Athens-Hocking-Vinton 317 Board Meeting Minutes

August 24, 2026

Meeting Was Held In-Person and Virtual

Members Present:	Robert Orth, Chair, Heather Batin, Dr. Tom Davis, Rhea Hopstetter, Dr. Ron Luce, Patricia Robinette, Anne Rubin, and Dimitru Sabaiduc
Members Virtual:	Shei Sanchez
Members Absent:	Tonya Bowden, JoAnna Carter, Maeve Gallagher, and Justin Maiden
Guests Present:	CJ Martin, Charlie Health
Guests Virtual:	Nancy Dotson, HRS and Dr. Sherry Shamblin, HHC
Staff Present:	Amanda Conrath, Kim Crum, Beth Mohammed, Diane Pfaff, Tisha Springer, Tamara Tate, Svea Maxwell, and Sherri Tyree

Mr. Orth called the meeting to order at 5:59 p.m.

I. Adoption of Consent Agenda
27:08:11
Ms. Batin moved to approve the August 24, 2026 consent agenda; Dr. Luce seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

II. Public Comment
A. Mr. Martin provided a brief overview of the services offered by Charlie Health.

IV. Agency Updates
A. Dr. Sherry Shamblin, Hopewell Health Centers
Dr. Shamblin reported that the agency has been busy with the start of the school year which generates new referrals. She also reported on the placement of new OU doctoral fellowship students at HHC which continues a program that began several years ago through the Board's workforce development funding.

B. Nancy Dotson, Health Recovery Services
Ms. Dotson reported that HRS's residential programs were recognized by Newsweek as among the best residential treatment centers in Ohio. The Rural Women's Recovery Program (RWRP) ranked 10th, and Bassett House ranked 11th. She also announced that HRS will host Overdose Awareness Day on August 31st in the parking lot at their Columbus Road location.

V. Staff Updates

A. Amanda Conrath, Fiscal Director

- Ms. Conrath said July financials were uploaded today – there was delay in posting due to a formatting issue with the special projects report. Financials are uploaded monthly with review and approval happening quarterly. The financials are reviewed in detail at the Executive Meeting and highlights given at the full board with the opportunity for questions during both fiscal sessions.
- 2027 Resolution Accepting Amounts and Rates
  There will be a short business meeting prior to the start of the annual meeting to approve the '27 Resolution Accepting Amounts and Rates that is due October 1st. This is a yearly approval generated by the county commissioners which has been delayed.

- SOS Update
  The grant will be ending Sept 29th with final expenditures due mid-October. Estimated balances are being reviewed with agencies to redirect spending where needed. The Board has the authority to move up to 10% of the funding between agencies. The release of funding guidelines for the upcoming grant cycle is anticipated to be received in the coming weeks.
- Audit
  The audit will be closing in the coming weeks. An exit interview will be held, and members will receive an invitation by email. A zoom option will be provided.
- Medical Leave
  Ms. Conrath announced she will be on medical leave beginning Aug 26th for a routine procedure. She will be out of the office for a few weeks but plans to work from home and part-time throughout the healing process.

B. Sherri Tyree, Quality and Planning Director

Ms. Tyree reported that the past month was focused on quality reporting with the following reports submitted:

- The new Community BH Board Report to ODBH for SFY 26.
- Revising SFY 2027 report templates to collect several new required data points.
- Several state programs funded by the 317 Board now require monthly, quarterly, bi-annual and annual reports – requiring another pivot in processes.
- SFY 2026 year-end outcome reports have been submitted, and dashboards are being created:
  - In alignment with strategic plan;
  - Three main categories: Recovery Housing, Housing, and Standard Programs;
  - Methodical review process with agencies to ensure data accuracy;
  - SFY 2027 funding 49 programs across 24 agencies;
  - On target to have dashboard reporting for SFY 2027.

C. Kim Crum, Community Services Manager

Ms. Crum reported that Groundwork Ohio, a statewide policy and advocacy organization focused on youth, asked the Board to collaborate on site visits to Athens County and roundtable discussions about the needs of children. The meeting is scheduled for September 30th.

D. Tisha Springer, Community Engagement Coordinator

Ms. Springer provided a brief overview of the Overdose Awareness Day events. Events will be held in Athens County on August 31st, Hocking County on August 26th, Vinton County on August 27th, and at Ohio University on September 1st.

E. Svea Maxwell, Deputy Director

- Ms. Maxwell reported that she and Ms. Pfaff met with ODBH staff last week to review some minor changes to our capital application. The application was resubmitted for review.
- BSCA (Bipartisan Safer Communities Act) year 3 RFA was released on the 14th. The intent of the funds are to create a comprehensive behavioral health disaster preparedness plan. The previous two grant cycles focused on local needs/gaps and developing a BH amendment for each county EMA disaster plan and creating a shared pool of NOVA (National Organization for Victim Advocacy) Community Crisis Response Teams with the GJM Board area. The Board will apply for funding to support a crisis communication plan which was identified as the next priority.

VI. Executive Director Report

- Ms. Pfaff shared the sad news that Ms. Carter's husband had passed away. A sympathy card was circulated for Board members to sign.
- Ms. Pfaff reported the work with Modo Media was going well.
- The Board and seven other boards in Southeast Ohio are collaborating on an anti-stigma project that includes a filming event in Cambridge. Board members were invited to participate; an event flyer was shared.
- Ms. Pfaff provided an update on the annual meeting.
- Ms. Pfaff reported the Ohio Department of Behavioral Health has revoked Robert Salizzoni's membership on the Board. There are currently 13 members on the Board with 5 vacancies; 3 vacancies in Athens and 2 in Hocking and of the five vacancies, three should be filled by men to maintain the appropriate gender balance on the Board. There has been a parent that was identified as a potential candidate.
- The Executive Director Evaluation process has begun with surveys sent to staff and agencies. Board members will receive a survey in September.

VII. Contracts and Construction

- Ms. Pfaff reported she had signed a contract with Better Work Week, the board's Smartsheet consultant, Kayla Sweeny, to manage the surveys and data for the annual evaluation at a cost not to exceed $2,600.
- Ms. Pfaff explained that after meeting staff at Sunday Creek Horizons, she plans, unless the Board objects, to give 30 days' notice and end the contract because the objective was achieved. Work with Sunday Creek Horizons may be pursued in the future if there is a new need.

VIII. Old Business

Prior Year Unutilized Funding

27:08:12

Ms. Pfaff briefly reviewed the funding approved at the July meeting and the funding strategies that were tabled, including Children and Families, Medicaid changes, and

Community Partnership funding. She presented draft guidelines for the Community Partnership Fund, and thanked Ms. Sanchez for her review and questions. Following further discussion, Dr. Luce moved to approve $50,000 in Community Partnership funding and authorize the Executive Director to enter into agreements with organizations that meet the established guidelines and report on the newly approved projects at the next Board meeting. Mr. Sabaiduc seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with the following result: Ms. Batin, Yes, Dr. Davis, Yes, Ms. Hopstetter, Yes, Dr. Luce, Yes, Mr. Orth, Yes, Ms. Robinette, Yes, Ms. Rubin, Yes, Mr. Sabaiduc, Yes, and Ms. Sanchez, Yes. The motion was unanimously approved. Further discussion included turn-round time for application and funding received and fiscal responsibility for each grant.

Board Member Survey

Ms. Batin reported that she had received five Board Member Profile surveys. She said the soft deadline for submitting the surveys is the September Annual Meeting, and that she will present the results at the October Board meeting.

IX. New Business

A. CY 2026 Appropriation Increase

27:08:13

Resolution 27-08-06

Ms. Conrath explained the resolution will increase the appropriation at the county auditor's office to cover increased contract agency expenditures due to new funding. Ms. Batin moved to approve the CY 2026 Appropriation Increase Resolution; Ms. Hopstetter seconded. A roll call vote was taken with the following result: Ms. Batin, Yes, Dr. Davis, Yes, Ms. Hopstetter, Yes, Dr. Luce, Yes, Mr. Orth, Yes, Ms. Robinette, Yes, Ms. Rubin, Yes, Mr. Sabaiduc, Yes, and Ms. Sanchez, Yes. The motion was unanimously approved.

B. Transfer Funds from General Fund to Construction Fund

27:08:14

Resolution 27-08-07

Ms. Conrath discussed the resolution to transfer funding out of general fund to the construction fund for the Woods at Dairy Lane project approved at the July board meeting. Dr. Davis moved to approve the Fund Transfer/Appropriation Resolution from General Fund to Construction Fund; Dr. Luce seconded. A roll call vote was taken with the following result: Ms. Batin, Yes, Dr. Davis, Yes, Ms. Hopstetter, Yes, Dr. Luce, Yes, Mr. Orth, Yes, Ms. Robinette, Yes, Ms. Rubin, Yes, Mr. Sabaiduc, Yes, and Ms. Sanchez, Yes. The motion was unanimously approved.

C. SFY 2027 Budget Amendment Resolution

27:08:15

Resolution 27-08-08

Ms. Conrath reported the receipt of $100,000 for the court Addiction Treatment (ATP) programs from DBH. She explained how this will be combined with $115,929 that courts did not spend from the previous fiscal year. After further discussion, Dr. Luce moved to approve the SFY 2027 Budget Amendment; Ms. Robinette seconded. A roll call vote was taken with the following result: Ms. Batin, Yes, Dr. Davis, Yes, Ms. Hopstetter, Yes, Dr.

Luce, Yes, Mr. Orth, Yes, Ms. Robinette, Yes, Ms. Rubin, Yes, Mr. Sabaiduc, Yes, and Ms. Sanchez, Yes.

D. SFY 2027 Resolution to Sign Contracts
27:08:16
Resolution 27-08-09
Dr. Luce moved to approve the 317 Board Contract Authorization. Ms. Batin seconded. A roll call vote was taken with the following result: Ms. Batin, Yes, Dr. Davis, Yes, Ms. Hopstetter, Yes, Dr. Luce, Yes, Mr. Orth, Yes, Ms. Robinette, Yes, Ms. Rubin, Yes, Mr. Sabaiduc, Yes, and Ms. Sanchez, Yes. The motion was unanimously approved.

E. Annual Training
Ms. Pfaff distributed a handout of topics for the Annual Board Member Training held every year before the board meeting in November for the members to select their choices for this year's training.

X. Other
There was no other business to come before the Board.

XI. Adjournment
27:08:17
Dr. Davis moved to adjourn the meeting; Ms. Batin seconded. The meeting adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Submitted by:

_____
Diane Pfaff
Executive Director

_____
Robert Orth
Chair