



## **Richland County Mental Health & Recovery Services Board Meeting Minutes October 21, 2025**

**Present:** Scott Arnold, Mike Donahue, Dr. Jay Haar, Carla James, Dave Krenrick, Susan Lehr, Jennifer Lemon, Crystal Shaffer, Bret Snavely, Brian White

**Excused:** Sylvia Jordan, Lonnie McGhee, Jeff O'Brien

**Unexcused:**

**Staff Present:** Sherry Branham, Carey Vogt, Angie Parker, Scott Basilone

**Guests:** Cindy Lewis, Atty. John McLandrich (via zoom)

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### **CALL TO ORDER:**

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

Pledge of Allegiance

New Board Member, Dr. Jay Haar was sworn in by Carey Vogt

#### **1. \*Associate Director/CFO Report- Carey Vogt**

- \*Revised SFY2026 Budget - Vogt and Donahue reported that the Finance Committee met on October 15<sup>th</sup> to go over revisions to the SFY2026 budget due to funding lines that were awarded since the last meeting. Donahue called for a motion to approve Revised State Fiscal Year 2026 Contract Agency Budget consisting of \$6,053,599.28, a Board Administration Budget of \$999,467.50 and a Board Monitored Community Operations and Housing Budget of \$2,488,633.28 for a total of \$9,541,700.06. Krenrick motioned, Lehr seconded. There were no abstentions or discussions, motion carried.
- \*2025 Calendar Year Budget Adjustments - Vogt and Donahue reported that this was reviewed at the Finance Committee meeting on October 15<sup>th</sup>. Lehr asked about the half mil increase. Vogt explained the last half of the SFY vs. calendar year budget alignment due to unknowns when the county budgets are created and submitted to the county. Donahue called for a motion to approve the 2025 Calendar Year Budget adjustments as presented and discussed at the Finance Committee meeting, for an increased allocation of \$643,000.00 in the 200 MH Fund. James motioned, Lemon seconded. There were no abstentions or discussions, motion carried.
- \*2026 Health Insurance Rates - Vogt reported that the board was made aware of an increase to the health insurance rates for 2026 from the county. This too was covered at the Finance Committee meeting on October 15th. Lehr asked about the increase amount to

the board and Vogt relayed this, also noting that a staff member was married in 2025 and will include their spouse for coverage in 2026. Donahue called for a motion to approve the revised health insurance rates for calendar year 2026 and continue with the cost being split as 8% Employee and 92% Board. White motioned, Lemon seconded. There were no abstentions or discussions, motion carried.

- \*Revised 2026 Calendar Year Budget - Vogt and Donahue reported that this was also reviewed at the Finance Committee meeting on October 15<sup>th</sup>. Revisions to the 2026 Calendar Year Budget are required by the County Commissioners. Donahue called for a motion to approve the Revised 2026 Calendar Year Operating and Housing Budgets, which also includes the personnel service schedule, as written, presented and discussed during the Finance Committee meeting and these will be submitted to the County Commissioners. Krenick motioned, Lehr seconded. There were no abstentions or discussions, motion carried.
- Cash Position- The beginning balance at the end of August 2025 was \$6,293,231.48. In September, a total revenue of \$634,311.40 was added. The total expenditures for this period were \$1,037,093.31, leaving the fund balance in our operating fund on 9/30/2025 at \$5,890,449.57. This is a decrease of \$402,781.91.

2. **\*Executive Session** - Susan Lehr

- For a conference with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action. Lehr called for a motion to enter executive session. Krenick motioned, Donahue seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all those in attendance in agreement. No one was dismissed for the session and it began at 5:55 pm.
- Lehr called for a motion to come out of executive session. White motioned, Snavely seconded. A roll call vote was taken with all those in attendance in agreement. Session ended at 6:34 pm. Atty. John McLandrich left the meeting via zoom after the Executive Session was over.

3. **\*Approval of Minutes**- Susan Lehr

- Lehr called for a motion to approve the board meeting minutes of September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Lemon motioned, James seconded, White abstained. Motion carried.
- Lehr called for a motion to approve the special board meeting minutes of September 22, 2025. White motioned, James seconded. There were no abstentions or discussions, motion carried.

4. **\*Monthly Payables** - Susan Lehr

- Lehr called for a motion to approve the expenditures for the month of September 2025. Lemon mentioned, James seconded. There were no abstentions or discussions, motion carried.

5. **Director of Information Technology** – Angie Parker

- Parker reported that staff were in the process of testing the latest version of GOSH across the 3 billing and adjudication systems. This version will implement real-time eligibility checks directly with Medicaid, which is a good thing. Parker reported that with the passage of HB 96

signed by the governor in June, we will be developing a cybersecurity plan to comply with HB. Snavely questions if we were looking at any software or hardware cost associated with this plan. Parker reported it was too soon tell for certain but off hand there were no known gaps in current equipment to warrant additional purchases at this time.

6. **Manager of Clinical Programs and Services Report**- Scott Basilone

- Crossroads Church - Basilone reported a positive meeting with members of Crossroads. They've created a support group, made up of volunteers, who will assist members who may be struggling with behavioral health issues. They are trained in a peer capacity and make referrals to licensed facilities when appropriate.
- Danielle's Lighthouse – is the name selected by Heck family for new upstairs crisis step down facility.
- Data Summary - Basilone reported on wellness teams, jail and other statistics. Lehr requested a copy of the data reported and other members were also interested. Stats will be sent to the full board. He reported that the SOS 4.2 application was submitted today. The department has 30 days to review these applications. He stated that collection mechanism for SOS reporting has changed from GPRA to SUPERT and the state will have training to learn the new system.

7. **\*Executive Director's Report** – Sherry Branham

- \*Approval of new Health Officer, Katherine Reitler. Branham reported on Reitler's completed training and shadowing for pre-screens. We need to approve this new appointment. Lehr made a motion to approve Katherine Reitler as a Health Officer. Krenick seconded. There were no abstentions or discussions, motion carried.
- Culture of Quality Reaccreditation – Branham reported this will take place in February and staff are working on this.
- Levy Update – Branham reported on tasks accomplished thus far with the levy effort. The next parade is in Bellville for Halloween if anyone can join, specifics to come.
- Levy Watch Party - Discussion was had surrounding whether members are interested in having a watch party for the levy results. Concerns were raised regarding the perception of having all members together and risks of discussing 'board business'. It was determined that a watch party would not take place.
- Richland Recovery Network - The Richland Recovery Network Website is active, and we have received wonderful feedback from the community regarding the site. Branham mentioned that she may be coming to the Board in the future to request some of the affiliate agencies to the website.
- Clinical Audits – Kim Frazer, ED of Lake County Board, provided guidelines they use for clinical audit reviews. They will be assisting us with a clinical record reviewer. Branham is going to send the information to Dave K and Crystal S to review since they both have BH knowledge, and she has already shared the information with Susan L. Lehr requested the full packet along with the checklists to be sent to her once we have them.
- Mack Sanders at UMADAOP is the interim director during Mr. Baker's illness. An email was sent to Mack about meeting with staff regarding where the agency is in the process of their CAP. Concerns were expressed surrounding this topic.
- Discussion was had regarding next finance committee meeting to review the provider financial audits.

8. **President's Report** – Susan Lehr

- Executive Committee met and are working on the Boards By-laws. Lehr asked that Board members email any input on the By-Laws to her and Sherry. Lehr has would like to add another member to the committee. Anyone interested can send O'Brien an email and copy to Sherry and Lehr. Lehr stated she has begun reviewing personnel policies. Wants to postpone any committee meetings surrounding this until after the levy.
- \*Naming of the new program/facility upstairs, Danielle's Lighthouse. Shaffer asked what 33 Forever has done financially for Richland County. They built a facility in Lucas County and 33 Forever gave financial support to the project. Branham stated that they are contributing to the upstairs project by donating artwork and getting a donation from NAMI Ohio for landscaping. James motioned, Lehr seconded. There were no abstentions or discussion, motion carried.

9. **Old Business** – None discussed

10. **New Business** –

- Snavely would like to discuss at the next meeting the Strategic Plan stating there are items that have lapsed with no action and things coming up. Branham stated this is in the works with a different format of objective, goals and tasks to accomplish.
- Snavely suggested consideration be made to the start time of the board meeting and if it could be adjusted to earlier, accommodating both staff and members. He recommended the Board meeting start at either 4:30pm or 5:00pm.

11. **Future Agenda Items** – None discussed

12. **\*Adjournment**

Lehr called for a motion to adjourn. Krenrick made the motion, James seconded the motion. The motion passed with no abstentions. The meeting adjourned at 7:53pm.

**ATTESTED BY:**

  
Jeff O'Brien, Chair

  
Carla James, Secretary