

Mahoning County Mental Health and Recovery Board Meeting  
October 25, 2021  
Minutes

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Present: Marilyn Burns, Rachel Chmielewski, Anne Cobbin, Atty. Wm. Scott Fowler, Chief Bob Cavalier, Anna Howells, Anne Lally, Ruth Mastriana, Bill Morvay, Eric Ungaro, Atty. Thomas Vasvari, Linda Warino, and Chelsey Zoldan-Calhoun

Absent: Jim Bertrando, Victor Daprile, Bishop C.M. Jenkins, Anne Lally, and Sylvia Scott

Staff: Duane Piccirilli, Brenda Heidinger, Mark Dunlap, Jessica Makosky, and Michelle Werth

Guests Vince Brancaccio, Ben Davis, Darla Gallagher, Jionna Gillans, Carolyn Givens, Christina Lloyd, Jennifer Merritt, and Joe Shorokey

Anne Cobbin, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.

**15 – 2022: Motion: Eric Ungaro– to approve the minutes of the September 27, 2021, MCMHRB meeting. Seconded: Anna Howells...motion carried.**

#### Officer Reports

##### A. Chair Report

- Anne had the pleasure to visit the Campus of Care. The campus is in great condition and coming along beautifully. The kitchen is being remodeled and will be occupied YoFresh. Anne reported the atmosphere is serene and the community is responding well to the development of the campus.

##### B. Treasurers Report

- Tom Vasvari, Treasurer, reviewed the Treasurer's report for September 2021 for the Mahoning County MHR Board. He also reviewed the Blanket List of Bills for September 2021. \*Balance of General Ledger only reflects the cash balance and does not represent contractual appropriations through the end of SFY22.

**16 – 2022: Motion: Tom Vasvari– to approve the September 2021 Treasurers Report and September 2021 Blanket List of Bills. Seconded: Linda Warino...motion carried.**

#### Committee Report

- Program and Policy Committee Report- October 18, 2021
  - Kathy Mock reviewed the Mahoning Valley United Way Young Women's Mentoring Program. She presented the outcomes for the SFY2021 Year and the request for funding and plans for the SFY2022 program.
  - Joe Shorokey presented the Ohio Rise program to the Committee. He reviewed the required components of the Ohio Rise Program as developed by Ohio Medicaid, and the areas of the program Alta may be applying to provide. This preliminary presentation was to inform the Committee of the programs Alta may be looking to add or enhance such as Intensive Home Based treatment, or Mobile Crisis Response services

**17 – 2022: Motion: Program and Policy Committee– to recommend the Board approves an allocation of \$6,000 for the Mahoning Valley United Way Young Women’s Mentoring Program. Mahoning Valley United Way will report quantifiable data to show effectiveness of the program including but not limited to number of participants, attendance of participants, and pre and post test data...motion carried.**

#### **Executive Director Report**

- Duane reported that many of our providers are currently working on capital projects, with the increased costs of materials construction costs are almost three times previous quotes. We may see some delay in the start of planned projects.
- See attached report.

#### **Old Business**

- Diversity update – Duane reported he has been asked to be a member of a diversity committee for Children Services Board, with other community leaders. The committee had its first meeting.

#### **New Business**

- Carolyn Givens, JJJC, and Jennifer Merritt, Mahoning Valley Community School, presented their request for support from the Board for a Youth Resiliency Grant between the Mahoning Valley Community School and OhioMHAS in the amount of \$750,000.00. The funds will be used to expand or build a new building for the school. They currently serve 250-300 students and they are running out of space. With the additional space they project serving as many as 500 students in the community.

**18 – 2022: Motion: Eric Ungaro- The Mahoning County Mental Health and Recovery Board supports the capital grant application of \$750,000.00 from the Mahoning Valley Community School from OhioMHAS to support the establishment of a safe and healthy programming spaces for middle and high school aged youth to access prosocial activities in the community. Seconded: Scott Fowler...motion carried.**

#### **Board Member Remarks**

- Anne Cobbin requested Michelle Werth, comment on the visit to the Campus of Care. She reported that the campus is beautiful and the community is looking forward to having it up and running.
- Board members inquired whether Mahoning Valley High School was looking at existing vacant building in Mahoning County before building a new school. There was a discussion of properties that MVHS leadership has attempted to acquire, and the reasons they have not been able to secure an existing building for renovation.

#### **Agency Remarks:**

- Joe Shorokey, Alta –Reported that the services required for OhioRISE are not available in Mahoning County. Alta is looking at developing some of the necessary services to support the OhioRISE Families. He also reported that Alta approved a bid for the Camp Challenge building. The cost will be approximately \$90,000 more than originally budgeted, due to the increased materials costs Duane referenced. Alta has opted to utilize reserves to keep the construction on

schedule. They will be breaking ground in a few weeks and plan to be up and running in April 2022.

- Jionna Gillans, Mercy Health, No report.
- Darla Gallagher, Meridian HealthCare – Reported that Meridian is also working on OhioRISE and will report back with updates as they receive them. Meridian purchased air conditioning units and furniture for Chalmers location. She stated not just construction costs are higher, the shipping costs for the items are approximately \$24,000.
- Ben Davis, Vertava Health, introduced himself to the Board. Vertava Health offers drug and alcohol addiction treatment and co-occurring mental health disorder treatment.
- Christina Lloyd, Coleman – No report.
- Vince Brancaccio, Help Network- Reported that they are struggling to hire even entry level positions.
- Duane reported that the video created by GRIEF, including Board Member Anna Howells was very good and he has been receiving a lot of compliments on it. He also reported that OACBHA is currently working with the legislature to change the law regarding virtual meeting options for volunteer boards, like the ADAMHS boards. We will keep Board members apprised on the status of the change. It would allow the Board and committees to meet virtually on Zoom as we did during the pandemic.

The next Board meeting will be held on November 22, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Minutes reported by:



Anna Howells  
Secretary

Minutes recorded by:



Jessica Makosky  
Acocunts Clerk