



WASHINGTON COUNTY  
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD

[www.wcbhb.org](http://www.wcbhb.org)

Thursday, February 25~ 6:00 p.m.  
Meeting held via Zoom video conference

**I. Call to Order, Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by President Eric Fowler at 6:01 p.m.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Welcome and Introductions**

**Present**

Jarrett Barnhouse  
Michael Beardmore  
Eric Fowler  
Eric Johnston  
Laura Knab  
Brett Nicholas  
Chas Pridgeon, Ph. D.  
Jim Raney, Ph. D.  
Larry Schwendeman  
Anthony Touschner  
Beverly Prigge

**Absent**

David White  
Larry Hall

**Staff**

David Browne  
Aleisha Roberson  
Shaeleigh Sprigg  
Tara Plaughner  
Tammy Harris

**Guests**

Caitlin Simmons  
Erin Taylor  
Billie Welsh  
Doug Pfeifer  
Stormy Starcher  
Sherry Shamblin  
Michael Himes  
Kevin Robinson  
Dick Wittberg  
Jason Hamilton  
Candice Jeffers  
Leah Gregory  
Rob Marion  
Jovonnah Burns  
Janet Welch  
Carla Archer

**IV. Public Statements**

Leah Gregory, Case Manager and Program Director for Marietta Municipal Court (MMC), shared that the MMC is interested in offering a Substance Abuse and Mental Illness (SAMI) Court program similar to the Compass Drug Court, (Common Pleas). This new program would allow the opportunity for individuals to seek treatment in lieu of conviction at both court system levels in Washington County. In addition to collaborating with the Washington County Behavioral Health Board by providing startup funds for the SAMI Court, staff at MMC are pursuing additional funding sources to ensure longevity and sustainability of the program. Marietta Municipal Court fully intends on applying for the SAMI Court to be recognized as an Ohio Supreme Court Certified Specialized Docket. David Browne asked that a proposed budget be submitted to the Board for review.

President Fowler testified to the need for a SAMI Court in Washington County.

Michael Himy, representative for Hope Center Ministries shared that they have twenty seven locations throughout the United States offering a faith-based 8-12 month drug and alcohol rehabilitation program. Hope Center Ministries recently opened a facility in Belpre. The three phase program includes but is not limited to intensive bible based curriculum, group and individual counseling, life and job skills training, and building a strong work ethic. To learn more about the Ministry visit [www.hopecm.com](http://www.hopecm.com).

Stormy Starcher, representative for Spero Health in Marietta, shared that the outpatient addiction treatment facility would like to build a relationship with the Board.

**V. Agenda Revisions**

The following revisions were made to the agenda:

- Oath of Office after approval of the Minutes
- Old Business                      B. Appoint Executive Director Evaluation Committee

**VI. Approval of Minutes – January 28, 2021**

**Motion # 11.2021**

**It was moved and seconded (Eric Johnston, Larry Schwendeman) to approve the minutes of the January 28, 2021 Board meeting. The motion passed with the following votes.**

Barnhouse	Beardmore	Fowler	Hall	Johnston	Knab	Nicholas	Pridgeon	Raney	Schwendeman	Touschner	White
Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Technical Difficulties	

Y= Yes                      N= No                      A= Abstain

**VII. Oath of Office**

Beverly Prigge was sworn in as a member of the Washington County Behavioral Health Board. Beverly is a returning Board member.

**VIII. Treasurer’s Report**

Dr. Raney called attention to page 5 of the report that shows the REACH budget has an excess amount of \$40,000 yet the Hopewell report shows 25 students participating in the program. David Browne will investigate the actual amount.

Dr. Pridgeon called attention to page 9 of the report that shows the AmeriCorp budget is over 250%. David Browne explained that the report is based on previous expected incoming revenue. He will justify the report based on new and incoming West Virginia AmeriCorp grant funding.

**Motion # 12. 2021**

**It was moved and seconded (Dr. Pridgeon, Brett Nicholas)** to approve the Treasurer’s report and disbursements. The motion passed with the following votes:

Barnhouse	Beardmore	Fowler	Hall	Johnston	Knab	Nicholas	Pridgeon	Prigge	Raney	Schwendeman	Touschner	White
Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Technical Difficulties	

**IX. Director’s Report**

David shared that the house on Fifth Street has been sold. He also asked that members of the Board note the 2019 Ohio Auditor of State Management letter to the Washington County Commissioners in regards to the County audit performed by Keith Faber that was included in the Board packet. The report shows no corrective measures mentioned for the Washington County Behavioral Health Board to act on. Members of the Board acknowledged the receipt of the audit.

**X. Program Director-** In addition to her report, Aleisha shared that she and Shaeleigh recently completed the Teen Mental Health First Aid Trainer training. They will be working with local school districts to roll out the new training County wide.

Laura Knab mentioned her appreciation for the Behavioral Health Matter segments she has been seeing on the Recovery Is Beautiful Facebook page. The segments can also be found on the Washington County Behavioral Health Board website ([www.wcbhb.org](http://www.wcbhb.org)) under the media tab.

**XI. Compliance Director-** In addition to her report, Shaeleigh shared that the Workforce subcommittee of the County Opioid HUB, in conjunction with Buckeye Hills received some positive news in regards to the Appalachian Regional Council (ARC) grant giving approval to move forward with the process. If the grant is awarded, the funds will be used to strengthen current and create new workforce programs, trainings, and supports.

Coroner reports from 2020 have been received, overdose and suicide death data is being aggregated.

The address for the newly opened warming station located in downtown Marietta is 312 Front Street. Hours of operations is Monday-Friday 12 p.m. - 5 p.m. offering a hot meal at 1 p.m.

**XII. Recovery Advocate-** Nothing added to the report.

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

**XIII. Agency Reports**

- A. House of Hope** – There were no updates to the report or questions offered.
- B. EVE, Incorporated** – There were no updates to the report or questions offered.
- C. Life & Purpose** – Members of the Board were curious as to when the Life & Purpose Community Resource Center (L&PCRC) would be opening. Doug Pfeifer shared that although the center is not open due to a lack of volunteers, they are gathering clothing that will be shared with employment agencies and anyone in need. The Community Resource Center Board plans to meet on Friday, February 26 to further discuss ways to obtain volunteers.
- D. The Right Path** – David Browne called attention to the report noting that Mrs. Cathy Harper’s son, Jason Harper, lost his battle with addiction.
- E. Rigel/Oriana House-** Candice Jeffers, Clinical Administrator for Rigel Recovery Residential Center, shared that the fire department was called to the Third Street location to investigate a possible fire due to staff noticing smoke in the air. After a thorough investigation of the facility there were no findings.  
  
Rigel Recovery Residential Center (RRRC) now has a Facebook page that can be found by searching for “Oriana House Rigel Recovery Services”. The page offers updates on bed availability, services offered, and more.
- F. Hopewell Health-** There were no updates to the report or questions offered.
- G. PAX-** Tammy Harris, PAX Coordinator shared that over 150 teachers and roughly 300 staff/employees have received the PAX Good Behavior Training. There are currently 11 schools implementing the PAX strategies. Tammy is working closely with Hopewell Health to offer PAX Tools training to staff that interact with students and parents in Fort Frye, Wolf Creek, and Marietta City School districts.

During a Superintendent meeting there was a request to include evidence-based prevention links on the Board website as a local resource site for school systems to turn to. Tammy will be working on content to create the resource site. The Marietta City School consolidation will start at the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year starting with the closure of Harmer, and Putnam Schools. Kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade will be offered at Washington and Phillips School buildings while grades 4-6 will be housed at Marietta Middle School, and 7-12 will be housed at Marietta High School.

- H. **Community Health Improvement Associates (CHIA)** - There were no updates to the report or questions offered.
- I. **Integrated Behavioral Health**- Erin Taylor, shared that Integrated Behavioral Health staff are working on rolling out an afterhours Risk Management program focusing on at risk children.

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

#### XIV. **Committee Reports**

- A. **Program Planning & Oversight** – In addition to the report that was included in the Board packet, Dr. Raney made a recommendation that Board staff, Shaeleigh and Aleisha provide Mental Health First Aid Training to members of the Board to fulfill the annual Board training obligation.
- B. **Community Relations** – Eric Johnston shared that the committee met on February 9 to review and discuss the Marietta Community Foundation (MCF) agreement, iHeart Media report, June Recognition event, a mental health spring cleaning booklet, and the annual report. After consulting with legal counsel, it was advised that the MCF agreement does not align with the scope of the Board. Scholarship discussion will be added to the March Community Relations Committee agenda. Mr. Johnston invited members of the Board to attend the March Community Relations Committee to further discuss scholarship opportunities.

Dr. Pridgeon called attention to a very well done Behavioral Health Matters article that was published in the Marietta Times titled “Prevent Domestic Violence: Preserve Domestic Tranquility” authored by Shaeleigh Sprigg in conjunction with Jessica Dearth, Shelter Director at EVE Inc. To support Social Work appreciation month, Eric Johnston suggested the March Behavioral Health Matters article focus on the importance of social work.

C. **AoD-** The committee did not meet.

**XV. Old Business**

**A. Revisions to Standing Rules & Procedures to Reflect Sunshine Laws-**

**Motion 13.2021**

It was moved and seconded (Dr. Raney, Eric Johnston) to approve suggested changes to the Standing Rules and Procedures as offered in the Board packet. The motion passed with the following votes:

Barnhouse	Beardmore	Fowler	Hall	Johnston	Knab	Nicholas	Pridgeon	Prigge	Raney	Schwendeman	Touschner	White
Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Technical Difficulties	

**B. Executive Director Evaluation Committee-** President Fowler opened the floor to allow members of the Board to volunteer for the committee. Below is the list of Committee members.

- Eric Johnston- Chair
- Larry Schwendeman
- Laura Knab

**XVI. New Business-** Nothing offered.

**XVII. Good of the Order**

President Fowler reminded members of the Board to fill out and submit their Executive Director Evaluation as soon as possible.

Congratulations to Eric Johnston on completing the process to become an Ohio Licensed Independent Social Worker!

Welcome Back Beverly Prigge!

**XVIII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

**Next Meeting:**

When: Mar 25, 2021 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Topic: March Washington County Behavioral Health Board Meeting

Register in advance for this webinar:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_pcTvk7JkR66YR3CKiOISbg](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_pcTvk7JkR66YR3CKiOISbg)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

**Respectfully Submitted,  
Tara Plaugher**

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Board President Signature