



Attachments referenced in these minutes were distributed prior to or at the meeting, will be included in the official minutes, but are not part of this packet.

**MINUTES OF THE MENTAL HEALTH, ADDICTION AND RECOVERY  
SERVICES (MHARS) BOARD OF LORAIN COUNTY  
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 9, 2021**

**AMY H. CONFERENCE & LEARNING CENTER  
1165 NORTH RIDGE ROAD EAST, LORAIN, OHIO 44055**

**Board Members Present:** Daniel Urbin, Chair; David Ashenhurst, Kreig Brusnahan, Tim Carrion, Dr. Denise Eacott, Pat McGervey, Dr. Hope Moon, Regan Phillips, Sandra Premura, James Schaeper, Mark Skellenger, Karen Sutera

**Staff Present:** Michael Doud, Executive Director; Barry Habony, Business Operations Director; Arielle Edwards, Program Officer; Rebecca Jones, Children Behavioral Health Services Director; Nancy Kelsey, Communications and Community Relations Director; Vinaida Reyna, Executive Assistant; Patrice McKinney, Administrative Services Director

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

Board Chair Daniel Urbin called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m.

**II. OATH OF OFFICE OF A NEW BOARD MEMBER:**

Daniel Urbin asked that Board of Director and Notary Kreig Brusnahan administer the oath of office to new Board of Director Dr. Hope Moon.

(At 5:07 p.m. David Ashenhurst arrived for the meeting).

**III. COMMITTEE REPORT:**

At 5:09 p.m. and without a quorum of the full Board, Daniel Urbin asked that Kreig Brusnahan read the information items of the Membership Committee Report.

**Committee Members Present:** Kreig Brusnahan (Committee Chair), Mike Babet, Sandra Premura, Daniel Urbin (ex officio)

**Committee Members Absent:** Tim Carrion, Inez James

**Staff:** Patrice McKinney, Michael Doud

There was a Special meeting of the Membership Committee on September 8, 2021 that began at 4:59 p.m. The Committee presented with one informational item and two recommendations.

Informational:

1. **Board Member Attendance** – The Committee reviewed Board Member attendance and found no areas of concerns. There was discussion about what is considered an excused and unexcused absence.

(At 5:10 p.m. Mark Skellenger arrived for the meeting).

IV. **OATH OF OFFICE OF A NEW BOARD MEMBER:**

Daniel Urbin asked that Kreig Brusnahan administer the oath of office to new Board of Director Mark Skellenger.

V. **ROLL CALL:**

Roll call was taken and a quorum found.

(At approximately 5:15 p.m. Tim Carrion arrived for the meeting).

VI. **COMMITTEE REPORT (CONTINUED):**

Membership Committee Report by Kreig Brusnahan (Continued):

Recommendations:

1. **Revisit Applicants**

- a. With Mark Skellenger's appointment by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS), the request of his appointment by the Commissioners would be withdrawn.

Also, Mr. Skellenger is interested in our mentorship program. Kreig Brusnahan stated that he would mentor him.

- b. Due to many attempts by OhioMHAS to interview Loretta Jones with no success, the Committee determined to withdraw the request of her appointment. Since Raquel Gettis is an alternate, the Committee recommended her appointment. If appointed, Ms. Gettis' term would continue through 06/30/2025.

**(Resolution 21-09-01-S)** Moved by Kreig Brusnahan, seconded by Pat McGervey to **Recommend** withdrawing Loretta Jones' application and submitting Raquel Gettis' application to OhioMHAS.

David Ashenhurst asked that Ms. Gettis' updated application and resume is forwarded to all Board of Directors to which Kreig Brusnahan agreed.

**Carried.**

**Resolution adopted.**

- c. The Committee interviewed the following individuals whose redacted applications and resumes were included in the Board packet:
- Patricia Bell
  - Deborah Mason
  - Charlotte Enochs

After some discussion, the Committee recommended Patricia Bell as a Board Member. If appointed, Ms. Bell's term would continue through 06/30/2025.

**(Resolution 21-09-02-S)** Moved by Kreig Brusnahan, seconded by Dr. Hope Moon to **Recommend** submitting Patricia Bell's application to the Commissioners for their consideration of her as a Board Member.

**Carried.**

**Resolution adopted.**

New Business – None.

The Membership Committee meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

VII. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

1. **Rebranding** – Some concerns were brought to Daniel Urbin's attention by members of the community that the MHARS Board name does not prompt them to contact us for information about mental health and addiction services.

There was discussion about the 2019 ad hoc committee's suggestion of the name "MHARS," the associated rebranding costs, how many other Boards around the state are named "ADAMHS" (as noted in Ohio Revised Code), the importance of "Recovery" in our Board name, any name change at this point would lead to confusion, the upcoming levies must be considered, and sharing who we are has/will help with our brand.

2. **Levy** – Nancy Kelsey shared that a Levy Committee will be formed, and Dr. Hope Moon and Regan Phillips were asked to be a part of the steering committee. There was discussion about the upcoming two levies and any anticipated barriers affecting their passage, the former Lorain County Board of Mental Health's long history successful passage of levies, and some reasons why the levy of the former Alcohol Drug Addiction Services Board of Lorain County did not pass.
3. **Crisis Service Stabilization Center** – In the Board packet, there was a handout with a brief summary, a MHARS Board resolution, and letter from the Commissioners with their resolution indicating matching dollars for the construction of this project. There are some decisions to make such as forming a steering committee with a Project Director.

The interim County Administrator and Commissioners have agreed to lead the project the same as they did with Lorain County Public Health's (LCPH) project. Michael will outreach to them for an RFQ in case there are unforeseen mitigating circumstances. The MHARS Board will lead this project. Nord Family Foundation is offering one-third of the cost to hire a project director (\$23,000), so this Board will seek out additional funding. When asked who will be the owner of the Center, Michael responded that as with the LCPH project, the Commissioners will be the owner. At the end of the project, ownership will revert to the MHARS Board.

4. **Executive Director Job Description** – Daniel Urbin referenced the Executive Director's position description that was drafted by the executive search firm Waverly Partners. Michael had not formally received a finalized position description. As such, Daniel stated the need to form an ad hoc committee to do this task with Mark Skellenger as Chair. Others asked to participate on the Committee are: Dr. Denise Eacott, Regan Phillips, and Karen Sutera. Dr. Moon shared that this question arose during the executive director search and the response at that time was the position description could be found in Ohio Revised Code (ORC). ORC was used to draft the position description. Michael shared that he did sign a statement with elements of a position description, it is in his personnel file, and that a formal one needs to be created for his evaluation.

VIII. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None

IX. **NEW BUSINESS:**


None

X. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

XI. **ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary