Athens-Hocking-Vinton 317 Board Meeting Minutes

October 26, 2026

Meeting Was Held In-Person and Virtual

Members Present:	Tom Davis, Acting Chair, Heather Batin, Tonya Bowden, JoAnna Carter, Rhea Hopstetter, Dr. Ron Luce, Justin Maiden Anne Rubin, Dimitru Sabaiduc, and Shei Sanchez
Members Virtual:	None
Members Absent:	Maeve Gallagher, Robert Orth, and Patricia Robinette
Guests Present:	Ginger Schmalenberg, TGP and Nate Thomson, APP
Guests Virtual:	Betsy Anderson, SG, Nancy Dotson, HRS,
Staff Present:	Amanda Conrath, Kim Crum, Svea Maxwell, Beth Mohammed, Diane Pfaff, Hattie Sherman, Tisha Springer, Tamara Tate, and Sherri Tyree

Dr. Davis called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and announced that Robert Orth could not attend the meeting, and he commented on the success of the Annual Meeting and the celebration of award winners.

I. Adoption of Agenda
27:10:18
Ms. Batin moved to approve the October 26, 2026 agenda; Ms. Bowden seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

II. Adoption of Minutes
27:10:19
Ms. Batin moved to approve the August 24, 2026 board meeting minutes and September 28, 2026 Annual Meeting minutes; Ms. Sanchez seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

III. Public Comment
There was no Public Comment.

IV. Agency Updates
A. Ginger Schmalenberg, The Gathering Place
Ms. Schmalenberg shared a presentation from their 50th Anniversary celebration.

V. Staff Updates

A. Amanda Conrath, Fiscal Director

- Ms. Conrath reported that September 29th marked the end of the previous SOS fiscal year. All funding was expended, with minor year-end budget adjustments. The Board was able to recoup personnel costs associated with Ms. Maxwell's and Ms. Conrath's time spent on the funding process.
- The new funding cycle was awarded at the same amount as the previous grant, with the addition of $47,997 that was previously awarded to ISBH for The Hive and will now be managed by the Board. Agency budgets for the 2027 year are being submitted for final Board and DBH approval.

B. Sherri Tyree, Quality and Planning Director

Ms. Tyree reported that she attended a Ripple Effect Mapping training at Serenity Grove, facilitated by Shei Sanchez under her work with the Sisters Health Foundation. Ms. Tyree shared two new terms she learned: "cumulative disadvantage" and "unbroken sobriety."

C. Tisha Springer, Community Engagement Coordinator

Ms. Springer discussed that the Hocking County Prevention and Recovery Task Force completed the Ohio Grant Institute and Learning Community grant cycle. She distributed stickers of the new logo.

D. Hattie Sherman, COMCorps Volunteer

They have attended several community events and distributed Safe Home Kits.

E. Svea Maxwell, Deputy Director

- Ms. Maxwell reported that the Community Partnership Fund grant opportunity, offering grants of up to $5,000, has been promoted on Facebook. Two applications have been received, and the process is ongoing. Additional information will be provided at a future meeting.
- The Ohio Housing Finance Agency (OHFA) lien on the Clem House, which originated in 2014, has been released. OHFA funding was used for substantial rehabilitation to the facility, and the reporting period is now complete.

VI. Executive Director Report

- Ms. Pfaff shared results of the "Shout Out" cards from the annual meeting.
- Information regarding the OneOhio Recovery Foundation, including recent awards presented to agencies within the Board's service area, has been posted on the website.
- She reported that work with Modo Media is progressing well. Her written report included social media statistics. A Board newsletter is scheduled to launch at the end of the year, and a QR code card was distributed.
- Ms. Pfaff reported that there are three Board vacancies in Athens County and two in Hocking County. Recruitment efforts are focused on maintaining a balance of male and female representation. Two women from Athens County have expressed interest in serving on the Board.

VII. Executive Committee Report

27:10:20

- Financial Report

  Ms. Conrath presented a brief overview of the SFY 2027 financial reports. Dr. Davis reported that the Executive Committee reviewed the reports and recommended approval. Ms. Bowden moved to approve the July, August, and September SFY 2027 financial reports as submitted and to file them for audit; Ms. Hopstetter seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

- 2025 State Audit

  The State Auditor's exit conference was held on September 16th. No management letters or verbal comments were reported. One finding from the previous year carried forward into the current audit cycle. The finding involved a requested appropriation increase that was later determined to be unnecessary. The increase should either have proceeded or been brought back to the Board with an update indicating that it was no longer needed. The corrective action plan (CAP) was prepared in August and September 2025; however, staff did not review the appropriations beforehand to identify those that had not been completed.

- Annual Executive Director Evaluation

  27:10:21

  Dr. Davis requested the Board enter into executive session to discuss the Executive Director's annual evaluation and compensation. Dr. Luce moved to go into executive session for this purpose; Ms. Bowden seconded. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Ms. Batin, Yes, Ms. Bowden, Yes, Ms. Carter, Yes, Dr. Davis, Yes, Ms. Hopstetter, Yes, Dr. Luce, Yes, Mr. Maiden, Yes, Ms. Rubin, Yes, Mr. Sabaiduc, Yes, Ms. Sanchez, Yes. The motion was unanimously approved.

  27:10:22

  Executive Session began at 6:38 pm and ended at 7:05 pm. With the following action taken: Mr. Sabaiduc moved to approve a 3% increase in pay for the Executive Director with an effective date of January 1, 2027; Dr. Luce seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

VIII. Old Business

A. Prior Year Unutilized Funding

Ms. Pfaff reported that the Board has $756,869 in available funding. Options for allocating the funds were discussed based on the Requests for Information (RFIs) received, goals from the strategic plan, and meetings with agencies regarding their facility needs. Board members weighed in on their support for the proposed partnership with schools. Ms. Pfaff stated a formal recommendation will be brought to the November board meeting.

B. Annual Training

Ms. Pfaff reported the number one vote was for the Ohio Ethics Laws training. The training will take place during the November board meeting.

C. Board Member Survey

Ms. Batin reported that she had received nine Board Member Profile surveys and her goal is to bring the results to the November meeting.

IX. New Business

A. SFY 2027 Amended Budget Resolution

27:10:23

Resolution 27-10-10

Ms. Conrath explained that $10,000 in DBH funding awarded for the Addiction Treatment Program would be allocated to APP for Recovery Reframed peer support programming with drug court participants. Additionally, ODBH awarded $27,000 in BSCA funding to the Board for development of communication strategies for the Board's Disaster Behavioral Health Response Plan. The Board will contract with TBD Solutions and Modo Media for this work. Finally, ODBH awarded $3,298 to the Southeastern Ohio Regional Jail for its behavioral health drug program. Mr. Sabaiduc moved to approve Resolution 27-10-10 SFY 2027 Budget Amendment; Ms. Hopstetter seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

B. SFY 2027 Resolution to Sign Contracts

27:10:24

Resolution 27-10-11

Ms. Conrath discussed the use of Modo Media and TBD Solutions for the Safer Communities grant, and Modo Media for previously approved, public awareness funding from prior year unutilized levy funding. Ms. Sanchez moved to approve Resolution 27-10-11 Contract Authorization ; Mr. Sabaiduc seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

C. Resolution Accepting Amounts and Rates of Tax Levies

27:10:25

Resolution 27-10-12

Ms. Conrath explained the yearly form required by the county auditor that allows our levy funds to be collected in the upcoming calendar year. It is estimated that the collections of levy funding between all three counties will be $4,852,760. Dr. Luce moved to approve the Resolution Accepting Amounts and Rates of Tax Levies; Ms. Batin seconded. A roll call vote was taken with the following result: Ms. Batin, Yes, Ms. Bowden, Yes, Ms. Carter, Yes, Dr. Davis, Yes, Ms. Hopstetter, Yes, Dr. Luce, Yes, Mr. Maiden, Yes, Ms. Rubin, Yes, Mr. Sabaiduc, Yes, Ms. Sanchez, Yes. The motion was unanimously approved.

D. CY 2026 Certification Adjustment

27:10:26

Resolution 27-10-13

Ms. Conrath explained that, prior to the start of each calendar year, revenue and expenditure estimates are prepared for the Budget Commission and to establish the calendar year's financial records with the County Auditor's Office. Following discussions with the Budget Commission and County Auditor, it was determined that more conservative estimates were needed. The resolution amends the certification filed with the County Auditor's Office by reducing the Board's estimated tax collections by $200,000,

to $5,200,000, and reducing the grants estimate by $3,000,000, to $2,000,000. Ms. Batin moved to approve Resolution 27-10-13 CY 2026 Certification Adjustment; Ms. Bowden seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

E. Strategic Plan Quarterly Update

Ms. Tyree provided an update on the Board's strategic plan.

X. Other

Ms. Batin reported that dimmable lighting has been installed in the emergency department at OhioHealth O'Bleness Hospital in the newly renovated behavioral health rooms.

XI. Adjournment

27:10:27

Ms. Bowden moved to adjourn the meeting; Ms. Carter seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Submitted by:

_____
Diane Pfaff
Executive Director

_____
Dr. Tom Davis
Acting Chair