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### **MINUTES of February 10, 2025**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Elizabeth Atwell, Andrew (Andy) Bateman, Gretchen Behimer, Jacki Block, Jara Bonner, Joe Ellison, Patty Lawrence

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Rebecca Cochran-Kasson, Joy Lytle, Laura Perez, Tony Rees, Greg Varner

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Raymond Bailey, Richard Chaney

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Heather Cokl, Zoe Fiscus-Doss, Katie Harper, Barb Iseman, Pamela Lindeman, Nick Melvin, Sarah Rosselot

**STAFF PRESENT:** Marcie Keith, Cindy Knoblauch, Denny Moell, Erica Pursley, Lee Ann Watson

1. Call to Order: The February 10, 2025, Board of Directors' meeting was conducted in person at 7:00 pm at the Board office at 2337 Clermont Center Drive Batavia, Ohio 45103. Chairperson Andy Bateman welcomed the attendees and called the meeting to order.
2. Approval of the Agenda: A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the Agenda for the February 10, 2025 Board of Directors' meeting with the addition of "Oath of Office-Joe Ellison". (Motion-Gretchen Behimer, second-Liz Atwell).
3. Oath of Office: Joseph (Joe) Ellison of Batavia, Ohio was sworn in as a member of the Clermont County Mental Health and Recovery Board of Directors by Notary, Cynthia Knoblauch. Joe was appointed to the Program Committee by Board Chair, Andy Bateman.
4. Approval of the Minutes: A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the minutes from the January 13, 2025 Board of Directors' meeting. (Motion-Jacki Block, second-Jara Bonner).
5. Training: Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services (GCB)-Specialty Courts (ITP, OVI, FRC): Heather Cokl, Nick Melvin, and Sarah Rosselot gave a slideshow presentation about Specialty Docket Courts in Clermont County. Rule 36.20 in the Rules for Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio states a Specialized Docket is "a particular session of court that offers a therapeutically oriented judicial approach to providing court supervision and appropriate treatment to individuals".

Specialized Dockets in Clermont County include the Family Recovery Court-Juvenile Court; the OVI/DUI Court-Municipal Court and the ITP Docket-Municipal Court.

The Family Recovery Court (FRC) was established in 2014 and is certified by the Ohio Supreme Court. FRC is a program that helps parents as they work towards being sober and entering recovery. The target population is adults struggling with substance use disorder(s) who are working to complete goals/objectives of their Children's Protective Services case plan.

The OVI/DUI (Operating a Vehicle Impaired/Driving Under the Influence) Court was established in 2005 and was certified by the Ohio Supreme Court in 2014. Its target populations are clients with two (2) or more convictions for OVI in the last ten (10) years, clients who have one (1) prior conviction for OVI with multiple prior convictions outside of ten (10) years, or clients who have physical control under the influence with a history of OVI convictions.

The ITP (Intensive Treatment Probation) Court was established in Clermont County in 2023 and is not currently certified by the Ohio Supreme Court. Its target population is clients with a primary severe and persistent mental illness diagnosis.

6. Executive Director and Staff Reports: Executive Director Lee Ann Watson said that her report stands.

Associate Director Denny Moell said his report stands.

Community Engagement Manager Marcie Keith said that her report stands. Marcie added that planning for the "Revving Up for Mental Health" event in May of 2025 is coming along well. The event already has ten (10) registrants. The event will be held at West Clermont High School and will partner with West Clermont's "Fun Run" event on May 3, 2025, from 10:00am-3:00pm.

7. Committee Reports:

A. Finance Committee: The Finance Committee met at 6:30pm on February 10, 2025. Finance Committee Chairperson Jacki Block summarized the information from that evening's Committee meeting. Jacki said the Committee reviewed and approved the State Fiscal Year 2025 (SFY25) Profit and Loss Statement, the Calendar Year 2025 (CY25) Agency Utilization Report for the second quarter, and the SFY24 Annual Agency Audits. The Agency Audits were submitted to the County Auditor on January 29, 2025, as required by statute. In addition, Board staff submitted the SFY24 Provider Audit Checklist to the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OMHAS) on January 29, 2025, as required by statute.

B. Levy Committee: Levy Committee Co-Chair Jara Bonner gave a brief review of the Committee's January 27, 2025 meeting. At the January 2025 meeting, the Committee was informed that Lee Ann Watson met with County Administrator Tom Eigel on December 12, 2024 regarding the Board's request for a replacement levy with a .25% increase to be on the November 2025 ballot. Lee Ann has not yet heard back from the County regarding the Board's request. Lee Ann will be reaching back out to the County if she does not hear back within the next couple of weeks. The Committee also met with Levy Consultant Jens

Sutmoller, who, if the Board's levy request is approved by the County, will assist the Board in hopefully passing the November 2025 levy.

With regard to fundraising, Jara mentioned that the cruise-in, "Revving Up for Mental Health" event is planned for May 3, 2025, at West Clermont High School. The event will feature car, jeep, and bike competitions and other activities. American Modern has offered an opportunity for the Board to apply for a \$10,000 grant that can be used for fun youth activities such as a scavenger hunt at the event.

The Committee also decided to conduct video interviews in which clients and other partners will speak on why the levy is important for Clermont County. The videos will be short and informal. Board staff will be working on a list of talking points and interview questions for the videos. The Levy Committee's next meeting will be virtually conducted on March 6, 2025, via Zoom communication.

8. Unfinished Business:

A. Strategic Plan Review: Board staff reviewed the Board's Strategic Plan Dashboard on Monday.com. Board staff shared areas that still need completion. These areas are as follows: 1. Board member recruitment, engagement, and succession planning, and 2. Best practices for purpose-driven, high-performing Boards. Board members and staff agree to work on those items at the Annual Board Retreat in April. Board staff also reviewed a sample for a data collection dashboard that will soon be integrated into the Board's website. The new dashboard will be used to acquire and evaluate raw data to be used for determining funding priorities, reporting treatment related data, and reporting Board outcomes.

B. Gillette Model Review: Lee Ann Watson said that at the Retreat, the Board will thoroughly review, and update if needed, the Gillette Model, which the Board utilizes for ethical budgeting and as a process for decision making for the provision of funding for behavioral health services.

C. School-Based Redesign Model: Lee Ann Watson said that the School-Based Redesign Model will be reviewed with the Program Committee and Child Focus on February 20, 2025. The Committee will discuss the outcomes of that meeting with the full Board at a later date.

9. Agency Directors' Reports: Katie Harper of NAMI SW Ohio said her report stands. Katie added that NAMI's support group being held at the Miami Township Library will be moving to the Owensville Library in 2025.

Pamela Lindeman of Child Focus said that her report stands. Pamela added that the Crisis Hotline calls are 17.7% higher in 2025 than they were at this time in 2024. Pamela also said that Child Focus has seen an increase in Mobile Response and Stabilization Services (MRSS) runs as well.

Zoe Fiscus-Doss of Hope Community Center (HCC) said her report stands.

Heather Cokl of Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services/Clermont Recovery Center (GCB/CRC) said that her report stands. Heather added that Family Recovery and OVI Courts

will be having a client graduation in two (2) weeks. Heather said she will send out the information on the graduation dates via Board staff. Heather also said that CRC's Prevention Team Lead, Kelsey Smothers, just returned from giving a presentation at CADCA's Capitol Hill Day in Washington D.C. Capitol Hill Day gives community leaders the opportunity to discuss national substance use prevention policy priorities as well as substance use issues in local communities.

10. New Business:

A. Action Items

1. Rescheduling of the CY25 April Board Meeting to the Date of the Annual Board Retreat: A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve scheduling the April 2025 Board meeting to the date of the annual Board Retreat. (Motion-Patty Lawrence, second-Jara Bonner).
2. Addendum to the Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services/Clermont Recovery Center (GCB/CRC) Purchase of Services (POS) Contract for Additional Access to Wellness (ATW) Funding: The Board has received additional ATW funding from OMHAS in the amount of \$43,500. The Board contracts with GCB for clients to receive access to the funds. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the Addendum to the FY25 GCB/CRC POS Contract for additional ATW funding in the amount of \$43,500 and to authorize the Executive Director to sign the Addendum on behalf of the Board. (Motion-Jacki Block, second-Patty Lawrence).
3. FY25 Mid-Year Revision Request from Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services/Clermont Recovery Center (GCB/CRC): Heather Cokl said that GCB/CRC would like to "pin" a conversation for the Board's Program Committee around Prevention Services. Heather said that this service line in GCB's FY25 Purchase of Services (POS) contract is capped and GCB has drawn down the entire amount several months ahead of the end of the fiscal year for the last several years. Heather also said that with the behavioral health redesign and the workforce staffing issues that occurred during COVID and beyond, GCB expanded to employ Associate Care Managers (ACMs) who work on targeted teams and provide targeted support to Care Management (CM) clients. This type of staff is credentialed through Medicaid and can bill the H2017 code, which is psycho-social rehabilitation. While the majority of GCB's CM staff are more highly credentialed to bill different codes, the ACMs have become an important part of GCB's staffing structure. GCB is asking the Board to discuss the broad use of the H2017 code and to assess its inclusion with budgeted dollars. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the FY25 mid-year revision requests from GCB/CRC. (Motion-Jacki Block, second-Liz Atwell).
4. FY25 Mid-Year Revision Request from Child Focus: Pamela Lindeman said that Child Focus requests \$20,000 to be transferred from the 90837 Psychotherapy line item and \$16,000 from the 99214 Evaluation and Management line item to Prevention services. Pamela said that this adjustment is necessary to accommodate the unpredictable, yet critical work of the Crisis Response Team. Pamela said that Child Focus is also requesting a mid-year revision to account for the unpredictable needs for H2017 and

H2012 services that are delivered at the Wasserman Day Treatment Program. Pamela said that a reallocation of funds in the following amounts will allow Child Focus to appropriately account for these service delivery variations.

- \$2,200 from H2020 MH Day Treatment-TBS to H2012 MH Day Treatment
- \$5,600 from H2020 MH Day Treatment to H2017 PS

A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the FY25 mid-year revision requests from Child Focus. (Motion-Gretchen Behimer, second-Jara Bonner).

5. Resolution to Authorize Signers for the Crisis Receiving Center Capital Grant Project: The Board must submit a Resolution to OMHAS designating signers for documents related to the Board's Crisis Receiving Center Capital Grant Project. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve the Resolution to authorize the Board Chair and the Executive Director to sign agreements and documents pertaining to the Crisis Receiving Center Capital Grant Project. (Motion-Jara Bonner, second-Gretchen Behimer).

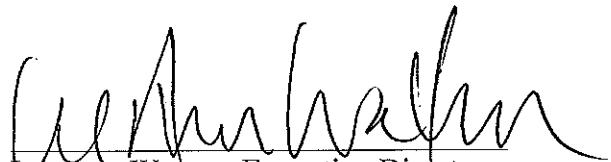
B. Discussion Items:

1. Scheduling of the 2025 Board Retreat: The Board designated Saturday, April 26, 2025 as the date of the Board's Annual Retreat. The Retreat will be from 9:00am to 3:00pm. Board staff will send out details regarding location and agenda for the Retreat at a later date.
2. Retreat Agenda Topics: The Board and staff listed the following as possible Retreat agenda topics:
  - Gillette Model Review
  - Board Succession Planning
  - Policy on Virtual Meetings
  - Board Best Practices
  - Program Committee Recommendations
  - School-Based Redesign Model
  - Levy Planning
  - Board Member Responsibilities
  - Board Accomplishments
3. Review of Board Meeting Evaluations: Lee Ann Watson shared that there were four (4) items that multiple members of the Board of Directors and the Board Staff rated as only "some of the time" on the Board Meeting Evaluations. Those items are as follows:
  - "Do all members participate in discussions?"
  - "Do at least 90-95% of the members attend?"
  - "Are Board members equal in the discussion and not dominated by one or two members?"
  - "Do Board members leave the meeting with a feeling of accomplishment?"

Jara Bonner suggested reviewing Board accomplishments in a “year in review” format at the Retreat as a way to show the Board what a difference they are making for the community.

11. Announcements/Comments from Public Attendees: There were no announcements or comments from public attendees at the February 10, 2025 Board of Directors’ meeting.
12. Executive Session-Personnel Matter, Executive Director Performance Evaluation: A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to enter Executive Session. (Motion-Jacki Block, second-Patty Lawrence). Elizabeth Atwell-yea, Andy Bateman-yea, Gretchen Behimer-yea, Jara Bonner-yea, Joe Ellison-yea. The Board moved into Executive Session at 8:40pm.  
  
A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to move back into Regular Session. (Motion-Patty Lawrence, second-Jara Bonner). Elizabeth Atwell-yea, Andy Bateman-yea, Gretchen Behimer-yea, Jacki Block-yea, Joe Ellison-yea. The Board moved back into Regular Session at 8:55pm.  
  
The Board discussed the matter of the Executive Director’s salary action for CY25. A motion was made, and unanimously approved, to approve a 1.25% across the Board increase and an additional 3% merit increase for a total of a 4.25% salary increase for Executive Director Lee Ann Watson for CY2025, retroactive to January 1, 2025. (Motion-Jacki Block, second-Jara Bonner).
13. Adjournment: There being no further business, a motion was made, and unanimously approved, to adjourn the February 10, 2025 Board of Directors’ meeting. (Motion-Jara Bonner, second-Gretchen Behimer).

  
Andrew Bateman, Chairperson

  
Lee Ann Watson, Executive Director