



Richland County Mental Health & Recovery Services Board Meeting Minutes November 21, 2023

Present: Susan Bemiller, Mike Donahue, Carla James, Sylvia Jordan, Dave Krenrick, Susan Lehr, Jennifer Lemon, Cindy Lewis, Christina Thompson, Jon Ahles, Elder Ronald Moton, Lonnie McGhee

Excused: Jordon Wurthmann

Unexcused:

Staff Present: Sherry Branham, Carey Vogt, Angie Parker

Guests: Derrik Martin

CALL TO ORDER:

Sue Bemiller called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

Board member roll call was recorded, and a quorum was established.

1. *Approval of a series of meetings took place between tonight's meeting and the last Board meeting in October. The following were individually slated for approval:
 - October 31, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes
 - November 1, 2023 Emergency Meeting Minutes
 - November 6, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes
 - November 13, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes
 - November 21, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Bemiller called for a motion to approve the October 17, 2023 meeting minutes. Moton motioned. Ahles seconded. Abstention, Bemiller and McGhee. Motion carried.

The Board opted to table the approval of the Board minutes for October 31, November 1, November 6, and November 13 till the next Board meeting so review and updates can be made.

A presentation was given by Derrik Martin with Akron children's Hospital's BH facility on Trimble Road. The program launched in July this year. He outlined their various options for adolescents including an intensive partial hospitalization, step down to IOP and Outpatient. Some services would take place at their Akron campus currently. In person and virtual psychiatric services are also available. Branham requested his information so that he might present at the next Executive & Clinical Directors Meeting in January 2024.

2. *Monthly Payables.

Branham described the process that takes place from invoice receipt through payables reports that the members receive.

Lewis asked about some of the vendors, Vogt explained who they are and this was beneficial to everyone. Vogt noted that all payments previously made to Gravity, that were approved by Trolian, were reimbursed by Dan Lew. Lew had dropped off a check to the Auditor who called Vogt requesting that she pick up the check at their office.

Bemiller called for a motion to approve the Expenditure Report for October 2023. James motioned. Moton seconded. All were in agreement. Motion carried.

3. Cash Position- Vogt presented and reviewed the cash position report.

4. *Finance Committee Report

The Finance Committee Report was given by Donahue. Meeting minutes were provided in the board packets. Donahue made a motion on behalf of the Finance Committee to approve the revised 2024 county calendar year budget. Ahles seconded. All were in agreement. Motion carried.

At 6:34 P.M. Thompson and Jordan departed the meeting.

5. Associate Director's Report- Branham provided the following information in either hard copy or verbal report to the board members:

- a. Conflict of Interest Do's and Don'ts- Handout
- b. Compliance in a Nutshell- Handout
- c. Ethics Training- Branham will be confirming a training for February 2024 that will occur after the Board Meeting.
- d. Delegation of Duties to the Executive Director Policy
- e. An update was provided on the buildings and grounds along with an update on the two proposed projects.
- f. *Marketing Agreement with NAMI/Lamb discussion was held. A conversation took place with NAMI about this prior to the Board meeting. A legal determination was given, and a 120-day Notice is not warranted in this scenario.
Branham, after discussion with Bemiller, recommended that the Board pull back the marketing funds passed through NAMI to Lamb and have the work done internally at this time. Donahue motioned. James seconded. All were in agreement. Motion carried.
- g. *Explained that there are two prior commitments made by this board under its previous Executive Director. Family Life Counseling School Crisis Services were approved due to the two homicides that recently occurred and the Jericho Wall pavilion project. There may be additional items that arise, Branham recommended that the Board follow through with commitments that had been made by the previous Executive Director. Discussion took place. Vogt detailed the donations vs. cost remaining for the Jericho Wall. Members agreed we should honor commitments to the community. Bemiller called for a motion for the board to honor these previous commitments. Lewis motioned. Moton seconded. All were in agreement. Motion carried.
- h. Open Meetings Act and Committee Meetings discussion was held. Summarizing that we will need to issue notices to the media regarding all meetings in the future.

6. *Presidents Report. Bemiller thanked everyone for their generous time, commitment and consideration during the recent events. Bemiller stated it is the responsibility of the chair to appoint a vacated officer seat. She asked if there were any nominations for the vacant seat of Secretary. Krenrick nominated Lehr. Hearing no others, Krenrick motioned to

appoint Lehr as Secretary. Ahles seconded. Lehr abstained. All were in agreement. Motion carried.

By-Laws Article 4.4 to appoint Executive Committee additions and Ethics Committee. Bemiller requested James and Jordan to join and the Executive Committee. Both James and Jordan agreed to join.

7. No old business was discussed.
8. No new business was discussed.
9. No future agenda items were discussed.
10. *Bemiller called for a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss the employment of a public employee. Donahue motioned. Lewis seconded. Roll call was taken with everyone agreeing. Staff were dismissed. Executive Session entered at 7:14 P.M.
Branham presence was requested into Executive Session.
Branham was dismissed from the Executive Session.
Staff were invited to return to the regular meeting. Bemiller called for motion to exit Executive Session. Donahue motioned. Moton seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all in agreement. Executive Session ended at 8:31 P.M.
11. *Bemiller called for a motion to appoint Sherry Branham as Executive Director of Mental Health & Recovery Services Board of Richland County effective immediately. James motioned. Donahue seconded. A roll call vote was taken and the Board Members voted unanimously to appoint Branham Executive Director effective immediately. Motion carried.
12. *Bemiller called for a motion to adjourn. James motioned. Lehr seconded. All members were in agreement. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 P.M.

ATTESTED BY:



Susan Bemiller, Chair



Dave Krenrick, Vice Chair