

**MINUTES OF THE MENTAL HEALTH, ADDICTION AND  
RECOVERY SERVICES BOARD OF LORAIN COUNTY  
BOARD MEETING HELD AUGUST 22, 2019  
AMY H. LEVIN CONFERENCE & LEARNING CENTER  
1165 NORTH RIDGE RD. EAST  
LORAIN, OH 44055**

**Present:** David Ashenhurst, Tim Carrion, Arthur Cleary, David DiTullio, Dr. Denise Eacott, Dr. Tracey Frierson, Joseph Hribar, Inez James, Ted Kalo, Karen McIlwaine, Dr. Hope Moon, Regan Phillips, Sandra Premura, James Schaeper, Karen Sutera, Daniel Urbin, Pamela Waite

**Staff:** Elaine Georgas, Interim Executive Director; Barry Habony, Business Operations Director; Dr. Vicki Montesano, Community Services Director; Heather Distin, Intersystem Program Director; Lise Day, Recovery Court Project Evaluator; Sarah Reinhold, First Response Project Coordinator; Rhonda Heginbotham, Fiscal Coordinator; Jeanette Hinkle, Operations Specialist; Clare Rosser, Director of Communications and Community Relations; Peggy Baron, Associate Director; Patrice McKinney, Manager of Human Resources and Special Projects

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Board Chair Pro Tem Dr. Hope Moon called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**2. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND STAFF:**

Clare Rosser introduced staff, and guests at the meeting: Laina Yost, Elyria Chronicle-Telegram reporter; Kathryn Boylan; Tad Peck, Lucy Idol Center; Katherine Misterka, Wingspan; Dawn Kroh, Firelands Counseling and Recovery.

**3. OATH OF OFFICE:**

Rhonda Heginbotham administered the Oath of Office to Board Members Dr. Tracey Frierson and Joseph Hribar.

**4. ROLL CALL:**

Roll call was taken and a quorum found.

**5. MINUTES:**

Minutes to accept as a record of the meetings:

- 06/27/19 meeting of the Lorain County Board of Mental Health
- 06/27/19 meeting of ADAS of Lorain County
- 07/03/19 Emergency meeting of the Lorain County Board of Mental Health
- 07/10/19 Emergency meeting of the Lorain County Board of Mental Health

Having heard no corrections, Dr. Moon stated that the above-referenced Board meeting minutes would be filed accordingly as a record of those meetings.

- 07/16/19 meeting of the Mental Health, Addiction and Recovery Services Board of Lorain County

Having heard no corrections, Dr. Moon stated that the Board meeting minutes would be filed accordingly.

**6. ESTABLISH REGULAR BOARD MEETING DATES, TIME, AND LOCATION:**

Consensus was reached that regular Board meetings would be held on the third Thursday of the month at 5:15 p.m. at the Amy H. Levin Conference & Learning Center, 1165 North Ridge Rd. East, Lorain, Ohio.

**(Resolution 19-08-01)** Moved by Pamela Waite, seconded by Tim Carrion.

**Carried.**

**Resolution adopted.**

**7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

Board members discussed the FY2020 Slate of Officers election process at their 08/10/19 Board Retreat, and agreed that they would email Patrice the names of Board members they would like to nominate, and self-nomination was also encouraged. Brief bios of the candidates were included, with information garnered from Board members' applications) as a way to help with the nominating process. **(Attachments 1 and 2)**

**CHAIR:**

Pamela Waite clarified that in a previously sent email she wished to have her name removed for consideration as Chair.

Tim Carrion, Daniel Urbin, and David Ashenhurst accepted their nominations.

Dr. Moon opened the floor for any additional nominations. Hearing none, she closed the floor and voting began.

Tim Carrion (11 votes)  
Daniel Urbin (4 votes)  
David Ashenhurst (2 votes)

For Chair, Tim Carrion received the majority vote of his peers.

**(Resolution 19-08-02)** Moved by Sandra Premura, seconded by Karen McIlwaine.

**Roll Call: (Aye):** David Ashenhurst, Tim Carrion, Arthur Cleary, David DiTullio, Dr. Denise Eacott, Dr. Tracey Frierson, Joseph Hribar, Inez James, Ted Kalo, Karen McIlwaine, Dr. Hope Moon, Regan Phillips, Sandra Premura, James Schaeper, Karen Sutera, Daniel Urbin, Pamela Waite

**Carried.**

**Resolution adopted.**

**VICE CHAIR:**

David DiTullio asked that his name be removed for consideration as Vice Chair.

Pamela Waite, Regan Phillips, and Dr. Hope Moon accepted their nominations.

Dr. Moon opened the floor for any additional nominations. Hearing none, she closed the floor and voting began.

Pamela Waite (14 votes)  
Regan Phillips (3 votes)  
Dr. Hope Moon (0 votes)

For Vice Chair, Pamela Waite received the majority vote of her peers.

**(Resolution 19-08-03)** Moved by Tim Carrion, seconded by Joseph Hribar.

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**Roll Call: (Aye):** David Ashenhurst, Tim Carrion, Arthur Cleary, David DiTullio, Dr. Denise Eacott, Dr. Tracey Frierson, Joseph Hribar, Inez James, Ted Kalo, Karen McIlwaine, Dr. Hope Moon, Regan Phillips, Sandra Premura, James Schaeper, Karen Sutera, Daniel Urbin, Pamela Waite

**Carried.**

**Resolution adopted.**

**CHIEF GOVERNANCE OFFICER:**

Tim Carrion, Dr. Hope Moon, Dr. Denise Eacott, and Karen Sutera asked that their names be removed for consideration as Chief Governance Officer.

Dr. Moon opened the floor for any additional nominations. Hearing none, she closed the floor.

As sole nominee and with consensus of his peers, David Ashenhurst was named Chief Governance Officer (CGO).

**(Resolution 19-08-04)** Moved by Joseph Hribar, seconded by David DiTullio.

**Carried.**

**Resolution adopted.**

**SECRETARY:**

Inez James and Dr. Denise Eacott accepted their nominations.

Dr. Moon opened the floor for any additional nominations. Hearing none, she closed the floor and voting began.

Inez James (9 votes)  
Dr. Denise Eacott (8 votes)

For Secretary, Inez James received the majority vote of her peers.

**(Resolution 19-08-05)** Moved by Karen Sutera, seconded by Karen McIlwaine.

**Roll Call: (Aye):** Tim Carrion, Arthur Cleary, David DiTullio, Dr. Denise Eacott, Dr. Tracey Frierson, Joseph Hribar, Inez James, Ted Kalo, Karen McIlwaine, Dr. Hope Moon, Regan Phillips, Sandra Premura, James Schaeper, Karen Sutera, Daniel Urbin, Pamela Waite

**Nay:** David Ashenhurst

David Ashenhurst stated for the record that the only reason he voted against Inez James for Secretary was the fact that she is a very new Board member.

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**Carried.**

**Resolution adopted.**

After a round of applause and words from the new Board Officers, Dr. Moon passed the gavel to Chair Tim Carrion to finish the remainder of the Board meeting.

**8. INFORMATIONAL – FINANCE DOCUMENTS:**

Board members received finance documents in their Board packet as informational items. **(Attachment 3)** Barry Habony, when asked to comment, stated that more detailed financial documents would be available for the next Board meeting. He explained that the information item relating to contracts is to maintain compliance with the Board of Directors' By-Laws

**9. INFORMATIONAL – STAFF DIRECTORY:**

Board members were provided an updated MHARS Board staff directory in their Board packets. **(Attachment 4)**

**10. INFORMATIONAL – TABLE OF ORGANIZATION:**

The table of organization was included in the Board packet. Board members were asked to review the document as an informational item at this time. (**Attachment 5**)

**11. INFORMATIONAL – REVIEW EVALUATION SUMMARY OF 08/10/19 BOARD RETREAT:**

Board members received an evaluation summary of the 08/10/19 Board Retreat, which appeared very positive. (**Attachment 6**)

**12. CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT:**

There was no Chairperson’s report.

**13. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:**

**Board Members:**

Elaine Georgas shared her appreciation of Dr. Hope Moon, and that she looked forward to working with Tim Carrion as the new Board Chair.

**Staff:**

There was a staff meeting today and last week a cookout at Elaine’s home. Staff are learning more about each other’s jobs, the similarities, differences, and the what, why and how of our daily tasks.

- Elaine introduced new staff Sarah Reinhold.
- She extended her appreciation of Charles Neff for his help during the merger process.
- There will be an upcoming information-sharing session for staff regarding Culture of Quality audit from the Ohio Association of Community Behavioral Health Authorities (OACBHA), for those who have not experienced the audit process in the past. The COQ process is also vetted by the Ohio Auditor of State.
- Staff are planning to attend an upcoming school superintendents meeting to discuss the new Student Wellness and Success funding for their students.

**Local:**

- There was a Board member request that the FY2020 ADAS-funded agency information be made available to all Board members.
- There was discussion about the ADAS zero cash balance on one of the pages of the financial documents in the Board packet.
- Elaine recently held a monthly meeting with the CEOs of the provider agencies. Future meetings will be reformatted so the providers can learn more about the work of their agencies.

- There will be many upcoming events in recognition of September is Recovery month and National Suicide Prevention Awareness month. Clare is working on a newsletter with the complete schedule of events.
- There is a grant that affords an opportunity to help participating local law enforcement with underage alcohol compliance checks. Participating law enforcement departments schedule four hours, and the grant pays for the officers' overtime. The grant helps with utilizing confidential informants who go to area liquor-selling establishments without drivers licenses in an attempt to reduce illegal underage purchases of liquor. This effort is coordinated with the Department of Public Safety which forwards such violations to the Department of Liquor Control.
- In the future, alcohol server training will be offered to make liquor-serving establishments aware that both the establishment *and* the employee are charged for underage alcohol sales.

**Federal and State:**

- Ohio just received notice about their second year of federal funding for opioid addiction. There will be more funding from the state as the Governor has allocated more money for an opioid addiction initiative for minority communities with a family-based focus. The Governor is considering additional funding for mental health with an anti-violence component, so we look forward to hearing more about that initiative in the coming months.
- Our schools received \$7 million for student wellness and success with a focus on mental health services and coordinated services for children who are homeless. Fortunately, the Educational Services Center superintendent coordinated a meeting of this Board, Lorain County Public Health, and the schools in order to engage the schools as a whole-student approach, so we can fully utilize this two-year funding.
- There is an earmark to this county for a public partner county crisis stabilization center using best practices. We realize that this is operational funding and not to be used for capital. Through a partnership of philanthropic groups, this Board will have an opportunity to help in bringing to Lorain County what may prove to be a state-of-the-art crisis improvement zone. More details will be forthcoming.

**14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None.

**15. NEW BUSINESS:**

Karen Sutera shared that she was impressed with the new substance use disorder materials that were provided as handouts to all Board members. Elaine shared that it was created by an AmeriCorps Vista worker in conjunction with a faith leaders roundtable who requested having readily available resources to share with their congregations. More of the materials will be printed in recognition of 08/31/19 as National Overdose Day. Karen asked if the materials could be updated to include information on mental health or a combination of mental health and substance use disorder to which Elaine agreed as all our materials will need updating.

Dr. Tracey Frierson asked about Committee Assignments, and Tim Carrion stated that he would first make decisions about the assignments based upon Board member preferences, and assign Chairs to the Finance, Community Relations & Plan, and Nominating Committees.

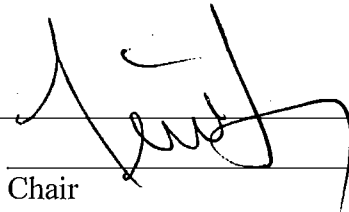
There was discussion about the many upcoming events in September such as the 5K Walk/Run for Recovery at the Black River Reservation Metro Park in Lorain. New brochures and posters will be made available for the 5K next week, as we just secured a final sponsor for this event. The Lorain County Out of the Darkness Suicide Prevention Walk at Lakeview Park is also on 09/28/19.

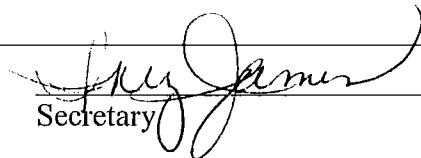
**16. VISITOR/PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Tim Carrion asked that anyone wanting to address the Board identify themselves and their affiliation so the meeting minutes accurately reflect their comments. He also asked that any comments be limited to not more than three minutes. There were no public comments.

**17. ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

  
Chair

  
Secretary