

Mahoning County Mental Health and Recovery Board Meeting
September 25, 2023
Minutes

- Present: Anne Cobbin, Atty. Wm. Scott Fowler, Chief Bob Gavalier, Bishop C.M. Jenkins, Ruth Mastriana, Bill Morvay, Troy Rhoades, Pat Sciaretta, Sylvia Scott, Eric Ungaro, Atty. Thomas Vasvari, Linda Warino, Robert Yallech, and Chelsey Zoldan-Calhoun
- Absent: Rachel Chmielewski, Anna Howells, Brent Kelley
- Staff: Duane Piccirilli, Brenda Heidinger, Mark Dunlap, Valerie Burney, Lee DeVita, Tracy Moracco, and Michelle Werth
- Guests: Danielle Adair (Help Network), Joseph Caruso (Compass Family and Community Services), Darla Gallagher (Meridian), Hope Haney (NAMI MV), Joe Shorokey (Alta Care Group), Nancy Voitus (Catholic Charities), and Ginger Wilczak (NAMI MV)

Eric Ungaro, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

6 – 2024: Motion: Anne Cobbin – to approve the minutes of the July 24, 2023, MCMHRB meeting. Seconded: Bill Morvay...motion carried.

Officer Reports

- **Chair Report**

- Eric Ungaro reported that Bill Morvay was able to be sworn in for his new term as a Board Member at Judge Rusu's chambers on August 29, 2023
- He also reported that we received a resignation from Board Member Arnita Hampton effective September 13, 2023

- **Treasurer Report**

- Atty. Scott Fowler, Treasurer, reviewed the August 2023 Treasurers Report and Blanket List of Bills for the Mahoning County MHR Board. *Balance of General Ledger only reflects the cash balance and does not represent contractual appropriations through the end of SFY24.

7 – 2024: Motion: Atty. Scott Fowler – to approve the August 2023 Treasurer's Report. Seconded: Atty. Robert Yallech...motion carried.

8 – 2024: Motion: Atty. Scott Fowler – to approve the August 2023 Blanket List of Bills. Seconded: Bill Morvay...motion carried.

Committee Report

- **Ways and Means Committee- September 18, 2023**

- Linda Warino, Committee Chair reviewed information from the Ways and Means Committee meeting. Including the following carry over and new funding:

Approved Carryover SFY 24

Award		Grant	Services
SFY 23 - Addiction Treatment Program Award	\$25,388.57		
Agency	Allocation		
Flying High	\$16,502.57	28212	Peer Support
Meridian	\$8,886.00	28212	Drug Screens
SFY 23 - BHCJ Linkages Award	\$53,712.84		
Agency	Allocation		
CCA	\$20,000.00	2203H	Counseling
Flying High	\$10,000.00	2203H	Peer Support
Meridian	\$9,121.96	2203H	Court Ordered Assessments
CCRA	\$14,590.88		Re entry Support
SFY 23 - Gambling Treatment/Prevention Award	\$54,022.00		
	Allocation		
Meridian	\$30,870.00	600565-2815K	Treatment
YUMADAOP	\$23,152.00	600564-2815K	Prevention
SFY 23 - Access to Wellness Award	\$25,958.59		
	Allocation		
Compass Family and Community Service	\$25,958.59	22024	Recovery Supports
SFY 23 - Prevention and Wellness Award	\$12,400.00		
	Allocation		
YUMADAOP	\$12,400.00	2803A	Prevention
SFY 23 - Regional Crisis Award	\$72,391.02		
	Allocation		

Compass Family and Community Services	\$72,391.02	22014	Regional Crisis
SFY 23 - Regional Detox Award	\$198,522.70		
Meridian Healthcare	Allocation \$198,522.70	2803B	Regional Detox
SFY 22 - Regional Detox Award	\$105,675.06		
Meridian Healthcare	Allocation \$105,675.06	2803S	Regional Detox
SFY 23 - Strong Families Safe Communities	\$38,086.21		
Mahoning County Family and Children First	Allocation \$38,086.21	22183 - No Contract	Respite and Admin
SFY 21 - Community Transition	\$15,269.25		
CCRA	Allocation \$15,269.25	2207I	Re entry Support
SFY 22 - Community Transition	\$10,000.00	28043	
CCRA	Allocation \$10,000.00		Re entry Support
SFY 23 - State Per Capita Treatment	\$63,917.37	28033	
Meridian Healthcare	Allocation \$63,917.37		Treatment

New Funding SFY 24

Award	Grant	Services
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SFY 24 - Title XX Award	\$178,088.00		
	Allocation		
Compass Family and Community Services	\$178,088.00	22064	Residential and Employment services
SFY 24 - Project Aware	\$50,000.00		
	Allocation		
Lowellville Schools	\$50,000.00	2803G	Behavioral Health and Wellness Coordinator Funding
SFY 24 - Family and Community First - Pooled Funding	\$34,375.00		
	Allocation		
Mahoning County Family and Children First	\$34,375.00	7400977-600508	MHRB Portion of Family and Children First Council
SFY 24 - Mental Health Court	\$7,500.00		
	Allocation		
Judge Sweeney Mental Health Court	\$7,500.00	2833D	Support for Sweeney's MH Court
SFY 24 - Access to Wellness	\$137,500.00	22025	
	Allocation		
Mercy Foundation	\$46,000.00		Hospital Navigator

- **9 – 2024: Motion: The Committee moves that the Board accept the carry over and new funding as presented...motion carried.**
- **10 – 2024: Motion: The Committee moves that the Board allocate the funding as presented...motion carried.**

Duane reported on the current status of Guardian services for those determined to require Guardianship by the Mahoning County Probate Court. Currently non family guardians are appointed from Help Network of Northeast Ohio Guardian program. Starting in January of 2024 Catholic Charities Regional Agency will begin offering guardian services as well. These services are being developed to address issues with the current services and provide the Mahoning County Probate Court Judge with another option for services.

Executive Director Report

- Duane reviewed his written report (attached).
- Duane also announced that yard signs for the levy (Issue 3) were available for Board Members and guests to take tonight.

Old Business

- None

New Business

- Duane announced a copy of the talking points for the levy (Issue 3) for November 2024 were included in the Board packets and asked Board Members to refer to these if they get questions from the public.
- The Board Members discussed the proposed 24 bed Permanent Supportive Housing project. Duane announced the developer had been in town and touring possible locations. One suggestion was to have the developer consider the McGuffey Heights area if land is available.

11 – 2024: Motion: Linda Warino – to rank the 24 bed Permanent Supportive Housing Project as 2nd for Mahoning County Mental Health and Recovery Board Capital Requests for the SFY2025/2026 biennium. Seconded: Patricia Sciaretta...motion carried.

- The Board had some discussion regarding the Mahoning County Hoarding Coalition. Duane explained the shared Navigator position at Direction Home of Eastern Ohio who serves individuals throughout the county especially those under 65 years of age that cannot be served by Adult Protective Services. A recent situation was highlighted where the animals were removed from the home because it was unsafe, but the people were allowed to stay. Hoarding coalition meetings are not scheduled, but are called as situations are identified and involve the appropriate people based on the location, and specific situation.
- In response to a question about the Board taking a position on a specific issue, Duane reported that per legal advice we are not permitted to take a position on any ballot issue other than our own levy.

Board Member Remarks

- None

Agency Remarks

- Nancy Voitius, Catholic Charities thanked the Board for their support and recognition of Michelle Mixon, re-entry coordinator. Hoarding issues with their existing housing programs has required many meetings with landlords, program directors and other. St. Angela's has a large hot room for big furniture items to treat for bed bugs before the furniture is moved into a new location. Joe Caruso, Compass Family and Community Services suggested a portable hot box trailer. Nancy added that portable showers would be a great addition to a trailer that is Board supported to travel to all of our provider locations as needed.
- Joe Shorokey, Alta reported that their MRSS (Mobile Response and Stabilization Service) has been operating at fidelity for one year. During a recent review by OhioMHAS they received one of the highest scores in the state.
- Hope Haney, NAMI Mahoning Valley announced they now have 7 employees. She introduced Ginger, executive assistant as the newest employee. They are building their volunteer program, and continue to host support group meetings. The NAMI walk is October 7th at Austintown Park. There has been a decrease in donations for this years (monetary, baskets, etc.) they believe the current

economy is affecting giving. They also have an Adult Care liaison on staff who is working with the Group Homes in the area.

- Darla Gallagher, Meridian Health Care – no report.
- Danielle Adair, Help Network of Northeast Ohio, they are currently recruiting for open positions. Vince Brancaccio has been responding to media requests for interviews on suicide prevention.
- Joe Caruso, Compass Family and Community Services reported that the Case Western ACT team Review recently completed was the high score in the state. They are currently pending final approval for the appropriation requested through Senator Sherrod Brown for \$750,000 to be used with other funding to convert Building #7 at campus of Care to a 27 bed assisted living type facility for those aging with severe and persistent mental illness.

The next Board Meeting will be October 23, 2023

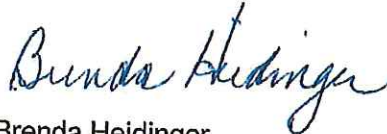
The meeting adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

Minutes reported by:



Dr. Chelsey Zoldan-Calhoun
Secretary

Minutes recorded by:



Brenda Heidinger
Associate Director