**Athens-Hocking-Vinton 317 Board Meeting Minutes**

**February 26, 2024**

**Meeting Was Held In-Person and Virtual**

**Present:** Tonya Bowden, Chair, Heather Batin, JoAnna Carter, Dr. Tom Davis, Ralph Evans, Maeve Gallagher, Dr. Joe Gay, Rhea Hopstetter, Dr. Ron Luce, Robert Orth, Anne Rubin, and Shei Sanchez

**Absent:** Jayne Darling, Tamara Norway, Patricia Robinette, Robert Salizzoni, Jacqueline Stobbs

**Guests:** Linda Sistrunk, Marietta Memorial Hospital, and Wenda Sheard, Candidate, Ohio House of Representatives

**Virtual:** Cameron LaGraff, Student, Ellen Martin, HRS, Dr. Sherry Shamblin, HHC, and Cathye Williams, ISBH

**Staff:** Amanda Conrath, Svea Maxwell, Marissa McDaid, Beth Mohammed, Diane Pfaff, Kim Robinson, Kim Crum and Sherri Tyree

Ms. Stobbs called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

**I. Adoption of Agenda**

**24:02:47**

Dr. Luce moved to approve the agenda; Ms. Gallagher seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

**24:02:48**

Ms. Rubin moved to approve the January 22, 2024, board meeting minutes with the clarification in the director’s report to show that “property” refers to the Clem House property; Ms. Gallagher seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**III. Public Comment**

1. Mr. LaGraff explained that he is attending events for a class and has experience with Hopewell Health Centers and Good Works services.
2. Ms. Sheard said she is running for the Ohio House of Representatives 94th District and has been encouraged to attend meetings to listen and learn about services in each county represented. Dr. Gay was instrumental in her attending the board meeting.
3. Ms. Sistrunk introduced herself and briefly reported on the new Marietta emergency department being built in Athens.

**IV. Agency Updates**

1. **Dr. Sherry Shamblin, Hopewell Health Centers**

Dr. Shamblin reported on their HRSA report that is available online and they hosted their three-year HRSA site visit. She said they were given feedback that they are in the top third of FQHCs nationwide. The Plains site is being prepared for the new facility and she was a representative for the Ohio Childrens Caucus.

1. **Ellen Martin, Health Recovery Services**

Ms. Martin reported they had received a grant from Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS) related to human trafficking. She also reported on data from the Ohio Department of Health report; in 2022 Athens had an unintentional drug overdose rate of 45.5 per 100,000 for Athens, Hocking had a rate of 56.1 and Vinton had the highest rate of 125.5.

1. **Cathye Williams, Integrated Services for Behavioral Health**

Ms. Williams reported that Tracy Dearing is attending Clubhouse International training, and The Hive will be certified for prevention services in June. She also discussed a Hairball fundraising event that will spay and neuter feral cats around the Vinton peer house. The peer recovery supporter and community health worker working at Groundwork recovery house. Ms. Williams also recognized several staff members for their hard work and dedication during an apartment fire at Beasley Mills in Athens.

**V.** **Staff Updates**

1. **Amanda Conrath, Fiscal Manager**

Ms. Conrath announced the death of her father by suicide. She praised the board staff for their support and the Athens County LOSS Team for their immediate and compassionate response.

1. **Kim Crum, Community Services Coordinator**

Ms. Crum reported that the Board is applying for new funding from OhioMHAS for a Landlord Incentive Program and a Landlord Mitigation program to help improve housing for persons with behavioral health issues who are also involved with the criminal justice system.

1. **Sherri Tyree, Community Services Manager**

Ms. Tyree discussed the Community Health Assessment planning sessions in Hocking County. She also presented a Smartsheet call log dashboard which included information on different types of calls received by the board. Dr. Luce asked what the data is used for, Ms. Tyree explained the data captured is used for assessing community needs and internal referrals. Ms. Pfaff explained that this data also shows the volume of information and assistance provided by the Board.

1. **Diane Pfaff, Executive Director**

Ms. Pfaff reported on the following:

* The State of Ohio Action for Resiliency (SOAR) Network is a research project designed to improve behavioral health outcomes by creating innovations and best practices for treating mental health and substance use disorders. The research will focus on biological, psychological, and social levels. The study will include 15,000 people in all 88 counties. There is an additional brain health study with 3,600 people and applied research with an opportunity for researchers to submit applications for funding.
* At a previous meeting Mr. Evans asked about updates to the OU property project. Ms. Pfaff said she spoke with the consortium working on the project and learned that Ohio University expects the state to approve the property transfer in the 2nd or 3rd quarter of this year. The board would work on securing funding in 2025 toward a goal of breaking ground in 2026. The Board has listed this as our first priority for OhioMHAS capital funding.
* The Executive Director Evaluation is online and will be sent by the end of the week. The evaluation form is in the Smartsheet platform and if someone is unable to complete it online Ms. Mohammed will mail a paper copy.

**VI. Public Records and Retention Commission**

Ms. Bowden reported the Public Records and Retention Commission met on February 22nd. The commission approves disposal of old board records, and the disposal list was extensive with some dating back to the 1970s. The commission is required to meet annually to discuss records disposal and public records requests.

**VII. Contracts and Construction Reports**

**Construction**

1. Ms. Maxwell reported on the following:

* The renovation project continues to move forward. There have been a few delays related to materials being available. The older section of the building is expected to be mostly completed by the end of the week and then second section will begin.  It is anticipated that this section will progress more quickly.
* Staff had anticipated a large-scale repair to the sewer lift station at our apartment unit in The Plains.  Fortunately, BDT Architects and Stockmeister were able to schedule an evaluation of the station. The plumbing expert with Stockmeister was able to make a few corrections while on-site and concluded that a couple of minor replacements will keep the system functioning as it should; we will be working with them to get those repairs made.

**24:02:49**

* Ms. Maxwell reported that the system that was installed through a county energy program that controls the AC and furnace in the basement and part of the first floor needs to be replaced. The system is no longer supported in the county, there are no local customer support specialists, and it is a very complicated control panel which both previous and current HVAC service providers have struggled to make run efficiently.  Dowler Heating & Cooling has evaluated our needs and provided a plan to replace the current thermostats and dampers needed for the building.  We recommend doing this work while the construction crew is on site to do any needed wall repairs and painting touch-ups after installation. The estimated cost will be $13,000. Dr. Luce moved to approve replacement of the HVAC system; Ms. Gallagher seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Contracts**

1. Ms. Pfaff discussed the following:

**24:02:50**

* Ascend Innovations-LocalHelpNow

Ms. Pfaff explained the contract renewal for an online resource directory. The contract was delayed from October because they were working on upgrades which will significantly improve the service. The annual contract is $10,000 and there is a one-time share of the upgrade cost of $2,500. Dr. Davis asked if all agencies are connected to the application. Ms. Pfaff said all contract agencies are represented and it includes resources beyond our network of care. Ms. Gallagher asked if there is data on usage. Ms. McDaid confirmed that the platform provides data on number of new users, recurring users, and numbers clicking on agency websites. Dr. Davis moved to approve the payment of $12,500 for the Ascend Innovations contract; Ms. Hopstetter seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**24:02:51**

* Ms. Pfaff discussed an additional guardianship slot with Ohio Network for Innovation (ONI). She said the state provided funding for this slot for the first year and the board may need to fund the slot in future years. Dr. Gay moved to authorize the executive director to enter into a contract with Ohio Network for Innovation for guardianship services for $2,850; Ms. Batin seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Old Business**

1. **Planning for SFY 2025**

Ms. Pfaff discussed the updated resource list for Hocking County included in the board packet. The updated list includes a list of treatment services and a treatment services SWOT summary. She said this is an ongoing process; next month an analysis of prevention services will be brought to the board and crisis services to follow. Dr. Luce asked about peer support. Ms. Pfaff said there would be more research on the peer support workforce. She invited the members to contact staff if they thought of other services that could be provided or had any questions.

1. Ms. Conrath distributed a handout and explained the SOS 3.2 expenditure report. She said the Notice of Sub-Award (NOSA) was received on February 2nd. The report will be updated monthly. Ms. Batin asked if the agencies could provide information on their projects. Ms. Conrath said they include a progress update on their invoices.

**VIII. New Business**

1. **SOS 3.0 Carryover Application**

Ms. Pfaff explained that OhioMHAS is allowing Boards to re-apply for the amount of funding that was unspent in 2023 which amounts to $126,759.15 for our Board. The guidance did not guarantee an award and will be focused on counties with high overdose death rates. Board staff are seeking clarity about whether new services can be funded with carry-over funds and will apply accordingly.

1. **120 Day Notice of Contract Expiration Resolution**

**24:02:52**

**Resolution 24-02-23**

Ms. Pfaff explained that the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) requires boards and agencies to provide 120-day notice of any non-renewals or substantive changes planned for next year’s contract. Ms. Pfaff said she does not foresee any substantial changes in the 2025 contract. Mr. Orth moved to approve the Agency 120 Day Notice of Expiration letter for agencies; Ms. Sanchez seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

1. **Community Plan Update**

**24:02:53**

Ms. Tyree presented an overview of the Community Plan Update and the new online system. She reviewed the metrics and explained the changed goals for some items. Ms. Sanchez moved to approve the Community Plan Update; Dr. Davis seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**IX. Other**

1. Dr. Gay discussed several articles relating to youth and mental illness.
2. Dr. Luce reported he is serving on the OneOhio Board and said there will be a Call for Proposals that will be released soon. Mr. Orth made a plea for funding in Vinton County considering they have the highest overdose rates.

**X. Adjournment**

There being no further business before the Board, Ms. Bowden adjourned the meeting at 7:21 p.m.

Submitted by:

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Diane Pfaff Tonya Bowden

Executive Director Chair