



**FAYETTE COUNTY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION**

215 JACOB MURPHY LANE, UNIONTOWN, PA 15401

LISA A. FERRIS, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

PHONE: (724) 430-1370

[WWW.FCBHA.ORG](http://www.FCBHA.ORG)

FAX: (724) 430-1386

**Advisory Board Meeting
February 19, 2020
Minutes**

I. Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Fayette County Behavioral Health Administration (FCBHA) Advisory Board took place February 19, 2020 at the FCBHA office located at 215 Jacob Murphy Lane, Uniontown. Dr. Denise Martin called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. The meeting started with a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. A quorum was present.

II. Roll Call

A. Ms. Carol Warman took the roll call. Members present included:

Mr. Andrew Boni
Ms. Karen Blocker
Dr. Paul Hartley
Mr. Harry Joseph
Dr. Denise Martin
Mr. Jeffrey Myers
Ms. Hillary Redman
Mr. Joseph Segilia
Ms. Carol Warman

B. Board Members absent included:

Mr. John Andursky
Dr. Joseph Labuda
Commissioner Vincent A. Vicites
Ms. Shannon Muma-Wallace

C. Staff Members present included:

Ms. Lisa A Ferris, Chief Executive Officer
Ms. Nicole Fijalkovic, Human Resources Manager
Mr. Harry Franks, Chief Financial Officer
Ms. Sherri Mitchell, Administrative Entity Director
Mr. David Rider, Mental Health Program Director
Ms. Stacey Evans, Executive Assistant

III. Audience Recognition – None



IV. Business

- A. Ms. Ferris started by advising the Board the three members whose terms ended December 31, 2019 were reappointed however the categories were not accurate at the Commissioner's meeting. We will put on the agenda for the next Commissioner's meeting to ratify. She advised their categories may change but their current term ending December 31, 2022 will remain the same.
 - B. Absenteeism-Ms. Ferris asked Board how they would like to address Mr. Andursky's absence in Board meetings. The Board agreed a letter should be sent to Mr. Andursky advising of the By-laws with respect to attendance. Ms. Evans will draft letter for Dr. Martin to sign and send to Mr. Andursky.
 - C. Approval of Board minutes-MS. Warman motioned to approve the minutes from the November 20, 2019 meeting. Mr. Myers motioned second. The motion carried unanimously.
- C. Program Updates

1. Financial Report-

Mr. Franks referred to Budget vs. Actual Expenses the financial report. He explained that the % Expense under or over budget are due to timing elements. Three in particular to note are 1) Office Equipment-due to purchase of two new servers and a Medical Records scanner 2) Equipment Furnishings due to purchase of Microsoft software updates and 3) Vehicle Lease due to converting from 3-month to 6-month lease for material savings. Mr. Boni asked about our cyber security with increase in hacker and scams lately. Mr. Franks advised the Board we have the best business security in place and consumer information is secure and protected. We have a very proficient and proactive IT department. Ms. Ferris added that the County is converting to electronic time keeping and chose our agency to pilot because of our attention to detail and proficiency. We have added a secure connection directly to the Courthouse and have regular trainings and meetings on HIPAA and Corporate Compliance. Mr. Rider added our consumer records are locked from the outside, can only be accessed internally and require employee sign on. Additionally, we have a limited number of licenses that can access the information.

2. Administrators Report-

Ms. Ferris reported the following:

- a) Respite-Ms. Ferris asked Mr. Rider to give an update. He stated although the process is slow moving, regular meetings and correspondences have occurred to work out the details and finalize operations procedures, etc. The next scheduled meeting will be March 2, 2020. There is a draft contract but will need to be modified for

- respite specific population. We require other Family Based community resources and supports be utilized, if eligible, prior to seeking respite. The number calls for respite have decreased significantly over the last five years.
- b) Behavioral Health Carve-Out-There is no current active proposed legislation putting the Carve-out in jeopardy but is sure to resurface. Ms. Ferris advised the Board to continue to engage lobbyist to keep the Carve-out. We will continue to highlight the successes of the Carve-out whenever possible, such as in our Newsletter. We have provided a Letter of Support to Gateway who continues to support integrated care. We even have one of their staff working her at this office.
 - c) Mental Health Association (MHA) Update-Ms. Ferris previously reported MHA was looking at a couple sites for relocating due to building being damaged by tornado a few years ago. She believed MHA would be seeking an already erected building since cost of renting at the Health Center continues to rise. However, Ms. Ferris was informed that new construction is still a possibility.
 - d) FCBHA Personnel- There are currently no temporary workers.
 - e) Autism Waiver Program-Ms. Mitchell advised there is no update from the State.
 - f) Fayette EMS Transport-Fayette EMS has not been transporting psych patients as of October 2019. Mr. Rider reached out to Managed Care Organizations (MCO) for contractual insight and discussions. In the meanwhile, a Westmorland EMS provider is providing transport. This makes the process slower due to its location. Emergency Departments are becoming full. Ms. Ferris has been in communication with our Solicitor and other legal persons for direction. Mr. Boni raised question about using EMS Southwest. Ms. Ferris advised it comes down to insurance. Medical Assistance (MA) patients have only for MCO options in Fayette County Gateway, Aetna, UPMC and United Healthcare. Not all four of them have a contract with Fayette EMS. Department of Human Services (DHS), a State department, holds the contract not us. We reached out to the State. Legislature asked County about Emergency Service boarding possible thinking is due to availability of receiving hospital. Mr. Rider referred to November 20, 2019 Advisory Board highlights mention of Disability Rights Network information that the County is responsible for MA eligible transports. Mr. Rider advised that was true prior to HealthChoices. We cannot braid this with HealthChoices. We did offer Fayette EMS administrative assistance in negotiating a higher rate. Refusing to transport psych patients is diagnostic based discrimination. Mr. Rider added that advocacy is not what it should be and what it is in bigger cities.
 - g) Genesis House Gala- As part of a sponsorship, FCBHA received four tickets to this event being held on February 27, 2020 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. She advised the Board they can have if they would like to attend.

3. Leadership Reports-

Ms. Fijalkovic reported the following:

Community Recognition Award (CRA)- In November meeting candidates were selected and at a subsequent HR Committee meeting, members voted on the winner. The awardee was not available to be presented with the award until the March 19, 2020 Commissioners Public meeting. Ms. Fijalkovic encouraged Board members to attend. Meeting begins at 10:00 a.m. at the Public Service Building.

Ms. Mitchell reported the following:

- a) At this year's Every Day Lives Conference, there were several interesting family member perspective presentations. One was of an individual's life growing up with an Autistic mother. Another spoke about his experiences adopting a child born with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. Ms. Mitchell would like to check into possibly bringing one of these individuals to speak locally.
- b) Polk State Center-Governor Wolfe vetoed request not to close the center. The family of the one Fayette County individual there asked that we contact them once the final decision on the center's future is made to plan that individual's relocation.
- c) Sensory Movie Night-The event was held at AMC Theatre in Uniontown. Turnout was good and included individuals with Autism, Intellectual Disabilities and Mental Illness. The movie was 2 hours long but not only were there no issues, the theater was so impressed they invited the group back for another sensory night.
- d) Autism intakes remain at 2-3 per week. We will open a case even if individual is not eligible for services as they may be in the future.
- e) Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month-During March, FCBHA will publish a Calendar of Events, hold the Annual Board Meets Board, and submit proclamation for the Fayette County Board of Commissioners to announce at their February 20, 2020 Public meeting. Board members are encouraged to attend one or more of the events happening in March.

Mr. Rider reported the following:

- a) Mental Health Awareness month is May. There will be events and information available in the near future.
- b) Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training will again be held this year. There have been approximately 60 Fayette County law enforcement officers trained in CIT.

D. Committee Reports

1. Executive Committee – This committee consists of the three Board officers and two other Board members chosen by the Board each year. Mr. Myers made a motion to keep the same members as were on this committee year's end 2019. Ms. Blocker motioned second. The motion carried unanimously.
2. Bylaws Committee – No Report
3. Finance & Data Committee –No Report
4. Human Resource Committee – No Report
5. Mental Health Committee – No Report
6. Developmental Disabilities Committee – No Report
7. HealthChoices Advisory Board Representative-Dr. Martin opened the nomination for two representatives. Ms. Warman made a motion to keep the same members that represented this Board last year. Dr. Hartley motioned second. The motion carried unanimously.

V. Other –

- * Commissioner Vicites asked for current status of Senate Bills/House Bills that were of concern of the Board last year. Ms. Ferris gave an update on the Carve-out explaining that County programs will suffer if not funded by HealthChoices Carve-out. She stated there is not current push to change the legislation. Cost of living adjustment restoration would be beneficial. Commissioner Vicites added that CCAP is working on structure with non-profits to gain municipal authority.
- * Pa Budget-Mr. Franks advised DHS hearings are being conducted next Wednesday, February 26, 2020. One challenge is the proposed \$12/hour minimum wage.

VI. Adjournment –Dr. Hartley motioned to adjourn at 6:40 PM. Mr. Myers motioned second. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by: Stacey Evans, Executive Assistant

Denise M. Martin
Approved by:

11/23/2020
Date