

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

Athens-Hocking-Vinton 317 Board Meeting Minutes

November 24, 2025

Meeting Was Held In-Person and Virtual

Present: Rhea Hopstetter, Chair, Tonya Bowden, JoAnna Carter, Dr. Tom Davis, Maeve Gallagher, Dr. Ron Luce, Robert Orth, Patricia Robinette, Anne Rubin, and Dr. Wenda Sheard

Absent: Heather Batin, Dumitru Sabaiduc, Robert Salizzoni, Shei Sanchez, and Tom Williamson

Guests: Tony Coder, OSPF, Steve Thomas, TASC, Nate Thomson, APP, and Justin Wheeler

Virtual: Nancy Dotson, HRS, Jodie Lucas

Staff: Amanda Conrath, Kim Crum, Svea Maxwell, Beth Mohammed, Diane Pfaff, Kim Robinson, Sherri Tyree, and Tisha Springer, Board COMcorps member volunteer

Ms. Hopstetter called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and announced a Consent Agenda would be used due to a board member attending virtually.

I. Adoption of Consent Agenda Items: Agenda and Minutes

26:11:23

Ms. Gallagher moved to approve the agenda and October 27, 2025 minutes; Ms. Rubin seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

II. Public Comment

Mr. Wheeler introduced himself and said he is interested in serving on the board.

III. Annual Board Member Training

Mr. Coder presented the annual board training covering suicide statistics and prevention and postvention strategies.

IV. Staff Updates

1. Kim Crum, Community Services Manager

Ms. Crum reported on the increase of for-profit treatment providers coming into the counties. She also said staff is aware that Nex Level Behavioral Health & Addiction Services has recently used the Board logo on their brochures. Ms. Crum explained the Board is not contracting or working with Nex Level, and they have been instructed to remove the Board's logo.

2. Amanda Conrath, Fiscal Director

Ms. Conrath reported on the SOS grant ending September 29, 2025. She reviewed a handout that showed final expenditures of the post SOS grant, and requested funding for the grant beginning Sept 30, 2025.



Serving Athens, Hocking, and Vinton Counties

7990 Dairy Lane, PO Box 130, Athens, OH 45701 ~ Voice and TDD (740) 593-3177 ~ Fax (740) 592-1996

Equal Opportunity Employer

3. Sherri Tyree, Quality and Planning Director

Ms. Tyree reported on the recent Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) for law enforcement which coincided with the 25th anniversary of CIT.

4. Svea Maxwell, Deputy Director

Ms. Maxwell said the Board is required to be a member of the county Suicide Fatality Review Boards. She said the Athens County Coroner's office has developed an organized and well thought out program. Ms. Crum said she attended an overdose fatality review in Vinton County and the group discussed a combined suicide and overdose fatality review board.

Ms. Maxwell reported on a quote for around \$4,000 to install panels to improve the acoustics in the conference room that was discussed at a prior meeting. The installation should begin in the next few months.

V. Executive Director Report

Ms. Pfaff reported on the property tax issues. She said there were 14 ADAMH Board levies on the ballot and 13 passed; all local levies passed. Ms. Pfaff stated that levy funding is 46% of the Board's budget. She said the 317 Board only does renewal levies which do not increase peoples taxes. She shared a slide from a Hocking County property showing the reduction factor that is applied so that the same amount is paid each year.

Ms. Pfaff reported proposed changes in HUD funding could affect the Board owned property Serenity Village project in The Plains.

Ms. Pfaff reported the previously approved communications audit has begun. Staff from MoDo Media was onsite and spoke with staff, board members, and community partners. A report on their recommendations will be available at the January meeting.

Ms. Crum and Ms. Conrath have organized a staff retreat on December 2nd. The Board office will be closed while the staff is at the Lodge at Hocking College for teambuilding and community service by packing food for Rescue Kitchen.

VI. Executive Session

26:11:24

Ms. Hopstetter requested a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss Executive Director Compensation. Dr. Luce moved to go into Executive Session; Ms. Bowman seconded. A roll call vote was taken with the following result:

Ms. Bowden, Yes, Ms. Carter, Yes, Dr. Davis, Yes, Ms. Gallagher, Yes, Ms. Hopstetter, Yes, Dr. Luce, Yes, Mr. Orth, Yes, Ms. Robinette, Yes, Ms. Rubin, Yes, and Dr. Sheard, Yes.

The motion was unanimously approved. Executive Session began at 6:53 p.m. and ended at 7:02 p.m.

26:11:25

The meeting was reconvened back into public session. Dr. Luce moved to approve the executive director's salary increase of 3% plus 2% with a total salary of \$125,677.65 effective January 1, 2026; Dr. Davis seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

VII. Old Business

26:11:26

1. Strategic Plan

Ms. Pfaff said discussed the proposed Strategic Plan. Ms. Tyree said there are twelve key strategies and eight fall under the Community Plan which is reported to ODBH annually. Ms. Pfaff said the Community Plan would be brought to the January meeting for improvement. Ms. Robinette moved

to approve the Strategic Plan as written; Dr. Sheard seconded. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Ms. Bowden, Yes, Ms. Carter, Yes, Dr. Davis, Yes, Ms. Gallagher, Yes, Ms. Hopstetter, Yes, Dr. Luce, Yes, Mr. Orth, Yes, Ms. Robinette, Yes, Ms. Rubin, Yes, and Dr. Sheard, Yes. The motion was unanimously approved.

2. Woods at Dairy Lane

Ms. Pfaff reported on the continued preparation work for submitting a funding application through OHFA. The expected development partner has backed out and Ms. Maxwell is working to identify other potential development partners. Ms. Pfaff also said she continues to work with David Mott, the attorney, on the site control and zoning. She also reported that a private citizen, who wishes to remain anonymous, has offered a \$50,000 donation to the Dairy Lane project.

VIII. New Business

1. CY 2025 Appropriation Authorization-Year End

26:11:27

Resolution 26-11-08

Ms. Conrath explained the resolution authorizes the executive director or fiscal director to make adjustments if, as needed, in the CY 2025 Appropriations to close the calendar year books and report to the members at the next meeting. Mr. Orth moved to approve Resolution 26-11-08-CY 2025 Appropriations Authorization; Ms. Gallagher seconded. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Ms. Bowden, Yes, Ms. Carter, Yes, Dr. Davis, Yes, Ms. Gallagher, Yes, Ms. Hopstetter, Yes, Dr. Luce, Yes, Mr. Orth, Yes, Ms. Robinette, Yes, Ms. Rubin, Yes, and Dr. Sheard, Yes. The motion was unanimously approved.

2. CY 2026 Appropriation Resolution

26:11:28

Resolution 26-11-09

Ms. Conrath explained the resolution has projected expenditures for the 2026 Calendar year. This is reported to the County auditors and is updated throughout the year by budget amendments approved by the board. Ms. Bowden moved to approved Resolution 26-11-09-CY 2026 Appropriations; Mr. Orth seconded. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Ms. Bowden, Yes, Ms. Carter, Yes, Dr. Davis, Yes, Ms. Gallagher, Yes, Ms. Hopstetter, Yes, Dr. Luce, Yes, Mr. Orth, Yes, Ms. Robinette, Yes, Ms. Rubin, Yes, and Dr. Sheard, Yes. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. SOS Contract Authorization

26:11:29

Resolution 26-11-10

Ms. Conrath explained the resolution is pending grant approval from the ODBH. Dr. Sheard said the resolution language should be amended with the contingency language moved into the NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED section of the document to make it clearer. Ms. Pfaff said that amendment could be made on the signed copy of the resolution. Dr. Sheard moved to approve Resolution 26-11-10-SOS Contract Authorization with amended language; Ms. Gallagher seconded. A roll call vote was taken with the following result:

Ms. Bowden, Yes, Ms. Carter, Yes, Dr. Davis, Yes, Ms. Gallagher, Yes, Ms. Hopstetter, Yes, Dr. Luce, Yes, Mr. Orth, Yes, Ms. Robinette, Yes, Ms. Rubin, Yes, and Dr. Sheard, Yes. The motion was unanimously approved.

26:11:30

Dr. Sheard moved to approve Resolution 26-11-10 with the amended language; Ms. Gallagher

seconded. A roll call vote was taken with the following result:

Ms. Bowden, Yes, Ms. Carter, Yes, Dr. Davis, Yes, Ms. Gallagher, Yes, Ms. Hopstetter, Yes, Dr. Luce, Yes, Mr. Orth, Yes, Ms. Robinette, Yes, Ms. Rubin, Yes, and Dr. Sheard, Yes. The motion was unanimously approved.

X. Unallocated Funding

Ms. Pfaff presented a slide explaining there is unallocated levy funding in the FY 2026 budget of \$344,801.76 and unspent funds from prior years which are available. Ms. Pfaff suggested an open RFP process focusing on children and families and kinship care. The funding could be open to any non-profit or governmental agency in the Board area and to support activities in each county. Board members were receptive to this approach and Ms. Pfaff will bring more information to the next meeting.

XI. Application for Funding

26:11:31

Ms. Pfaff discussed requiring updated applications for funding from all current contract agencies for SFY 2027, as it has been several years since that has been required. She discussed the proposed schedule which would begin in January and be brought to the Board in May and June in advance of the next fiscal year. She also suggested that using a risk-based approach for subsequent years.

Dr. Luce moved to accept the application for funding process; Ms. Robinette seconded. A roll call vote was taken with the following result:

Ms. Bowden, Yes, Ms. Carter, Yes, Dr. Davis, Yes, Ms. Gallagher, Yes, Ms. Hopstetter, Yes, Dr. Luce, Yes, Mr. Orth, Yes, Ms. Robinette, Yes, Ms. Rubin, Yes, and Dr. Sheard, Yes. The motion was unanimously approved.

XII. Other

Dr. Davis apologized for not attending in person. He also said the Board did not give any feedback on their vote for compensation and that they appreciate Ms. Pfaff and her commitment to the work that the Board is trying to accomplish and value it very much.

XIII. Adjournment

26:11:32

Dr. Luce moved to adjourn the meeting; Dr. Davis seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Submitted by:

Diane Pfaff
Executive Director

Rhea Hopstetter
Chair