

**LAKE COUNTY ADAMHS BOARD**

Regular Board Meeting

Monday, April 15, 2024

6:00 p.m.

Lake County ADAMHS Board, 9237 Mentor Ave, Unit B, Mentor

Ms. Kurt called the meeting to order 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

Members Present: Acting Chair – Pam Kurt

- Carol Dondorfer      Dave Enzerra
- Mike Hatton          Curtis Lau
- Nicole Parker        Marty Phillips
- Jeff Taylor            Amber Torres Gonzalez
- Matt Sabo              Beverly Schilero
- William Wilson

Members Excused:

- Roberta Kalb          Stacy Kramer

Staff Present:

- Kim Fraser, Executive Director
- Dan Rowles, Director of Quality & Clinical Operations
- David Schick, Director of Marketing & Communications
- Kelly Tuttle, Secretary & Receptionist
- Milica Fiedler, Staff Accountant

Guests:

- |                  |                    |                 |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Carol Casey      | Bridges            | Matt Selker     | NAMI Lake County   |
| Michelle Bertman | Catholic Charities | Tia Lawrence    | Torchlight         |
| Jason Boyd       | Commissioners      | Kim Hearn-Vance | UH/Lake Health     |
| Shayna Jackson   | Crossroads Health  | Jackie Smith    | Windsor-Laurelwood |
| Melanie Blasko   | Lake-Geauga        | Andrea Gutka    | WomenSafe          |
| Carrie Dotson    | Lifeline           |                 |                    |

**MINUTES OF MEETING:**

Mr. Phillips moved to accept the minutes of the March 18, 2024 regular Board meeting as mailed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lau and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-081)

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

There was no correspondence to report.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Ms. Fiedler read the financial report of Board operations for the month of March, 2024 as follows:

Beginning Cash Balance .....	\$1,406,780.01
Plus: Cash Receipts for the Month .....	\$ 447,929.05
Total to Account For .....	\$1,854,709.06
Minus: Cash Disbursements for the Month .....	\$1,583,472.36
Ending Period Adjustments	\$ 0.00
Ending Cash Journal Balance .....	\$ 271,236.70

Mr. Hatton moved to accept the financial report for the month of March as read. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sabo and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-082)

Ms. Fraser noted that the cash journal balance was extremely low. If it falls below 1.4 million the Board's policy is to alert Board members which she did. The cash balance was low because our settlement dollars from the levy came in very late. This affected other county offices also. As of today, our cash balance \$5,192,069.70.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS & INTRODUCTIONS OF GUESTS:**

Guests were welcomed and invited to comment on any agenda items.

Mr. Boyd from the Lake County Commissioners stated he was here this evening on behalf of the Commissioners to solicit input from Board members on the law change of increasing or decreasing the size of the ADAMHS Board. Per the new law, county commissioners are required to send a representative to gather input/feedback from the ADAMHS Board prior to making any changes in the board's size.

Ms. Fraser presented the following historical data: in 1989 drug/alcohol treatment was moved under our umbrella and we became Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Boards. All boards were comprised of 18 members; 10 appointed by the county commissioners and 8 appointed by OhioMHAS. Since 1989 ADAMHS Boards have been required to have specific categorical members. They include (1) a mental health client (individual receiving or who has received mental health services), (2) drug/alcohol client (individual receiving or who has received drug/alcohol treatment), (3) mental health family member, (4) drug/alcohol family member, (5) mental health professional (not currently employed by a contract agency of the Board), and (6) drug/alcohol professional (not currently employed by a contract agency of the Board). The only individual permitted to fulfill 2 categorical requirements is a combined mental health and drug/alcohol professional. Boards are also required to maintain a board member composition that reflects the demographics of the county (age, race, ethnicity, gender). In 2013 the law changed to allow boards to elect to decrease from 18 to 14 board members (8 commissioner appointments and 6 OhioMHAS appointments), based on feedback from county boards regarding challenges at operating with the large number of 18 members. At that time 24 boards elected to remain at 18, and 26 boards (including Lake) elected to reduce to 14 members. In 2022 Representative Swearingen (Erie/Ottawa) introduced HB523, that proposed some changes to ADAMHS Boards. The final language that Rep. Swearingen proposed include composition of 18, 15, 14, 12 or 9. This is the language adopted in HB33. The language also changes appointment authority to 2/3 commissioner and 1/3 OhioMHAS. For existing 14-member boards, the composition will move to 9 commissioner appointments and 5 OhioMHAS appointments.

Ms. Schilero asked if there was any benefit to having an 18-member Board? Ms. Fraser stated it was difficult to maintain a full census with that many Board members in the past. The Board has been able to maintain 14 members consistently since the change.

Mr. Lau stated if there were 18 board members there would be more people to do things but is concerned about reaching a quorum with more members. He stated he has mixed feelings right now.

Mr. Enzerra noted that he has been on the Board with 18 board members and now with 14 board members; he can't think of any compelling reasons to increase the Board size. The Board functions effectively and efficiently as it is and we have done some consolidation of committees and some reorganization of the way we operate. His personal opinion is he would be comfortable with the Board remaining at 14 members.

Ms. Torres Gonzalez stated with the current size she feels like we have been able to meet quorum and it would be more challenging to continue to meet quorum with more members. She appreciated being able to see the size of other public Boards in Lake County to use as a comparison.

Ms. Kurt inquired if there was an administrative benefit to having a larger Board? Mr. Boyd stated no.

Ms. Fraser advised that if the Board were to expand we are noticeably lacking in diversity as compared to other boards in the state. She would hope if we were to expand that it would bring in a greater representation. Mr. Enzerra reminded that it is part of our strategic plan to have more representation even if we did not expand.

Mr. Phillips stated he sees an opportunity to increase the diversity with more members.

Ms. Parker asked Mr. Boyd of any advantages to expanding the Board and he responded the ability for more diverse representation.

Ms. Fraser noted that when Mr. Enzerra terms off on June 30<sup>th</sup> the Commissioners will have to appoint a substance use disorder professional who is not employed by a contract agency of the Board, as that is the only mandated position not currently filled.

Mr. Boyd will take information back to the Commissioners. The feeling at the January Commissioners meeting was to expand but no decision was made. There is no timeline set forth in the revised code. He will prepare a report for the Commissioners who would pass a resolution denoting the numerical value of the Board and would then send the proper correspondence to the state. He thanked Board members for their time and stated he will wait another week to hear from Ms. Fraser on any further input from the Board members before going forward with his report.

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Mr. Schick gave an update on Marketing and Communications; stating that the Binge Drinking and Suicide Prevention campaign received almost five million impressions through billboards, coasters and on websites with 2,000 seeking information and services from our website. The digital billboard with the highest impressions is in Eastlake on Route 2 getting 200,000 views a month.

Mr. Schick shared a testimonial from Jennifer from Lake-Geauga Recovery Center and an educational suicide prevention video. He encouraged agencies to contact him if they have a story he could film. It is impactful to share stories.

Ms. Fraser gave an update on the Crisis Stabilization Center in partnership with Geauga and Ashtabula counties. Currently the only option for individuals in a behavioral health crisis is the local emergency department. Too often they are discharged too quickly or admitted to a psychiatric unit where that level of care isn't required. In 2023, with funding from the Lake Health Foundation we secured an analysis/report from RI International addressing the scope of need in the region and hired a Senior Project Manager. We are working in partnership with UH and our behavioral health network. The potential location is in Concord and will likely be the first multi-county stabilization center in Ohio. The crisis continuum will be located at the facility (hotline/call center, mobile crisis dispatch, crisis intervention with observation (23-hour) and crisis residential (up to 14 days). We are looking at development and construction costs and will be tapping into Congressman Joyce, Senator Cirino, One Ohio funds and the county commissioners. The development cost will be about \$9.3 million. The operational costs will be primarily covered through Medicaid and our three

ADAMHS Boards and the annual cost would be around \$4 million. The timeline for completion is optimistically the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter in 2026. Next steps are bringing in law enforcement, first responders, family members and consumers to get perspectives to see what they would like to see in the center.

Mr. Dondorfer asked if the center would be voluntary or involuntary? Most of the models have both. Models that are evidence based have a quick access drop-off for first responders or law enforcement.

Ms. Fraser stated that the One Ohio Foundation has issued an RFP for funding. We are in region 13 and have about 2.4 million in funds that are available for proposals. The hope is the dollars start flowing in 3-6 months. In the Lake-Trumbull litigation Lake County was awarded 304 million. It is now before the Ohio Supreme Court. The Lake County Commissioners funds through One Ohio has been received in the amount of \$1.8 million. They also have funds from the two pharmacies that settled out of court before the end of our litigation. They are just now opening the funds up and have developed an RFP. This money will hopefully supplement our investment in the community. The Board has no authority over the spending of these dollars.

Ms. Fraser gave an update on the wait lists for case management and psychotherapy at Signature Health and Crossroads Health. The numbers have come down significantly and we will continue to track them going forward. At the height a year ago, 75-80% of newly identified clients were actively engaged in alternative services while on the wait list. Lake-Geauga Recovery Centers currently has no wait lists for substance use disorder which is a tremendous benefit to our county.

Ms. Fraser gave an update on the levy. Currently we are awaiting action by the Commissioners to approve our request to appear on the November 2024 ballot and are in the process of developing a plan for working with our consultant, establishing a budget and coming up with a strategy. There will be a role for Board members. She is hopeful that we will be able to make our annual dinner in June our kickoff for the levy campaign. Ongoing awareness will continue with the current suicide prevention/binge drinking campaign, spring/summer yard sign initiative, FOLA Celebrity Art Auction, festivals/events and speaking engagements. On May 9<sup>th</sup>, the Commissioners will be declaring May as Mental Health month.

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Ms. Kurt reported that the Executive Committee met prior to the Board meeting and the following agenda items were discussed:

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Mr. Sabo moved that the full Board support the Capital Project between Lake-Geauga Recovery Centers and the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services for the Lake House Renovation Project; OhioMHAS grant to Lake-Geauga not to exceed \$135,000.00. The Lake County ADAMHS Board approves the aforementioned project with an assurance of intent to support Lake-Geauga's project consistent with the application and to monitor the operations to assure compliance. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hatton and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-083)

*As the **EVALUATION/QUALITY IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE** did not meet since the last full Board meeting, the Board moved on to the next agenda item*

#### **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Mr. Hatton reported that the Operations Committee met on Tuesday, April 9th and the following agenda items were discussed:

SFY2025 Board Operating Budget Ms. Fraser reviewed the 'SFY2025 Board Operating Budget.' She noted there was an overall reduction in expenses in the amount of approximately \$84,046. The budget is split into Day to Day Board Operations reflected on the first page. The second page of the budget reflects services/supports directly impacting consumers and families and includes personnel expenses of Community Outreach, Transportation, and Compass line. Ms. Fraser also noted that Board Administration remains at 7% and the state average is 8.5%.

On behalf of the Operations Committee, Mr. Hatton moved that the full Board approve the SFY2025 Board Operating Budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Phillips and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-084)

SFY2024 Non-Medicaid Line Item Adjustments Ms. Fraser presented SFY2024 Crossroads Health Non-Medicaid Contract line-item adjustments. The adjustments totaled a decrease in funding in the amount of \$75,460. There is no decrease to the service provision. Staff recommendation is to approve the adjustments as presented.

On behalf of the Operations Committee, Mr. Hatton moved that the full Board approve the following line item adjustments to the SFY2024 Crossroads Health Non-Medicaid contract; decrease Crisis Hotline \$130,000; increase Non-Medicaid Groups \$15,600; decrease Psychotherapy for Crisis \$150,000; increase MH Day Treatment \$56,540; increase North Coast House \$72,400; increase Respite & Therapeutic Foster Care \$60,000 for a total decrease in funding of \$75,460. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dondorfer and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-085)

Ms. Fraser presented SFY2024 Lake Geauga Recovery Center Non-Medicaid Contract line-item adjustments. The adjustments are budget neutral and there is no decrease to the service provision. Staff recommendation is to approve the adjustments as presented.

On behalf of the Operations Committee, Mr. Hatton moved that the full Board approve the following line item adjustments to the SFY2024 Lake Geauga Recovery Center Non-Medicaid contract; decrease IOP POS \$36,000; decrease Individual Psychotherapy POS \$5,000; decrease Group Psychotherapy POS \$4,000; decrease Board Bed Day POS \$18,000; increase Family Group Assessment POS \$1,000; increase Family Group POS \$12,000; increase Residential Treatment POS \$50,000; decrease Peer Recovery Supporter Grant \$44,000; decrease Residential Support Grant \$16,200; increase Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner Ancillary Grant \$34,000; increase Group Psychotherapy Grant \$26,200 for a budget neutral line item adjustment. The motion was seconded by Ms. Parker and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-086)

Ms. Kurt asked if there what the difference was between residential treatment and bed day? Residential treatment is the treatment services each client receives such as psychotherapy and intensive outpatient. Bed day is the reimbursement for days when clients cannot make it to services due to illness or other issues.

Ms. Fraser presented SFY2024 WomenSafe Non-Medicaid Contract line-item adjustments. The adjustments are budget neutral and there is no decrease to the service provision. Staff recommendation is to approve the adjustments as presented.

On behalf of the Operations Committee, Mr. Hatton moved that the full Board to approve the following line item adjustments to the SFY2024 WomenSafe Non-Medicaid contract; decrease Domestic Violence Coordination \$8,000; increase Emergency Shelter Days \$8,000 for a budget neutral

line item adjustment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Phillips and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-087)

### Other

Juvenile Court Program – Ms. Fraser stated that the Board contracted with Crossroads Health to provide services for Juvenile Court. Crossroads Health has been unable to fill the position. Ms. Fraser worked with Signature Health who is able to fill the position for the remainder of SFY2024.

On behalf of the Operations Committee, Mr. Hatton moved that the full Board enter into a SFY2024 Non-Medicaid contract with Signature Health for an amount not to exceed \$23,500 for the Juvenile Court Program. The motion was seconded by Mr. Enzerra and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-088)

SOS 3.0 Year 1 Carryover – Ms. Fraser stated that the Board applied for SOS 3.0 Year 1 carryover funding. The funds will be used for Medication Assisted Treatment and Medications for opiate and/or stimulant use disorder clients. Staff recommendation is to enter into a SFY2024 Non-Medicaid Contract with Signature Health in an amount not to exceed \$39,266.

On behalf of the Operations Committee, Mr. Hatton moved that the full Board enter into a SFY2024 Non-Medicaid contract with Signature Health for an amount not to exceed \$39,266 for SOS 3.0 Year 1 Carryover funding. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lau and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-089)

Mr. Phillips asked if there has been any response from the Commissioners regarding being on the ballot? No. There has been follow up with Jason Boyd who will be at our Board meeting. Ms. Fraser is going to the Commissioner's meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup> for recognition of Mental Health month. She will follow up at that time. Board members can advocate for the levy to be on the ballot.

Next Meeting Date: TBD

*As the **LONG-RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE** did not meet since the last full Board meeting, the Board moved on to the next agenda item*

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no old business to bring before the Board.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Payment of Bills Mr. Sabo moved that the Board approve the April bills totaling \$1,073,188.66 be paid as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lau and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-090)

Ms. Kurt stated it has come to her attention that we had a handful of youth who were not able to be helped here in Lake County for inpatient psychiatric care which is very concerning. She wanted to bring this to the Boards attention and see if there are alternatives or other funders. Ms. Fraser stated that the Board invests in Windsor-Laurelwood. If a child is not accepted in Windsor-Laurelwood they languish in the emergency department or are sent out of county. It has been brought to her attention that there has been challenges with Windsor-Laurelwood and she has reached out to their Executive Director to try and work through issues.

### **GOOD OF THE GROUP:**

Mr. Hatton shared that he reached out to Ms. Reynolds for Mr. Rowles phone number over the weekend to help a parent who had a child in crisis. He was appreciative of the timeliness of their response and everything has moved on quite smoothly with the child being placed closer to his mom.

Ms. Blasko reported that Lake-Geauga's annual golf fundraiser is on Monday, June 24<sup>th</sup> at Quail Hollow. She welcomed any golfers or sponsors.

Ms. Lawrence stated Torchlight's recent bowling fundraiser was a success.

Ms. Jackson advised that Crossroads Health Soaring Hearts fundraiser is on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at Mentor Headlands. It is a family friendly event celebrating recovery. The recent eclipse event was well attended and a fantastic event.

As there was no further business, Ms. Parker moved for adjournment at 7:03 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lau and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (24-091)

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Kurt  
Acting Chair

Nicole Parker  
Secretary