MENTAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
July 17, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT: Adam Brown, Tracy Thien, Amy Hamilton, Jake Fishman, Beau Michael, Michael Barton, Kellie Bischoff, Adam Davis, James Pleasant, Scott Zwiezinski

MEMBERS ABSENT: Michael Aurin, Janel Chapman

MEMBERS ZOOM: Jasmine Rausch

STAFF PRESENT: Adam Negley, Lindsay Altizer, Mackenzie Poling, Holly Zweizig, Allison Bruner, Kathryn Tummino

STAFF ABSENT: Halle DuMoulin-Camella, Dr. Randi Bargo-Smith

GUESTS ZOOM: Robyn Aurnou, Kasey Bisch, Denise Casto, Julli Griesheimer, Bethan Miller, Tracie Nelson, Holly Novak, Rick Skilliter, Amanda Wattenberg

GUESTS PRESENT: Vanessa Humphrey, Jennifer Rigano

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

MISSION STATEMENT: Fishman read the MHRBUC Mission Statement.

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS: Negley welcomed two newly appointed members, Tracy Thien and Amy Hamilton. Both were appointed by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services for terms ending 6/30/2029. Ms. Thien stated she is currently employed by the Union County Board of Developmental Disabilities and has prior experience in both mental health and school systems. Ms. Hamilton also provided her background. She currently works at the Union County Health Department. Previously, she served in the Union County Auditor's Office and the State Auditor's Office. She is a lifelong resident of Union County and expressed her enthusiasm for joining the Board. The Board then proceeded with brief introductions from all members & staff present.

NEW BOARD MEMBER OATH OF OFFICE: Ms. Thein and Ms. Hamilton were formally sworn in as members of the board. The Oath of Office was administered by MHRBUC administrative assistant/notary public, Bruner, marking her first time officiating the oath. Following administration of the oath, both Ms. Thein and Ms. Hamilton were officially seated and granted full voting privileges as members of the Board.

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

> ***Zwiezinski moved; Pleasant seconded to accept the June minutes as presented. Motion carried. No discussion.***

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT – Casto presented the updated Financial Report ending June 30, 2025. The year-to-date cash balance was reflected as $5,517,000 with year-to-date revenue of $8,077,000 and $7,545,120 in total expenses. A net income as of June 30 of $531,932 was reported. Casto reviewed agency contract utilization through June, emphasizing that FY25 billing remains open through September. Most agencies are trending between 70%–90% utilization. Lower utilization among a few agencies was attributed to late contract start dates and the targeted nature of some funding. Supporting documentation reviewed included the balance sheet and budget-to-actual report from QuickBooks, reflecting revenue and expense trends. Federal revenues were noted at 81% due to timing differences in grant funding. Salaries and provider agreements were noted at 80% and 79% of the budget, respectively. The reconciliation of QuickBooks records with the County financial system was also reviewed and confirmed to be in balance.

> ***Michael moved; Zwiezinski seconded to accept the Financial Report as presented. Motion carried. No discussion***

RESOLUTION 2026-1 Logan & Champaign Strong Families ~ Service Agreement - $42,000 – Negley provided an update regarding two service agreements impacted by the recent state biennium budget signed by the Governor on June 30. As outlined in the Director's Report, the Board received confirmation of a 45% cut to the Strong Families Safe Communities grant. This grant supports parent peer support and requires cross-county collaboration. The funding reduction decreases the Logan-Champaign ADAMH board allocation from $75,000 to $42,000. Although the funding has been reduced, both partners are agreeable to executing a new service agreement at the reduced amount to continue their work in their communities, with revised expectations for service outcomes in light of the funding decrease. The service agreement reflects the same language previously approved, with only the dollar amounts updated.

> ***Pleasant moved; Barton seconded to approve the service agreement as presented. Motion carried. No Discussion***

RESOLUTION 2026-2 AAH Strong Families ~ Service Agreement- $42,000- Negley stated that this is the second service agreement impacted by the recent state biennium budget signed by the Governor on June 30. As outlined in the Director's Report, the Board received confirmation of a 45% cut to the Strong Families Safe Communities grant. This grant supports parent peer support and requires cross-county collaboration. The funding reduction decreases the Allen, Auglaize, Hardin ADAMH board allocation from $75,000 to $42,000. Although the funding has been reduced, both partners are agreeable to executing a new service agreement at the reduced amount to continue their work in their communities, with revised expectations for service outcomes in light of the funding decrease. The service agreement reflects the same language previously approved, with only the dollar amounts updated.

> ***Zwiezinski moved; Fishman seconded to approve the service agreement as presented. Motion carried. No Discussion***

RESOLUTION 2026-3 MTSS North Union School District ~ Service Agreement– $13,000 – Negley presented a Project AWARE-funded initiative intended to provide additional support to North Union Local School District. The agreement allocates $13,000 to support supplemental contracts for school

staff who have expressed interest in serving as Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) champions. These individuals assist with MTSS planning, data collection, and professional development within the district. The goal is to build internal capacity so that, when grant funding ends, the district will be equipped to sustain and continue improving its MTSS efforts independently.

Fishman moved; Pleasant seconded to accept the service agreement as presented. Motion carried. No Discussion

RESOLUTION 2026-4 Revelations in Education ~ Service Agreement – $13,000– Negley presented this service agreement is part of the broader Project AWARE effort to support school districts based on their individually identified needs. In collaboration with Fairbanks Local School District, this agreement will provide professional development focused on youth well-being through the lens of applied educational neuroscience. The training will be delivered by Dr. Lori Desautels, whose presentations at the recent Change Makers Conference were highly regarded by attendees. Following that event, Fairbanks expressed a strong interest in bringing Dr. Desautels' training into their district to further support student wellness and staff capacity.

Barton moved; Zwiezinski seconded to accept the service agreement as presented. Motion carried. No Discussion

RESOLUTION 2026-5 Coleman Professional Services ~ Service Agreement - $196,739.40 – Negley introduced this service agreement to expand the Union County crisis system of care. He reminded members that in February, the Board was awarded approximately $270,000 in grant funding from the One Ohio Recovery Foundation to pilot an adult mobile crisis response program in Union County. In conjunction with the grant award, the Board developed a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) process and convened a local steering committee to help shape the implementation of the initiative. Through the RFP process, Coleman Professional Services was selected as the highest scoring and most comprehensive proposal. Coleman is a well-established community mental health provider with experience delivering mobile crisis services in multiple ADAMH board areas in Ohio. They also currently serve as the Regional Coordinator for Mobile Response and Stabilization Services (MRSS) in the region that includes Union County.

Negley explained that while Coleman's initial proposal exceeded available grant funding, they worked collaboratively with the Board to revise their budget. By projecting Medicaid revenue from clinical services associated with the mobile response work, Coleman was able to restructure the program to operate within the grant allocation. The resulting model blends grant funds with third-party billing, creating a financially sustainable structure for the pilot. The mobile crisis team will be dispatched in conjunction with law enforcement to respond to behavioral health crisis calls that might otherwise be directed to 911 or result in emergency room visits. The aim is to provide clinical intervention in the field, diverting appropriate individuals from hospitalization and connecting them to needed care more quickly. The team will also offer follow-up support after the crisis to prevent future incidents.

Zwiezinski inquired whether the program is solely funded through the One Ohio Recovery grant. Negley confirmed that it is a pilot initiative, and that additional or sustained funding may be sought in the future, depending on outcomes.

Barton asked whether the program would target individuals at risk. Negley clarified that the team will respond to individuals currently experiencing a behavioral health crisis, with an emphasis on those whose situations might otherwise involve law enforcement or emergency care. He also noted that follow-up services will help identify and support individuals who remain at elevated risk even after the initial crisis is resolved.

Brown added his support for the agreement, noting the value of welcoming a new provider into the local service network.

Zwiezinski moved; Barton seconded to accept the service agreement as presented. Motion carried. No Discussion

RESOLUTION 2026-6 Ascend Innovations ~ Service Agreement - $25,000 – Negley reported that earlier in the year, the Board approved a Phase One agreement with ASCEND Innovations to implement a crisis notification system funded through the One Ohio Recovery Foundation grant. That work has now been completed, and since the previous month, the Board has begun receiving crisis notifications from participating emergency departments when individuals present with a behavioral health diagnosis. These notifications support both data collection and follow-up outreach by the newly established adult mobile crisis response team through Coleman Professional Services.

Negley then presented Phase Two of the ASCEND project, which would be funded through unspent dollars from the Board's State Opioid and Stimulant Response (SOS) grant. These funds are set to expire at the end of September. The proposed work will build upon the initial implementation by developing a "Familiar Faces" dashboard—an integrated data hub designed to help identify high utilizers of multiple systems, including behavioral health services, hospital systems, and law enforcement. The initial phase of dashboard development will cost $25,000 and include data acquisition efforts and technical work to integrate the existing crisis notification system, CIT (Crisis Intervention Team) data from law enforcement, and potentially jail booking data from Tri-County Jail. Discussions are underway to establish a new data-sharing arrangement with the jail, which recently transitioned to a different information system. ASCEND has already initiated outreach to jail related to similar work in Logan and Champaign Counties. Negley emphasized that this system will allow real-time visibility across systems for local stakeholders who currently rely on anecdotal or siloed data when responding to high-utilizer individuals. The full dashboard buildout will be contingent upon receiving additional SOS funding expected in the next federal fiscal year, beginning in October.

Bischoff recommended adding a live demonstration requirement to the implementation phase to ensure stakeholders understand system functionality before final launch. Negley agreed and stated that this could be incorporated into the next service agreement tied to the second installment of funding.

Michael inquired about data sharing challenges with external partners. Negley responded that crisis and CIT data are already accessible to the Board, and jail data integration would require initiating new technical and administrative conversations. He noted that ASCEND had previously made contact with Tri-County Jail regarding data integration, but the effort was paused due to a system transition. The

Board would work to establish a new data-sharing agreement, ensuring that only minimal, non-clinical public information—such as names, booking dates, and charges, would be collected.

Pleasant asked whether consent would be required for collecting jail data. Negley clarified that the information to be collected would be public record and not include protected health information. Data sharing would be conducted under formal agreements, similar to those already in place with hospital systems.

Fishman raised two considerations: The importance of having a process in place to revoke dashboard access when individuals leave participating partner agencies. Clarifying whether ongoing maintenance costs were addressed in the current contract. Negley acknowledged the need to implement user access controls and stated that the current contract includes maintenance for the first year only. Long-term maintenance will be an ongoing cost, which the Board will need to plan for. However, he expressed confidence in the value of the investment, highlighting ASCEND's responsive and collaborative approach, as well as their commitment to developing tools that serve broader board system needs.

Bischoff moved; Pleasant seconded to accept the service agreement as presented. Motion carried. No Discussion

RESOLUTION 2026-7 Huntington Policy Renewal ~ Service Agreement - $28,870 – Negley reported that it is time to renew the Board's annual insurance policy. A meeting was held with the Board's insurance representative from Huntington Insurance to review the current coverage and discuss any changes for the upcoming year. At this time, the Board has not yet received the final quote but expects the invoice to arrive prior to the August Board meeting. As such, we are requesting authorization to pay the estimated premium in order to avoid any potential late fees or disruption in coverage.

No substantial changes to the policy are anticipated. The umbrella policy will remain at $5 million, and cyber liability coverage is expected to remain at $2 million. Cyber insurance continues to involve an extensive underwriting process requiring documentation of IT security measures. The Board is working with its IT consultant to fulfill these requirements, and the insurance representative does not anticipate any issues with securing coverage.

One expected change is a 5% increase in property replacement values, consistent with underwriter expectations due to rising property valuations. The representative agreed to pursue the minimum allowable increase of 5%, as the Board-owned properties have not experienced the same dramatic value increases seen elsewhere.

Based on that 5% adjustment, the estimated premium for the upcoming year is $28,870. Negley requested approval of this estimated amount to ensure timely payment once the final invoice is received and coverage can be renewed in early August.

Zwiezinski moved; Barton seconded to accept the policy renewal as presented. Motion carried. No Discussion

RESOLUTION 2026-8 Designated Health Officer List – Poling reported two updates to the list of designated health officers authorized to perform involuntary commitment evaluations (pink slips) in Union County. First, for Maryhaven, staff is requesting the addition of Elizabeth Aniakwa, Vice President, who was introduced to the Board at a meeting two months ago. Second, staff are requesting the addition of Benjamin Stark, an independently licensed clinician affiliated with the Veterans Mobile Evaluation Team (VMET). VMET is a service provided through the VA Police in Franklin County that partners with local law enforcement to respond to veterans in crisis. The team consists of a clinician and a VA law enforcement officer and can be deployed when a veteran is in need of immediate assistance. Adding Benjamin Stark as a designated agent will allow him to conduct evaluations and complete pink slips when appropriate, enabling more direct access to higher levels of care for veterans in Union County.

Zwiezinski moved; Barton seconded to accept the designated health officer list as presented. Motion carried. No Discussion

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Negley reviewed highlights from the Director's Report provided in the Board packet.

Negley opened a discussion regarding the potential scheduling of a Board retreat. He noted that this year is an "off-year" for the Board's annual awards banquet and celebration event, which is planned to return in October of the following year. In lieu of that event, staff have considered organizing a structured half-day retreat that would bring together Board members and provider representatives. Negley emphasized that this year presents a particularly timely opportunity for a retreat, given the evolving federal and state policy landscapes and their expected impacts on local behavioral health services. He suggested targeting early to mid-October as an ideal timeframe, as federal budget outcomes should be finalized by that point.

Board members briefly discussed potential dates and preferred formats. Saturdays were identified as a feasible option based on past retreats, with Friday evening and weekday options considered more difficult due to scheduling conflicts. Several Saturdays in October were mentioned, and members agreed that a scheduling poll should be circulated to identify the best date for maximum attendance. Negley will prepare and distribute a scheduling poll to Board members for several Saturday options in fall 2025.

OLD BUSINESS – June Board Evaluation- Negley addressed a recent inquiry regarding the level of detail provided to the Board when reviewing contracts. Negley asked whether the request for more information was specific to the June meeting, during which a large volume of contracts was presented for approval, or if it reflected a broader desire for additional context on future contract approvals. Negley stated he is happy to work with the Board to provide more detailed summaries, particularly for high-volume meetings such as June, which could include information on new agreements, changes from prior years, and any differences in funding requests. He acknowledged that the large number of contracts presented in a short period of time can make it challenging for Board members and agreed that enhanced summaries could support review and decision-making.

NEW BUSINESS – None

PROVIDER UPDATES – None

EXECUTIVE SESSION – To consider the purchase or sale of property

Bischoff moved; Michael seconded to enter executive session at 8:29 A.M. Roll call vote was held. All members present voted to enter the executive session.

At 9:02 A.M., Zwiezinski moved; Bischoff seconded to exit the executive session and returned to open session. A roll call vote was held. All members present voted to return to open session.

ADJOURNMENT –

Fishman moved; Zwiezinski seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 AM.
Motion carried.