



**MENTAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**December 19, 2024**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Janell Alexander, Michael Aurin, Michael Barton, Adam Davis, Jake Fishman, Dr. Amy Garbrecht, Jassie Rausch, Beau Michael

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Annette Doughty, Kellie Bischoff, Adam Brown, James Pleasant, Scott Zwiezinski, Janel Chapman

**STAFF PRESENT:** Adam Negley, Lindsay Altizer, Halle DuMoulin-Camella, MacKenzie Poling, Kathryn Tummino, Holly Zweizig, Allison Bruner

**STAFF ABSENT:** Dr. Randi Bargo-Smith

**GUESTS ZOOM:** Kasey Bisch, Denise Casto, Melissa Ebling, Katie Meeker, Holly Novak, Rick Skilliter, Andrew Von Lohr

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Julli Griesheimer, Vanessa Humphrey, Jennifer Rigano, Amy Findley & Merci, Megan Rausch

---

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Alexander called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

**MISSION STATEMENT:** Dr. Amy Garbrecht read the MHRBUC Mission Statement.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Alexander asked members to review the minutes from the November Board Meeting and asked for a motion to accept the minutes as presented.

***Michael moved; Barton seconded to accept the November minutes as presented.***  
***Motion carried. No discussion.***

**APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT** – Casto presented the updated Financial Report ending November 30, 2024. Year to date the cash balance was reflected as \$5,369,143, with year-to-date revenue of \$4,191,955 and \$3,608,033 in total expenses. The year-to-date net income was \$583,922 for the month. Casto reviewed the Balance Sheet as well as the Budget vs. Actuals and stated we are trending higher than budget for both revenue and expenses due to new funding that has been received.

***Aurin moved; Rausch seconded to accept the Financial Report as presented.***  
***Motion carried. No discussion***

**RESOLUTION 2025-31 University of Connecticut Project Aware Technical Assistance Service Agreement - \$50,000** – Negley presented a continuation service agreement with the University of Connecticut, School

of Social Work, The Institute of Innovation and Implementation, to provide technical assistance, consultation, and expertise to the MHRBUC for the Project AWARE grant. He stated that this allows MHRBUC to access technical expertise at a national level. Negley noted that these services have been valuable and requested approval to continue them for the remainder of the Project AWARE grant cycle, at a reduced cost compared to the previous two years. The agreement will remain in effect through September 30, 2026, at an annual cost of \$25,000, totaling \$50,000 over the remaining grant term.

***Michael moved; Garbrecht seconded to approve the Service Agreement as presented.  
Motion carried. No Discussion***

***RESOLUTION 2025-32 Maryhaven ~ Attachment 1 Amendment - \$15,000*** – Altizer reported that this is an adjustment to Attachment 1 for Maryhaven, adding \$15,000 for a linkage navigator, bringing the total contract to \$1,478,839. Rausch inquired about the linkage navigator, and Altizer explained that it covers staff time and recovery support. Negley added that MHRBUC previously had an agreement with West Central for case coordination related to recovery support funds and has been seeking a replacement. Maryhaven has agreed to assume this responsibility for the remainder of the fiscal year. Rausch asked if Maryhaven would need to hire additional staff. Negley responded that no additional staff would be needed, as Maryhaven will utilize existing staff and bill MHRBUC for their hours.

***Fishman moved; Aurin seconded to accept the Attachment 1 Amendment as presented.  
Motion carried. No Discussion***

***RESOLUTION 2025-33 Lighthouse ~ Attachment 1 Amendment - \$10,000*** – Altizer discussed adding \$10,000 to Lighthouse for transportation, using the same linkage line item. This adjustment brings the total contract to \$346,064. Negley added that last fiscal year, MHRBUC piloted a transportation service with Maryhaven and A Way-Out transportation. This is an expansion of that service, with Lighthouse contracting with A Way Out to provide employment transportation for clients enrolled in their services.

***Rausch moved; Barton seconded to accept the Attachment 1 Amendment as presented.  
Motion carried. No Discussion***

***DIRECTOR'S REPORT*** – Negley reviewed highlights from the Director's Report provided in the Board packet. Alexander confirmed that when the Senate Bill 105 Update passes, the Board will update contract language in the next cycle. Negley confirmed this is correct, noting it is unlikely to be finalized before the FY26 contract cycle and will most likely apply to FY27 contracts. Michael asked if this is seen as a positive change by MHRBUC. Negley responded that it is, as the current statute is outdated, and the update will provide more flexibility and reduce ambiguity if contract changes are needed.

***OLD BUSINESS – November Board Evaluation-*** Alexander discussed transitioning from provider training to board training next month, following a shift in board members this summer.

***NEW BUSINESS – Updated Community Mental Health Center Program – Andrew von Lohr*** – von Lohr gave a PowerPoint presentation on an update to the previous program summary for construction of a new community mental health center that would include space for Maryhaven and Lower Lights. Von Lohr provided the square footage of the previous program and the proposed program. Lohr also shared

existing and potential development site locations and acreage. Negley requested a walk-through of each development site option, with costs ranging from \$15.7 million to \$21 million.

**PROVIDER UPDATES – Marysville Police Department** – Officer Amy Findley shared her 25 years of experience and the role her and therapy dog Mercy play in the CIT program.

**Union County Guardianship Services** – Megan Rausch Executive Director shared information on the services provided by her organization.

**ADJOURNMENT –**

***Fishman moved; Barton seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 AM.  
Motion carried.***

After approval of the above resolutions, Michael Aurin and Jasmine Rausch had to leave and therefore a quorum was not present to enter Executive Session.