

*317 Board*  
*Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Services Board*

**Athens-Hocking-Vinton 317 Board Meeting Minutes**

**September 25, 2023**

**Meeting Was Held In-Person and Virtual**

- Present:** Tonya Bowden, Chair, Jayne Darling, Dr. Tom Davis, Ralph Evans, Maeve Gallagher, Dr. Joe Gay, Rhea Hopstetter, Dr. Ron Luce, Robert Orth, Anne Rubin, and Shei Sanchez
- Absent:** Heather Batin, Tamara Norway, Patricia Robinette, and Jacqueline Stobbs
- Guests:** Grant DeLancey, BDT Architects, James Kimbe, and Ruth Russell, NAMI Athens
- Virtual:** Betsy Anderson, SG, Jessica Hall, Nationwide Children's Hospital, Dr. Jennifer Grant Weinandy, OU, Tatum L'Heureux, Board Intern, Ellen Martin, HRS, and Dr. Sherry Shamblin, HHC
- Staff:** Amanda Conrath, Kim Crum, Svea Maxwell, Marissa McDaid, Beth Mohammed, Diane Pfaff, Kim Robinson, and Sherri Tyree

Ms. Bowden called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and reminded board members of vacancies.

**I. Adoption of Agenda**

**24:09:18**

Dr. Gay moved to approve the agenda; Mr. Orth seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

**24:09:19**

Ms. Rubin moved to approve the August 28, 2023 board meeting minutes; Ms. Darling seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**III. Public Comment**

1. Mr. Kimbe announced he is in recovery and his clinician from Hopewell Health Centers suggested that he attend the board meeting to explore his interest in becoming a board member.
2. Dr. Weinandy introduced herself as an Ohio University Professor and clinical psychologist with a focus on substance use disorders. She said she is new to the area, accepting new patients and interested in collaborating.

**IV. Agency Updates**

**1. Dr. Sherry Shamblin, Hopewell Health Centers**

Ms. Shamblin reported they were funded for a Community Behavioral Health Center Expansion Grant. The Supported Employment will be completing a fidelity review and their First Episode Psychosis Team was asked to pilot a new fidelity tool; it is



helpful to have a rural program's input into these reviews. She also said their school-based staff have partnered with Nationwide Children's Hospital for Signs of Suicide prevention services.

**2. Ellen Martin, Health Recovery Services**

Ms. Martin reported on recovery and suicide prevention month. She also said the first NARCAN vending machine has been installed at the rest stop on State Route 32. Ms. Martin discussed cocktail drugs including Xylazine. She briefly discussed the potential government shut down and the effect it would have on Medicaid redeterminations.

**3. Betsy Anderson, Serenity Grove**

Ms. Anderson reported they have eight women in the residence and will have an open house on October 15<sup>th</sup>. She also said they are putting the finishing touches on the renovation.

**V. Annual Board Member Training**

Ruth Russell, Vice President, NAMI Athens presented a training on Mental Health First Aid.

**VI. Staff Updates**

**1. Sherry Tyree, Community Services Manager**

- Ms. Tyree discussed the RFP focused on Hocking County. The RFP was released to contract agencies, community partners, other organizations, and government entities on September 8. It was also posted in the three county newspapers and the board website. The preliminary application is due October 6<sup>th</sup>, After review by staff, the invitation to submit a full application for those who qualify will be sent on October 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Ms. Tyree gave an overview of the investment partnership with the Osteopathic Heritage Foundation of Nelsonville to assist in reducing the amount of vacant positions at the board contract agencies and increase the number of behavioral health professionals who are employed in the Network of Care.
  - Occumetrics: An evidence-based, workplace wellness assessment by Mental Health America of Ohio to determine the unique characteristics within the organization that affect retention and job satisfaction, consists of: In-depth survey & data analysis, focus groups, and recommendations in eight areas of wellness: Burnout, Manager/Colleague support, Distributive Justice, Control/Autonomy, Work Demands, Interpersonal Relationships, Job Role, and Organizational Change. Four Contracted Agencies chose to engage—three are in process and the fourth is scheduled to begin in October.
  - Workforce Retention & Recruitment RFP Year 1: Agencies have submitted their annual reports. After reviewing there are some clarifications needed from the agencies. The Report will be submitted at the November Board meeting.

**2. Kim Crum, Community Services Coordinator**

Ms. Crum discussed the Access to Wellness program and a potential multi-board collaboration.

**3. Marissa McDaid, Communications and Community Engagement Specialist**

- Ms. McDaid reported on Overdose Awareness Day activities. She also said Ms. Norway and Ms. Hopstetter joined her in receiving a proclamation from the Hocking County Commissioners for Overdose Awareness Day.
- Ms. McDaid reported the Board had received a four star rating (highest) from the state auditor's office for implementing at least five best practices in their "monitoring transparency in government" assessment.

**4. Amanda Conrath, Fiscal Manager**

Ms. Conrath reported the Audit Exit interview was held on September 14<sup>th</sup> and there were no findings or management letters. Ms. Conrath thanked the members that attended.

**5. Svea Maxwell, Deputy Director**

- Ms. Maxwell introduced Tatum L'Heureux, High School Board Intern.
- Ms. Maxwell said the painting project at the John W. Clem Recovery House has been completed. Also, the sidewalk repairs have been completed.
- Ms. Maxwell said OMHAS provided closeout instructions for boards and providers for SOS 3.0 (State Opioid and Stimulant Response) and anticipates sending the guidance memorandum for continued funding within one week. The Department will honor the commitment to maintain partner funding at the SOR 2.2 funding level (FY22) of \$2 million.

**6. Diane Pfaff, Executive Director**

- Ms. Pfaff gave a brief update on the annual meeting which will be held at Lake Hope Lodge.
- Ms. Pfaff discussed the biennium budget which included a 10% increase in Medicaid rates which is anticipated to go into effect in January. She stated the Board historically matches Medicaid rates.
- Ms. Pfaff said HB 249 has been introduced which will make updates to Ohio Revised Code 5122; changes include allowing State Highway Patrol to take people into protective custody, and changes to the requirement to transfer people from the ER to a psychiatric hospital within 24 hours because it is not always possible to meet this standard.

**VII. Contracts and Construction Report.**

Ms. Maxwell reported that an additional four staff computers have been upgraded and the remaining computers will be upgraded after the renovation.

**VIII. Old Business**

**24:09:20**

**Resolution 24-09-09**

**1. Board Renovation Bid Acceptance**

Ms. Pfaff stated that the architect, Ms. Maxwell and she opened the bids submitted by the deadline at BDT Architects office. Three qualified bids were received. The lowest

bid of \$433,134 was submitted by Stockmeister Enterprises, Inc. with three alternates. The flat roof alternate will be postponed. Dr. Davis moved to approve Resolution 24-09-08-Acceptance of Bid; Dr. Luce seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**2. Unallocated Levy Funding**

Ms. Pfaff discussed the Request for Proposals for Hocking County projects which is underway. She also said that the funding for Athens and Vinton counties is less and may be needed for the Medicaid rate increases.

**3. 2022 State Audit**

**24:09:21**

Ms. Pfaff thanked Ms. Conrath and the staff for their work during the auditing process. Ms. Rubin moved to accept the 2022 State Audit; Mr. Orth seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**IX. New Business**

**1. CY 2023 Appropriation Increase**

**24:09:22**

**Resolution 24-09-10**

Ms. Conrath explained the increase would allow the agencies to be paid through the end of the year. Mr. Orth moved to approve the Resolution 24-09-09-CY 2023 Appropriation Increase; Ms. Sanchez seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**2. FY 2024 Budget Amendment**

**24:09:23**

**Resolution 24-09-11**

Ms. Conrath explained the revisions in the FY 2024 Budget Amendment resolution:

- 5,000 increase to Recovery Housing
- New Prevention funding totaling 32,837
- Community Transition Program funding for 25,000
- Early Intervention funding for 55,000
- Week of Appreciation funding from OACBHA 4,500
- Carryover of 8,000 for community investment

Dr. Davis moved to approve Resolution 24-09-10 FY 2024 Budget Amendment; Dr. Gay seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**X. Adjournment**

**24:09:24**

Dr. Davis moved to adjourn the meeting; Dr. Gay seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Submitted by:

---

Diane Pfaff  
Executive Director

---

Tonya Bowden  
Chair

## **Athens-Hocking-Vinton 317 Board Annual Meeting**

### **Minutes**

**October 23, 2023**

- Present:** Tonya Bowden, Chair, Heather Batin, Dr. Joe Gay, Maeve Gallagher, Dr. Ron Luce, Robert Orth, Patricia Robinette, Anne Rubin, Shei Sanchez, and Jaqueline Stobbs
- Absent:** Dr. Tom Davis, Jayne Darling, Ralph Evans, Rhea Hopstetter, and Tamara Norway
- Staff:** Amanda Conrath, Kim Crum, Svea Maxwell, Marissa McDaid, Beth Mohammed, Kim Robinson, Diane Pfaff, and Sherri Tyree

The 2023 Annual Meeting recognizing community advocates was held at the Lake Hope Lodge in Vinton County.

#### **I. Award Presentations**

Ms. Bowden called the Annual Meeting to order at 6:23 pm and welcomed guests, board members, and agency staff.

Advocacy awards were presented to individuals from the three county area for their dedicated service to the Athens, Hocking and Vinton communities.

#### **Behavioral Health Awards**

- The first Athens County Behavioral Health Advocate award was presented to Jacelyn McGaughey for her advocacy for students. As a START caseworker, she goes above and beyond to create an environment where the individual feels comfortable enough to work with her to meet their goal of sobriety, learning to live sober again.
- The second Athens County Behavioral Health Advocate award was presented to Shawn Stover. As a re-entry Program Coordinator, he assists prisoners being released from the state correction system and is an active member of Athens HOPE.
- The first Hocking County Behavioral Health Advocate award was presented to Kathy Shepler. As the Specialty Docket Coordinator and probation officer at the Hocking County Municipal Court she goes above and beyond in working with the drug courts.



- The second Hocking County Behavioral Health Advocate award was presented to Allison Blazer she is a strong advocate for the families that she works with and often provides support to folks who are in the midst of multiple crisis and she is able to provide unbiased services helping the client to have the information and support to make the best choices of their lives.
- The Vinton County Behavioral Health Advocate award was awarded to the Vinton County Health Department's Post-Overdose Response Team for their numerous community health initiatives. The PORT includes Melanie Carte, Tia Elliot, Jeff Woodrum, Susan Urban, Nancy Bauer Jodie Lucas, Seth Fannin and Nicole Hire.
- Ciara Fox, Director of the Vinton County Health Department and staff was presented with a Behavioral Health Advocate award for all staff support for the PORT.
- The Rita Gillick Mental Health Advocate award was presented to Melissa Robson for her strong support for consumers during their recovery process and bridges the gap between them and legal offense referral sources. Melissa is both kind and generous without being enabling. Always willing to help at any time or any place she is a welcome resource of accurate information for professionals as well as those she serves on her caseload, many of whom are families that she has helped generationally.
- The Valeria "Taffy" Marks Substance Abuse Prevention award was presented to Lily Niple-Jenkins for her dedicated support to consumers during their recovery process and bridges the gap between them and legal offense referral sources. Melissa is both kind and generous without being enabling. Always willing to help at any time or any place she is a welcome resource of accurate information for professionals as well as those she serves on her caseload, many of whom are families that she has helped generationally.

## II. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Submitted by,

---

Diane Pfaff, Executive Director

---

Tonya Bowden, Chair