

MINUTES

Ashtabula County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board January 30, 2023

The Ashtabula County Mental Health and Recovery Services (MHRS) Board met in a special session on Monday, January 30, 2023, at 5:30 PM. This meeting was held in person with a Zoom option for the public.

Acting Board President Rev. John Werner called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m. and asked for a roll call of members and staff in attendance.

Board Members in attendance: Mr. Matthew Crawford, Board President on Leave; Ms. Susan Deak, Board Secretary; Mr. Alan Block; Rev. John Werner, Acting Board President; Mr. Jeff Wheeler; Ms. Pat DuPuy; Ms. Megan Brunarski; and Ms. Shonene McLaughlin.

The following Board Members were not in attendance: Ms. Deborah King and Mr. Joe Loftus.

MHRS Board Staff in Attendance: Ms. Miriam Walton, Director; Ms. Kaitie Park Hart; and Ms. Bridget Sherman. Board contractors Ms. Pat Wagner.

Visitors: Mr. Michael Murphy, Lake Area Recovery Center (Zoom) and Mr. Jamie Dials, Signature Health (In Person). Ms. Cheri Walter and Ms. Liz Hendrick Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities (OACBHA) via Zoom.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: None

FINANCIAL REPORTS: None

REPORTS:

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

1. Rev. Werner explained that this Special Meeting of the Board was to provide the Board with additional training and technical assistance around the process of hiring a new Board Executive Director prior to the current Executive Director's retirement. Rev. Werner had Ms. Walton introduce our guests from OACBHA who joined us via Zoom.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1. Ms. Walton introduced Ms. Walter and Ms. Hendrick and allowed them to share their screen to begin the technical assistance session.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. LEGACY PLANNING FOR BOARD EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—Ms. Walter and Ms. Hendrick began their presentation. Presentation materials enclosed with Board minutes.

B. EXECUTIVE SESSION— Mr. Crawford moved that the Board go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Personnel Matters specifically salary and compensation for a new Executive Director. Ms. Deak seconded the motion. Rev. Werner called for a roll call vote.

Ms. Deak, yes; Ms. DuPuy, yes; Mr. Crawford, yes; Mr. Wheeler, yes; Ms. Brunarski, yes; Ms. McLaughlin, yes; Mr. Block, yes; Rev. Werner, yes. The Board went into Executive Session at 5:58 p.m.

The Board emerged from Executive Session at 6:33 p.m. Ms. Walton re-admitted everyone who requested to return to the public meeting via Zoom.

Rev. Werner stated that the Board discussed possible compensation and contracting but no decisions were made. The Board would be appointing a Search Committee to start the process and Rev. Werner asked for volunteers. Ms. Brunarski volunteered to chair the committee. Other volunteers were Ms. Deak, Ms. DuPuy, Mr. Wheeler, Ms. McLaughlin, and Mr. Crawford. Mr. Block volunteered to be part of the interview committee.

As a guidance for the committee Board members discussed the importance of how well an individual knows the county and our community partners is important. Ms. DuPuy mentioned looking for someone who understands the work on the ground. Ms. Walton agreed but stated that it should also be a systems thinker.

The Board discussed the process and suggested to move the Regular Board meeting to February 27th and have the Search Committee meet on February 13th. Mr. Block moved that the meeting be moved to February 27th and the Search Committee meet on February 13th at 5 p.m. at the Board Office. Ms. McLaughlin seconded the motion. Rev. Werner called for a vote.

Eight, yes; Zero no; and Zero Abstentions. The motion passed.

Ms. Walton will send out the public notices. The Board thanked Ms. Walter and Ms. Hendrick for their assistance.

NEW BUSINESS: None

COMMUNICATION: None

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Block moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Wheeler seconded the motion. Rev. Werner called for a vote.

Eight Seven Yes; Zero No; Zero Abstentions. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m. The next regularly scheduled Board meeting is set for February 27, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

Rev. John Werner, Acting Board President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Werner", is written over a horizontal line.

Minutes Prepared by Miriam Walton