

LAKE COUNTY ADAMHS BOARD

Regular Board Meeting

Monday, April 20, 2026

6:00 p.m.

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

Ms. Kurt called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present:

Pam Kurt – Chair	Carl Dondorfer
Mike Hatton	Kristin Hess
Roberta Kalb	Philip Orley
Martin Phillips	Nicole Parker
Jeffrey Taylor	Francess Webb
William Wilson	Joanne Zeroske
Stacy Kramer	

Members Excused:

Matt Sabo	Beverly Schilero
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Staff Present:

Kim Fraser, Executive Director
 Jackie Bruner, Director of Business Operations
 Dan Rowles, Director of Quality & Clinical Operations
 David Schick, Director of Marketing & Communications
 Amy Tulenson, Fiscal & Reporting Specialist
 Justin Williams, Administrative Assistant

Guests:

Angi Daugherty	Family Pride	Tia Lawrence	Torchlight
Jonathan Clemente	BRIDGES	Carol Casey	BRIDGES
Mary Haydu	Crossroads Health	Leslie Quilty	Crossroads Health
Andrea Gutka	WomenSafe	Michelle Bertman	Lake-Geauga Recovery
Paul Holm	Fine Arts Association	Karen McLeod	Extended Housing
Suzette Miller	Generations BH		

MINUTES OF MEETING:

Mr. Dondorfer moved to accept the minutes of the February 23, 2026 Board meeting as mailed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Phillips and abstained by Ms. Kramer. The Motion Passed. (26-064)

CORRESPONDENCE:

There was no correspondence to report.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Ms. Tulenson read the financial report of Board operations for the month of February, 2026 as follows:

Beginning Cash Balance	.....	\$3,686,644.19
Plus: Cash Receipts for the Month	.....	\$ 302,922.16
Total to Account For	.....	\$3,989,566.35
Minus: Cash Disbursements for the Month	.....	\$1,220,323.57
Ending Period Adjustments		\$ 0.00
Ending Cash Journal Balance	.....	\$2,769,242.78

Ms. Kalb moved to accept the financial report for the month of February, 2026 as read. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zeroske and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (26-065)

Ms. Tulenson read the financial report of Board operations for the month of March, 2026 as follows:

Beginning Cash Balance	\$2,769,242.78
Plus: Cash Receipts for the Month	\$5,096,392.06
Total to Account For	\$7,865,634.84
Minus: Cash Disbursements for the Month	\$1,564,413.00
Ending Period Adjustments	\$ 0.00
Ending Cash Journal Balance	\$6,301,221.84

Ms. Zeroske moved to accept the financial report for the month of March, 2026 as read. The motion was seconded by Dr. Webb and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (26-066)

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS & INTRODUCTIONS OF GUESTS:

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

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

Ms. Fraser reported on recent community gatherings. The Speaker Series hosted by United Way in partnership with Women United and the ADAMHS Board yielded an introspective evening of prevention and awareness. Speakers included Tim and Tamia Woods, who lost their son to suicide and now devote their lives to raising awareness, and local leaders discussing the dangers of sextortion. The Lake County Development Council hosted a panel discussion on how property taxes are collected and what reform could look like. Ms. Fraser was the only representative for social services on this panel and was glad to show up for the community.

Ms. Fraser announced that the Friends of Lake ADAMHS (FOLA) Celebrity Art Auction will be held on Thursday, June 25, 2026 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Banquet Center at St. Noel’s. Ms. Fraser gave a brief explanation as to what the event entails and shared some of the 2026 Featured Celebrity Artists, which include the Board’s own Mr. Taylor.

Ms. Fraser went over reminders of upcoming events. On April 30 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Signature Health Training Center, Cleveland Rape Crisis Center and the ADAMHS Board are partnering for a Human Trafficking Awareness Training. This training is free but registration is required. Ms. Fraser reminded the group that May is Mental Health Awareness Month. The Board Organizational Retreat will be on May 1st at the ADAMHS Board offices. Upcoming events and a meeting schedule were included in Board Packets.

Ms. Fraser provided a glance into the Sunshine Laws for Open Meetings and provided the Board with a quick guide and a portion of the document covering what counts as a public body, what counts as a meeting, the core requirements of open meetings, executive sessions, and key do’s and don’ts. The Board was alerted the entire document is available.

Ms. Fraser provided an overview of the SFY2027 non-Medicaid Contracts. The plan for FY27 is to continue to work with the current network of providers with adjustments to address changing needs and opportunities. The FY27 Comprehensive Strategic Planning process is intended to update the current Plan to reflect 5-year goals and objectives, focus on the prioritization of services, and to modernize the RFP process. FY28 the Board will be engaging in a formal Request for Proposal process with newly established guidelines and priorities.

Ms. Fraser announced the service provider investments for SFY2027. These are all recommended by Board Staff and have been discussed with the agencies. Bridges SFY2027 contract no changes. Catholic Charities SFY2027 contract addition of a new case management program. This program is currently running in Geauga and will be started as a pilot program in Lake County. Cleveland Rape Crisis Center SFY2027 contract no changes. The Crossroads Health SFY2027 contract removes Criminal Justice program, removes School-based services, and all services will be under POS apart from Patient Navigation. Extended Housing SFY2027 contract no changes. Family Pride SFY2027 contract addition of School and Community prevention. Family Pride will be the fiscal agent for the funding and will collaborate with Lake Geauga Recovery Centers, WomenSafe, and Lake County ADAMHS Board. Fine Arts Association SFY2027 contract no changes. Lake-Geauga Recovery Centers SFY2027 contract adds Criminal Justice programming. Lifeline SFY2027 contract changes. NAMI Lake County SFY2027 contract removes the Survivors of Suicide Loss program. Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare SFY2027 contract no changes. Signature Health SFY2027 contract adding all School-based clinical services. Torchlight SFY2027 contract no changes. University Hospitals/Lake Health SFY2027 contract no changes. Windsor-Laurelwood SFY2027 contract no changes. WomenSafe SFY2027 contract no changes.

Ms. Fraser shared the projected SFY2027 revenue for the ADAMHS Board noting the Board has not received allocations for SFY2027 yet. The projection is to deficit finance at a conservative level. The Board has applied for some Opiate funding and will continue to look for grant opportunities.

Ms. Kalb questioned whether it is normal to deficit finance. Ms. Fraser stated that the Board is comfortable operating at this deficit as there will be multiple opportunities to request funds. This is not the first time the Board has operated with deficit funding and this is not uncommon.

Ms. Fraser answered some questions from the group and a discussion was had regarding the possibility of the elimination of property taxes and how this could affect the Board.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT:

Ms. Kalb motioned that the full Board approve FY2027 Non-Medicaid Contracts as presented and recommended by staff, and authorizing the Executive Director to send correspondence to all current contact providers regarding FY2027 non-Medicaid contracts. Seconded by Ms. Zeroske, the Motion Passed Unanimously. (26-067)

Mr. Taylor motioned that the full Board approve the FY2027 Board Operating Budget as presented by the Executive Director. Seconded by Dr. Webb, the Motion Passed Unanimously. (26-068)

Mr. Hatton motioned that the full Board make the following adjustment to the FY2026 Board Operating Budget: increase Contract Services account 631 \$4,000; increase Hospitalization & Dental Insurance account 557 \$23,400; decrease Salaries Accrued Payout Liability \$27,400 for a budget neutral line-item adjustment. Seconded by Ms. Zeroske, the Motion Passed Unanimously. (26-069)

Ms. Parker motioned that the full Board approve the following FY26 budget neutral line-item adjustments for Crossroads Health: decrease Mental Health Day Treatment POS \$106,100; increase MH Psychotherapy POS \$23,500; increase School Based Community Services \$81,000; increase SUD Psychotherapy POS \$1,600; decrease Transportation Grant \$15,000; increase Prevention SUD Grant \$15,000. Seconded by Ms. Kalb, the Motion Passed Unanimously. (26-070)

Ms. Kalb motioned that the full Board enter into a one-time non-Medicaid grant-type contract with Extended Housing for an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00 for purchase, delivery and installation of generators at Willoughby Place and Madison Place. Seconded by Mr. Phillips, the Motion Passed Unanimously. (26-071)

Mr. Taylor motioned that the full Board approve the following FY26 budget neutral line item adjustments for Extended Housing: increase Property Management & Acquisition \$27,000; increase PATH local \$5,000; increase Housing Subsidies \$5,000; decrease Housing Support Workers \$17,000; decrease Emergency Housing Vouchers \$20,000. Seconded by Mr. Dondorfer, the Motion Passed Unanimously. (26-072)

Mr. Hatton motioned that the full Board enter into a one-time non-Medicaid grant-type contract with Lake-Geauga Recovery Centers for an amount not to exceed \$52,338.34 for purchase, delivery and installation of bedroom furniture at Lake House. Seconded by Ms. Kalb, the Motion Passed Unanimously. (26-073)

Ms. Parker motioned that the full Board approve the following FY26 budget neutral line item adjustments for Signature Health: increase MH Psychotherapy w/o medical \$1,000; decrease MH Evaluation & Mgmt. \$1,000; increase MH CPST \$22,000; increase MH Partial Hospitalization \$13,000; decrease Everett Center \$41,000; decrease Community Based Family Treatment \$20,000; increase MH Psychotherapy \$5,600; decrease SUD Assessment \$500; increase SUD Ind. Counseling \$5,600; increase SUD Group Counseling \$500; increase SUD Case Management \$1,600; increase Drug Screen \$1,200; decrease Patient Navigator \$5,000; increase BH Liaison \$5,000; decrease Perinatal Depression \$5,600; decrease Care Coordination Reproductive Health \$3,400; increase Wrap Around Services \$4,000; increase School Based Services \$17,000. Seconded by Mr. Hatton, the Motion Passed Unanimously. (26-074)

Ms. Kalb motioned that the full Board enter into a one-time SFY2026 non-Medicaid Purchase of Service contract with WomenSafe for an amount not to exceed \$3,000.00 for psychotherapy services, based on increased demand. Seconded by Mr. Phillips, the Motion Passed Unanimously. (26-075)

At least forty-five (45) days prior to the annual meeting of the Board, the Board shall elect a Nominating Committee composed of at least five (5) of its members, not then officers of the Board. Such Nominating Committee shall report to the Board at the Regular Meeting prior to the Annual Meeting a list of candidates for officers to be voted for at the ensuing election of officers. At least ten (10) days before the Annual Meeting, the Secretary shall mail by first class mail, postage pre-paid, to each member of the Board at his/her last known address, the list of candidates selected by the Nominating Committee. Nominations for any office may be made from the floor with consent of the nominee. Once appointed, the Nominating Committee shall remain a standing committee until replaced in the succeeding year as set forth above.

Mr. Taylor motioned that the full Board elect the following Board members to the Nominating committee to develop a recommended slate of officers for FY27: Carl Dondorfer (chair), Stacy Kramer, Marty Phillips, William Wilson, Joanne Zeroske. Seconded by Ms. Kalb, the Motion Passed Unanimously. (26-076)

EVALUATION/QUALITY IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT:

Quality Improvement Review of Signature Health

A PowerPoint presentation on Signature Health was shared by staff members Heather Harrington - Quality Improvement Director and Client Rights Officer, Meghan Zielinski and Dakota Dehn – Behavioral Health Services Managers, and Allie Morana – Senior Marketing Manager. Ms. Harrington shared information on Signature Health's Painesville, Willoughby, C.H. Everett Clinic, and training center locations and what each location has to offer. The Painesville and Willoughby locations offer a variety of different SUD and Behavioral Health groups for clients to participate in.

Ms. Harrington shared that Signature Health focuses on a community-based presence in Lake County. In addition to their locations, Signature has a School-Based Health Center embedded in the Wickliffe Family Resource Center that offers primary care and sexual and reproductive health. They also have embedded a counselor at the Emma Caley Receiving Home in Painesville, offer regular HIV and Hepatitis C community screenings at the Morley Library and Project Hope for the Homeless, and had a presence at more than 25 Lake County events in 2025. Signature Health offers a Care at Home Program for seniors at 19 Lake County senior facilities, this program includes psychiatry, counseling, and case-management services. They also offer behavioral health services in all Painesville City, Riverside, and Mentor Public Schools as well as Fairport Elementary School and the Wickliffe Upper and Lower Schools. In addition, Signature offers behavioral health liaison services as a multitude of other Lake County locations.

Ms. Harrington shared Signature Health's 2025 impact report, stating they served more than 35,000 patients in total. In 2025, Signature Health served 33.4K behavioral health patients, 12.2K primary care patients, 15.2K pharmacy patients, 1.5K dental patients (a program they are hoping to expand), 220 Ryan White Program patients, and 125 Child Advocacy Center patients. In Lake County, Signature Health has 475 team members who saw 10.7K residents in 2025.

Ms. Harrington shared the agency's SWOT Analysis. Signature's strengths lie in their patient-centered care, workforce, and innovation. Weaknesses include growing pains, learning curves for complex technology, and their ability to only offer outpatient services while relying on others for inpatient care. The addition of Lake County Crisis services, expansion of dental services, and Pharmacy Tech training program are examples of a few of their opportunities for growth. Threatening Signature Health is the low availability and competitive job market, their competition, and that their business model doesn't allow for price increases to offset inflation.

Mr. Dehn provided an update on Signature Health's Crisis Services. The Crisis Hotline and Crisis Response services were added at Signature on July 7, 2025. From that time to March of 2026, the Crisis Program received 4,946 hotline calls and 639 support calls. Top referents were people in crisis at 57%, family, friends, or concerned citizens at 19%, Signature Health and non-crisis related at 4% each, and 2% from police. The Mobile Crisis Response Team had 2,423 encounters with 527 total unduplicated patients served. 91% of MCRT responses came within 60 minutes and they were able to stabilize 82% of patients in the community.

Ms. Zielinski shared information on Signature Health's Coordinated Specialty Care (CSC) for individuals with First-Episode Psychosis (FEP). Coordinated Specialty Care is a team-based delivery of five core interventions where treatment is guided by shared decision-making and services are available for quick access. This evidence-based approach is in partnership with The Ohio State University. Signature Health is in search of patients in First Episode Psychosis, when symptoms appear in the last two years of onset. The CSC for FEP team includes case management, individual psychotherapy, family psychotherapy and support, medication management, and supported employment and education. Those eligible for the program are ages 15-30, their first experience of psychosis is less than two years prior to the date of enrollment, has a diagnosis of schizophrenia-spectrum disorder or mood disorder with psychotic features, and can be from any county, though the treatment takes place only at their Willoughby location. Research shows people who receive CSC for FEP early in the course of the illness have a greater ability to move forward with school, work, living independently, and meeting their life goals while bettering relationships with family and friends as well as decreased symptoms and fewer inpatient psychiatric hospitalizations.

Ms. Morana shared some of Signature Health's most recent innovations including their website's Live Chat feature, Online Scheduling, and Online Drop-In. The Live Chat allows patients to chat with a Patient Services team member, not an AI Bot. Online scheduling allows for new patients or referral sources to self-register and

schedule. The Online Drop-In is available Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and allows for behavioral health telehealth assessments on demand.

Ms. Harrington, Mr. Dehn, Ms. Zielinski, and Ms. Morana answered questions from the group.

Mr. Rowles has reviewed the agency's QI plan. It is in compliance with their certification through Ohio DBH and it is his recommendation that we approve their plan.

Mr. Taylor motioned that the full Board accept Signature Health's Quality Improvement Plan. Seconded by Ms. Zeroske, the Motion Passed Unanimously. (26-077)

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Next Meeting Date is Monday, May 11, 2026. The location of the meeting will be at the ADAMHS Board.

*As the **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE** did not meet since the last full Board meeting, the Board moved on to the next agenda item*

*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 Ms. Zeroske moved that the Board approve the February bills totaling \$1,073,224.54 be paid as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kalb and the Motion Passed Unanimously. (26-078)

Mr. Dondorfer motioned that the full Board enter into Executive Session to discuss appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official. The motion was seconded by Mr. Phillips. The Motion Passed Unanimously (26-079) following roll call vote.

The board exited Executive Session at 7:05 p.m. at which time Ms. Parker moved that the full Board increase the annual salary of the Executive Director by 4.25% effective July 1, 2026. Seconded by Mr. Phillips, the Motion Passed Unanimously. (26-080)

As there was no further business, Mr. Hatton made a motion to adjourn at 7:07 p.m. The motion was seconded by Ms. Parker. (26-081)

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Kurt
Chair

Mike Hatton
Treasurer