIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Next Meeting:

April 25, 2019

**7:00 p.m. at the Washington County Behavioral Health Board
344 Muskingum Drive, Marietta, Ohio 45750**

**Respectfully Submitted,
Tara Plaugher**

Board President Signature