



MENTAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 16, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT: Michael Aurin, Adam Brown, Michael Barton, Janel Chapman, Sarah Channell, Jake Fishman, Beau Michael, Tracy Thien, Scott Zwiezinski

MEMBERS ABSENT: James Pleasant, Adam Davis, Amy Hamilton

MEMBERS ZOOM: Kellie Bischoff, Jasmine Rausch

STAFF PRESENT: Adam Negley, Lindsay Altizer, Dr. Randi Bargo-Smith, Kathryn Tummino, MacKenzie Poling, Holly Zweizig, Allison Bruner, Halle DuMoulin-Camella

STAFF ABSENT:

GUESTS ZOOM: Robyn Aurnou, Kasey Bisch, Denise Casto, 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: Brown read the MHRBUC Mission Statement.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Regular Meeting) – Brown asked members to review the minutes from the September Board Meeting and noted the date needed to be updated. Brown asked for a motion to accept the minutes with that change.

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

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

***Aurin moved; Thien seconded to accept the special board meeting minutes as presented.
Motion carried. No discussion.***

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT – Casto presented the September financials, including the updated dashboard for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2025. Casto noted that there had been little change from August to September, with the current surplus for the fiscal year standing at approximately \$200,000 and overall contracts reaching 80% of their annual budgeted amount. Casto transitioned to the state fiscal year 2026 dashboard, where, as of the end of September, the board's cash position was \$4,961,000, with receivables reported at \$1,241,000. Revenues for the period slightly exceeded \$3 million, while expenses were noted

to be \$2,271,000, resulting in a surplus of \$755,000. Casto highlighted that revenues were trending above budget expectations due to receipt of the first half of the tax distribution, whereas expenses were more closely aligned with projections. The middle section of the dashboard provided an update on contract activity through September, with explanatory notes for any agencies lagging in billing. Casto stated the official balance sheet from QuickBooks corroborated these figures, reflecting a cash amount of \$4.9 million and an operating fund balance at the end of September of \$1,319,000. Casto presented a comparison of budgets versus actuals showing real estate and federal funds as primary revenue sources, and salaries and provider service agreements comprising the majority of expenses. Casto explained the reconciliation report from QuickBooks, which detailed all cash transactions for September, with a final printout confirming balanced accounts with the county's fund.

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

RESOLUTION 2026-29 – Calendar Year 2026 County Budget – Altizer presented the annual county budget, which covers the January to December fiscal year and is entered into the Munis system for county records. Altizer explained that, the budget accounts for additional anticipated expenses, particularly in utilities and contract services related to the new building purchase. Altizer noted that updated figures place revenue at \$8.9 million and expenses at \$8.2 million, maintaining overall alignment within budgetary expectations. Altizer also mentioned that a revised permanent budget, covering July through June, would likely be brought to the board for review before January and would reflect similar adjustments.

***Zwiezinski moved; Channell seconded to approve the county budget as presented.
Motion carried. No Discussion.***

RESOLUTION 2026-30 – Fiscal Year 27-31 Long Range Projections – Negley presented an update on the long-range financial projections, a recurring part of the organization's quality review and certification process. Leadership highlighted the difficulty of forecasting several years ahead, particularly given the board's history of success in securing federal grant funding, which introduces uncertainty into future estimates. The projections were developed with a semi-optimistic outlook, assuming continued though not guaranteed access to federal grant dollars, steady levy revenue, and flat state revenue over the next five fiscal years beginning in FY27. It was noted, however, that if federal grants are not fully replaced in future years, the board may face operating deficits unless there are corresponding adjustments to programs and services. The importance of the board's investments funded through grant dollars was emphasized, and it was acknowledged that changes in funding would likely necessitate changes in spending priorities. Additionally, the board confirmed that its targeted cash reserve is set at three months of operating expenses, equal to approximately \$3 million. Further analysis, including alternative budget scenarios, is planned for the board's upcoming November retreat. The board proceeded to consider approval of the updated long-range projections, with no further questions raised.

***Aurin moved; Zwiezinski seconded to approve the long-range projections as presented.
Motion carried. No Discussion.***

RESOLUTION 2026-31 – Maryhaven – State Fiscal Year 2026 Attachment 1 Amendment - \$25,000 – Altizer presented an update on Maryhaven's state fiscal year 2026 allocation. It was reported that, for the most

recent federal fiscal quarter, Maryhaven did not utilize the allocated funds for the mobile response and stabilization program. After a discussion with Maryhaven representatives, there was mutual agreement to remove these unused federal dollars from the allocation.

Barton moved; Thien seconded to approve the Maryhaven Attachment 1 Amendment as presented. Motion carried. No Discussion.

RESOLUTION 2026-32 Maryhaven – Federal Fiscal Year 2026 Attachment 1 Amendment - \$51,222-

Altizer presented Maryhaven's federal fiscal year 2026 allocation for the school navigation program. It was noted that, while the original budget included funding for six positions, the allocation will be adjusted to fund only five positions for the year. Altizer stated this change reflects the reality that one position at North Union has not been filled.

Chapman moved; Zwiezinski seconded to approve the Maryhaven Attachment 1 Amendment as presented. Motion carried. No Discussion.

RESOLUTION 2026-33– Ohio Guidestone- Federal Fiscal Year 2026 Attachment 1 Amendment -

\$72,000- Altizer provided an update regarding Ohio Guidestone federal fiscal year 2026 allocation for the school navigation program at North Union. Bargo-Smith shared that this is set at an "up to" amount of \$72,000. This allocation is intended to replace a position previously budgeted with Maryhaven that has not yet been filled. Bargo-Smith clarified that, although the full-year estimate is included for budgeting, the actual amount expended will likely be substantially lower due to the late start in filling the position. Fishman noted minor updates to totals on the Attachment will need to be made before the information is finalized and distributed.

Michael moved; Channell seconded to approve the Ohio Guidestone Attachment 1 Amendment as presented. Motion carried. No Discussion.

RESOLUTION 2026-34 Mighty Crow – Service Agreement - \$98,400 – Bargo-Smith presented the renewal of the service agreement with Mighty Crow to serve as the external evaluator for the Project AWARE grant for the final year, covering the period from October 1 through September 30, 2026. Bargo-Smith expressed Mighty Crow's exemplary performance, noting that their evaluation activities have consistently exceeded expectations and provided valuable demonstrations of the outcomes achieved through grant initiatives. Bargo-Smith also noted that the compensation for year four will remain the same as in year three.

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

RESOLUTION 2026-35 Transfer of Funds – Building Purchase - \$2,965,000 – Altizer presented a resolution to transfer approximately \$2.965 million in unobligated funds into the organization's cash balance in preparation for an upcoming building payment. Altizer explained that while this figure reflects the current estimate, the final transferred amount may be adjusted slightly lower once the final settlement statement is available. The board recognized that the action was necessary to ensure that adequate funds are on hand for the closing scheduled for the following week. Adam was delegated to

the authority to finalize and approve the transfer amount within the system once all required updates have been made.

Michael moved; Aurin seconded to approve the transfer of funds as presented.

Motion carried. No Discussion

RESOLUTION 2026-36 Fiscal Year 2025 Impact Report – Negley presented the board with the finalized fiscal year 2025 Impact Report, which was recently completed and made available on the organization’s website. Negley noted the report was produced through a collaborative team effort led by Tummino. Notable highlights include the measurement of youth services impact, progress in early childhood initiatives, increased investment in crisis services, and a more detailed breakdown of spending across prevention, crisis, treatment, recovery supports (including housing), and community services, much of which is enabled by competitive grants. Negley stated the report will be shared both publicly and with county commissioners as required. Board members expressed appreciation for the work put into the report and for the insights it provides to stakeholders about the impact of programs over the last fiscal year.

Zwiezinski moved; Chapman seconded to approve the FY25 Impact Report as presented.

Motion carried. No Discussion

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

OLD BUSINESS – September Board Evaluation- Brown briefly reviewed the evaluation and expressed appreciation to all members who completed the board meeting evaluation report. It was noted, based on feedback received, that if at any time members feel they do not have sufficient information to make a decision, they are encouraged to reach out for clarification.

NEW BUSINESS –

Calendar Year 2024 County Audit – Altizer explained the results of the calendar year 2024 county audit, which has been completed and published on the State Auditor’s website. Altizer stated that, unfortunately, the board once again received a finding related to suspension and debarment language. This finding stemmed from auditors selecting for review a federal service agreement from June 2024 that was signed before the board received notice of the prior year’s suspension and debarment finding. Because this pre-notification agreement did not include the required federal suspension/debarment clause or a documented SAM.gov check, it triggered a repeat finding.

Altizer emphasized that after receiving the previous audit’s notification, the board promptly updated all policies and contract templates to include the required suspension and debarment language, which the auditors confirmed when reviewing a later contract. However, because the sampled agreement predated these corrective actions, the finding was upheld. Altizer and Negley requested reconsideration, but the audit team explained that the outcome was governed by the timing of the sampled document.

It was also noted that the vendor involved was not suspended or debarred; nevertheless, the procedural requirement was not met in the sampled contract. The board’s corrective actions have been formally

documented, and staff reiterate that all current contract templates and policies fully incorporate the required compliance elements.

Strategic Plan Update – Negley provided an update on the organization’s strategic plan, noting that more than half of the plan’s objectives have now been completed, with several additional items nearing completion. Negley noted one key update was the removal of the MRSS school initiative from the plan, as it transitioned to a state-run program in early September; while the board no longer oversees or funds this program directly, it continues to support regional implementation and track developments. Of the remaining in-progress priorities, the effort to increase access to multilingual behavioral health providers was highlighted. Some progress has been made, particularly in identifying virtual providers through providers like Chrysalis and Syntero, although the demand for in-person services remains among consumers. Negley stated that expanding in-person multilingual options poses significant challenges, and this objective may require continued focus. Looking ahead, conversations at the upcoming November 8 board and provider meeting are expected to help advance remaining goals, and significant updates to the strategic plan will be considered starting in calendar year 2026.

EXECUTIVE SESSION –

Reason:

- To consider the purchase or sale of property
- To consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official.

Zwiezinski moved; Michael seconded to enter executive session at 8:18 A.M. Roll call vote was held. All members present voted to enter the executive session.

At 8:50 A.M. Zwiezinski moved; Channell seconded to exit the executive session and return to open session. A roll call vote was held. All members present voted to return to open session.

ADJOURNMENT –

Aurin moved; Barton seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 AM. Motion carried.