



**Butler County  
Mental Health & Addiction  
Recovery Services Board**

**Board Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, May 17, 2023  
Board Meeting**

The Butler County Mental Health and Addiction Recovery Services Board held its Board meeting on Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Board office located at 5963 Boymel Drive in Fairfield, Ohio and via Webex.

**1. Call to Order**

1.01 President Mat Himm called the meeting to order.

Upon the call of the roll the following Board members were present: President Mat Himm; Pastor Michael Bailey; Patricia Deis-Gleeson, BSN; Dr. Theodore Hunter; Tara D'Epifanio; Lonnie Tucker, CHE, CSW; Father Pucke; Deb Robertson; Vice President Kim McKinney, BSN, RN; Mother Suzanne; Bishop Smith; David Swigonski; Richard Bement; Rev. Cummings; Kelsey Wargo, LPCC-S, CCTP-II; John Silvani, RN, CARN, CAS, LCDC-II; and Judge Campbell.

Staff members present at the meeting were the following: Scott Rasmus, PhD, LPCC-S, IMFT; Jennifer Coats, SWT; Cassandra Kiesey, Esq.; Scott Fourman, MS, LPCC-S; Darrell Burton, CPA; and Joanna Lowry, MA, LPCC-S, LICDC-CS.

**Recognition of Guests:**

Dr. Quinton Moss, CEO, Modern Psychiatry and Wellness, LLC  
Scott Stephens, CEO, Big Brothers Big Sisters

**Recognition of Guests via Webex:**

Daryl Hams, Access Counseling  
Erin Day, Community Behavioral Health  
Lori Higgins, Envision  
Krystle Frey, NewPath  
Jillane Holland, TLC  
Wendy Waters-Connell, YWCA

## 2. **Board Communication & Announcements**

### 2.01 **Executive Directors Report**

- A. State Biannual Budget Update Fy24 & 25  
The introduced budget (HB33) was paired down by the House. There were several changes in the funding amounts, if enacted, would severely limit the ability to meet the growing demand of the Board to assist with services and supports for individuals and families of Butler County. Dr. Rasmus wrote a letter on May 9<sup>th</sup> to Senator Lange, petitioning him to reinstate the introduced budget before their developed version.
- B. Burges & Burges Poll  
Dr. Rasmus shared the Burges & Burges polling survey. The behavioral health and tax levy status questions will be circulated countywide to 600 random, registered voters. Dr. Rasmus and Dean Langevin will be meeting with Burges & Burges to discuss whether to request a new levy on the November ballot. There will be a report provided by the June committee meetings. If the committees decide to move forward, it will need to be endorsed at the June full Board meeting.
- C. Channel 12 Promo “Your MH” Sponsors  
Local 12 News offered a Mental Health Month promotion in the amount of \$5,000. Local 12’s Liz Bonis is doing a series to spotlight mental health issues and the local mental health resources available in the Greater Cincinnati area. It will combine onsite news stories, the BCMHARSB logo, banner ads to promote the BCMHARSB site, and the logo will be tagged on Local 12’s Facebook post linking back to the BCMHARSB site.
- The PSA (Public Service Announcement) with the BCMHARSB logo was attached to BoardDocs for the meeting. Dr. Rasmus’ meta-analysis in 2017 was used to fact check the PSA which was changed to reflect that the one year prevalence of mental illness is more toward 1 out of 4 rather than 1 out of 5.
- C. Board receptionist search update  
The receptionist position has been posted on the Indeed website. The job description has remained the same but the salary has been adjusted.
- D. Dr. Rasmus provided summaries of the following articles 1 – 3:
1. Article 1: Bilingualism and Aging: Implications for (Delaying) Neurocognitive Decline  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8847162/>
  2. Article 2: Bill aims to protect substance abuse treatment coverage for defendants <https://epaper.journal->

[news.com/popovers/dynamic\\_article\\_popover.aspx?artguid=a2480a04-98da-4850-8bc6-bd8a19fc7b23&utm\\_source=app.pagesuite&utm\\_medium=app-interaction&utm\\_campaign=pagesuite-epaper-ipad\\_share-article&appcode=JOUNEW&eguid=d47a3b19-6055-4fc2-ab10-0c9cfdb96503&pnum=148#](https://www.epaperjournal-news.com/popovers/dynamic_article_popover.aspx?artguid=a2480a04-98da-4850-8bc6-bd8a19fc7b23&utm_source=app.pagesuite&utm_medium=app-interaction&utm_campaign=pagesuite-epaper-ipad_share-article&appcode=JOUNEW&eguid=d47a3b19-6055-4fc2-ab10-0c9cfdb96503&pnum=148#)

3. Article 3: What seniors can do to safeguard their mental health  
[https://epaper.journal-news.com/popovers/dynamic\\_article\\_popover.aspx?artguid=9fa69459-5fb4-4848-ba36-b72f3f211c2b&utm\\_source=app.pagesuite&utm\\_medium=app-interaction&utm\\_campaign=pagesuite-epaper-ipad\\_share-article&appcode=JOUNEW&eguid=d47a3b19-6055-4fc2-ab10-0c9cfdb96503&pnum=106#](https://www.epaperjournal-news.com/popovers/dynamic_article_popover.aspx?artguid=9fa69459-5fb4-4848-ba36-b72f3f211c2b&utm_source=app.pagesuite&utm_medium=app-interaction&utm_campaign=pagesuite-epaper-ipad_share-article&appcode=JOUNEW&eguid=d47a3b19-6055-4fc2-ab10-0c9cfdb96503&pnum=106#)

- E. Board Member Appreciation Month  
The June meeting will be Board Member Appreciation Month. Fairfield Pizza and refreshments will be provided.
- F. Miscellaneous  
The executive director evaluation will be at the June board meeting agenda. Dr. Rasmus will be sending out his annual evaluation report by Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup> to the board members. The Board members will then evaluate him via Survey Monkey between June 1<sup>st</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **3. Review of Committee Meetings**

- 3.01 **May – ARS Committee Meeting Review – John Silvani**  
John Silvani gave a brief update on the May ARS Committee meeting activities (see ARS May minutes).
- 3.02 **May – MH Committee Meeting Review – Kim McKinney**  
Ms. McKinney gave a brief update on the May MH Committee meeting activities (see MH May minutes).

### **4. New Business**

#### **4.01 Meeting Minutes**

- A. April Board Meeting Minutes
- B. April Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
- C. May ARS Meeting Minutes
- D. May MH Meeting Minutes
- E. Beckett Springs 120 Day meeting Minutes
- F. Big Brothers Big Sisters 120 Day Meeting minutes
- G. Forensic Evaluations Service Center 120 Day Meeting minutes
- H. NewPath 120 Day Meeting minutes

*Deb Robertson motioned to approve the Meeting Minutes. Rev. Smith seconded the motion. The vote carried the motion.*

#### 4.02 **Financial Reports**

The March 2023 Financial Report which represents 75% of the 2023 fiscal year. The current cash balance as of March 31, 2023 was \$18,607,190. For FY2023, the Board had budgeted \$18,436,148 and has collected \$10,599,224, which was 57.5% of its revenue. Year to date administration costs were \$1,300,950 with a budget of \$1,921,953, which was 67.7%. Total expenditures year to date were \$13,308,382 with a budget of \$20,079,511, which was 66.3%. The Board had spent \$13,308,382 and collected \$10,599,224, which leaving a balance of \$2,709,158.

\*It was noted that the financial reports are presented un-audited, no professional attestation procedures were performed on these reports.

*John Silvani motioned to approve the Financial Reports. Dave Swigonski seconded the motion. The vote carried the motion*

#### 4.03 **Annual Report**

Dr. Rasmus gave a review of the FY22 Annual Report. The projected total number of people served by the Butler County Mental Health and Addiction system, supported by the BCMHARSB, including non-Medicaid clients in FY22 was approximately 37,431. Based on 2020 US Census data, BCMHARSB supported system continues to reach nearly 10% of Butler County's total population of 390,357. It was noted that the psychotic disorders addressed in the past year increased from 3.46% in FY21 to 10.71% in FY22. This was a significant increase.

*Pat Deis-Gleeson motioned to approve the Annual Report. Mother Suzanne seconded the motion. The vote carried the motion.*

#### 4.04 **Organizational Chart**

The organizational chart was updated to reflect recent staff changes. The receptionist position is vacant.

*Judge Campbell motioned to approve the Organizational Chart. Mother Suzanne seconded the motion. The vote carried the motion.*

#### 4.05 **Sheriff's Request for Additional Nurse Practitioner Hours**

The Butler County Sheriff's office currently employs a psychiatrist, Adam Brule, who provides service of four hours per week. They would like to supplement this service with the aid of a psychiatric nurse practitioner. Initially the psychiatric nurse practitioner would provide two to three hours per week of telehealth or in-person services and then eventually would provide four hours of services per week. The expansion of services would allow for Dr. Brule to focus on in-person services for the higher priority clients

while adding additional time per week and therefore reducing the wait time for other client care.

The original letter approved at the February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 Board meeting requested a rate of pay in the amount of \$60 per hour for a total hourly cost of \$70.62.

The proposed rate of pay for the psychiatric nurse practitioner would be \$70 per hour with a fringe benefit rate of 17.7%. The total hourly cost would be \$82.39 per hour. Dr. Rasmus stated this change would add \$2,000 to \$3,000 annually.

*Judge Campbell motioned to approve the Sheriff's Request proposed rate of pay for the psychiatric nurse practitioner in the amount of \$70 per hour with a fringe benefit of 17.7%, the total hourly cost of \$82.39 per hour. Mother Suzanne seconded the motion. The vote carried the motion.*

#### 4.06 **Engagement Center Update**

The Board has already endorsed this funding at the March 2023 meeting but a language change is needed. Access Counseling is now requesting they receive their entire 3 months of levy funding for the Engagement Center for FY23, in monthly payments, to cover the last quarter of the current fiscal year. This is different than they requested in March 2023 to receive monthly allocations of these funds until the county ARPA funds are obtained. Originally, this funding was to bridge this time period while their county ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) application was completed and those funds were received. Additionally, with the implementation of the ARPA funds, Access Counseling now agrees to provide services through the end of March 2024 to support their center with the ARPA funds. Total funding for the period of April to June 2023 still remains the same amount of \$39,000. Access Counseling must complete monthly reporting due the 5<sup>th</sup> of every month to the Board for the previous month and complete grant financial documentation.

*Mother Suzanne motioned to approve the Engagement Center funding. John Silvani seconded the motion. The vote carried the motion.*

#### 4.07 **Fair Avenue Lease Agreement**

The Fair Avenue Lease Agreement in the amount of \$81,375.36 is from July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024. It is a 6% increase.

*Lonnie Tucker motioned to approve the Fair Avenue Lease Agreement. Rev. Cummings seconded the motion. The vote carried the motion.*

#### 4.08 **OOD Agreement**

The BCMHARS Board partners with OOD (Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities) to improve rehabilitation opportunities for individuals with a mental health diagnosis for the purposes of achieving employment, rehabilitation services, and independence. The Agreement and MOU (Memorandum and Understanding) is from October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 until September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 in the amount of \$75,862.

*Judge Campbell motioned to approve the OOD Agreement and MOU. Lonnie Tucker seconded the motion. The vote carried the motion.*

**4.09 Hamilton Joe's MOU**

The BCMHARSB will enter into a financial partnership with Hamilton Joe's in the amount of \$1,000. The Board will provide an outfield of 6' x 15' banner at their cost. Hamilton Joe's will provide 2 season passes to all regular season home games, 150 single game tickets at any regular season home game, a public announcement of the BCMHARSB's partnership at all home games, and a commercial on their live broadcast network. Hamilton Joe's will place the BCMHARSB's logo on their website. They will also allow the Board to have a reserved night at the ballpark with the first pitch, and free admission for First Responders.

*Rev. Cummings motioned to approve the Hamilton Joe's MOU. Judge Campbell seconded the motion. The vote carried the motion.*

**4.10 Mission and Vision**

The mission and vision statements were voted on by the board members. There was a predominant majority of a mission statement selected. There was a tie with the vision statements, and a few other suggestions were given. An ad hoc committee was chosen with Dr. Hunter, Pat Deis-Gleeson and Deb Robertson. Alternatives were also named including Judge Campbell, Father Pucke and Rev. Cummings. The date of the meeting will be either July 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m.

**4.11 State Hospital Report**

Mr. Fourman reviewed the April State Hospital Report. There were 17 forensic beds and 3 civil beds used in that month. Year to date, the average is 18.2 forensic beds and 2.7 civil beds.

*Rev. Cummings made a motion to create an advocacy subcommittee to address forensic beds and hospitals. Lonnie Tucker seconded the motion. The vote carried the motion.*

**4.12 Board Self Evaluation Review and Update (For Information Only)**

Dave Swigonski reviewed the updated April Board Survey Monkey results. 13 out of 18 board members answered and the results were discussed.

**4.13 Vouchers and Payments Made by Direct Deduction**

Darrell Burton discussed the current voucher approvals and direct deductions.

*Pat Deis-Gleeson motioned to approve the Vouchers and Payments Made by Direct Deduction. Pastor Bailey seconded the motion. The vote carried the motion.*

**5.     Guest and Board Comments**

**5.01    **Guest/Board Comments****

**6.     Adjournment**

The next board meeting will be on Wednesday, June 21st, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.