

Members Present: Albert Barber, Dina Douglas, Audrey Kessler, Jeff Langstaff, Roy Mosley, William Nome, Emily Schmidlin, Jennifer Schumm

Members Not Present for Board Meeting: Denise DePerro, LaTasha Dukes, Iris Meltzer, Valerie Root

Board Staff Present: John Garrity, Karyn Kravetz, George DeBord, Terra Howell-Muth, Rebecca Rood, Linda Hankins, Joshua Collins, Gina Dufour, Laura Dotts

Guests: *Children's Advantage*: Kathy Regal; *Coleman Health Services*: Bill Russell; *Axess Family Services*: Mark Frisone, Renee Kleric, Angela DeJulius; *Townhall II*: Tamera Hunter, Bob King, Kurt Ruhl; *Hope Town*: Ted St. John; *Our Place*: Patrick Heenan, Dr. Steven Stein; *Guardianship Board*: Diana Clark

The Quorum was met with 9 members present.

William Nome called the meeting to order at 6:37 PM.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. Introductions and rollcall
2. Presentation by the Guardianship Board of Portage County

Diana Clark spoke about the Guardianship Board of Portage County. She highlighted its growth and impact on its participants (wards). A printout of her PowerPoint presentation is on file with these minutes.

3. Staff reports: Regional/state/local issues

- a. Director's Report: A Director's Report was included in the Board mailing the week prior to this meeting. A copy of the report is on file with these minutes. There were no questions regarding the report.

The Board has received a total of \$1,356,871 in new funding from OhioMHAS to address opioid use disorder for the Federal Fiscal Year 9/30/2024-9/29/2025. Motions will be presented for the use of these funds.

Motions will be presented for the use of levy funds.

During CY23's audit of Portage County, we discovered that we needed to file an extra year-end report related to our SOS awards. We did not file the report within forty-five days of the grant ending 9-29-23. We filed the report when it was brought to our attention by the Auditor of State (AOS). We were informed that this is something that is widespread throughout the state, because it is the first time the AOS is reviewing this. Even so, we should have filed the report timely and will be sure to do so moving forward. We have since filed the report for the fiscal year that ended 9-29-24 within program requirements.

We are still in need of additional Board members as we have had several retirements in the last few months.

- b. Community Relations Report: A Community Relations report was included in the Board mailing the week prior to this meeting. A copy of the report is on file with these minutes. Karyn Kravetz reported.

Our Portage Substance Abuse & Mental Health Conference was a great success with over 200 attendees. According to the feedback from the evaluations, the attendees were pleased with the presenters.

The Portage Incident Response Team recently held their annual training.

I presented at the Portage Senior Center alongside other community partners – Health District, Home Instead, Sheriff's Office, and NEOMED pharmacy – on older adult substance misuse.

- c. Director of Compliance and Quality Improvement Report: A report was included with the Board mailing the week prior to this meeting. A copy of the report is on file with these minutes. Rebecca Rood reported.

The agency SOS3 semiannual and quarterly reports required by the Federal government were submitted.

I started working on the SOS4 contracts.

Ethics training information was distributed to Governing Board members and employees to be in compliance with COQ training requirements.

We are bringing you our updated Personnel Policy Part 34 Fraud, Theft in Office, Misuse, or Misappropriation of Public Money Reporting, Required Training, and "Whistleblower" Protection. The policy was updated to incorporate the new training requirement from the Auditor of State. Language was also added to the policy to better highlight reporting requirements under the Ohio Revised Code.

- d. Clinical Manager's Report: A report was included with the Board mailing the week prior to this meeting. A copy of the report is on file with these minutes. Terra Howell-Muth reported.

Terra attended the Suicide Fatality Review Best Practices Summit put on by Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation. Will work with the Health Commissioner regarding setting up a SFRB in Portage County.

Terra is completing a grievance investigation.

4. Committee Reports:

- a. Finance Committee: Audrey Kessler reported on the committee meeting that was held just prior to this meeting. A copy of the meeting report, invoice lists, and agenda are on file with these minutes. 10 motions will be presented to the board.
- b. Personnel Committee: The committee met just prior to this meeting regarding the executive director's performance review. They need to confirm some procedures and will bring a motion to the January meeting.
- c. CEO/Executive Director Agency Reports:

Children's Advantage: Kathy Regal reported that there was no agency board meeting in November. Their annual Christmas party was cancelled due to the weather. The gifts will be distributed to the kids and their families.

Coleman Health Services: Bill Russell reported that there was no agency board meeting in November.

Axess Family Services: Mark Frisone reported that the agency board met in November. Most of the discussion at their meeting centered on planning for the use of the \$5 million grant from the Jeff Bezos Foundation. The grant has already generated an additional half million-dollar donation from an auto group. Mark hopes to be able to leverage these donations for more grants and donations.

Townhall II: Tammy Hunter reported.

- BOD met on 11/18/24.
- We hired a new accounting specialist as well as a Director of Operations
- Looking to hire an LPC/LSW to run our HL.
- We have been meeting with an architect and looking at building redesign to start Summer 2025.
- We have been filling up schedules quickly in our new Ravenna location.
- We have filled out the paperwork to be a VA service provider but have been struggling with them responding and following back up with us. We are working with the Governor's office on this.
- The Vibrant Network Agreement (988) was supposed to be signed by Ohio providers last week but working in collaboration with Ohio MHAS and Ohio Council, we will not be signing it due to the overwhelming demands of the contract that don't have the back-end structure put in place to operationally support it. To my understanding, most of the contracted 988 providers in Ohio did not sign it.

Hope Town: Ted St. John reported that the agency board met. "Hope on Wheels" is open and has already provided a lot of service to the community. They are working on renovations for the multi-use space.

5. Public Comment: None.

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Approve Agenda

MOTION I Albert Barber moved to approve the agenda. Roy Mosley seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 9 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

2. Minutes

MOTION II Roy Mosley moved to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2024, board meeting. Jennifer Schumm seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 8 Nay: 0 Abstain: 1 – not present at October meeting.)

3. Business items

a. Approve Financial Motions

MOTION III Audrey Kessler moved to approve all invoices paid in October and November 2024. Jennifer Schumm seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 9 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

MOTION IV Audrey Kessler moved to allow the Executive Director to contract with Axxess Family Services to provide SOS 4 services with State funding.

Vendor	Contract	Not to Exceed Amount	Grant Period
Axxess Family Services	SOS 4 Services	\$450,664.00	9/30/2024-9/29/2025

Roy Mosley seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 9 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

MOTION V Audrey Kessler moved to allow the Executive Director to contract with Children's Advantage to provide SOS 4 services with State funding.

Vendor	Contract	Not to Exceed Amount	Grant Period
Children's Advantage	SOS 4 Services	\$157,480.00	9/30/2024-9/29/2025

Albert Barber seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 9 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

MOTION VI Audrey Kessler moved to allow the Executive Director to contract with Hope Town to provide SOS 4 services with State funding.

Vendor	Contract	Not to Exceed Amount	Grant Period
Hope Town	SOS 4 Services	\$150,000.00	9/30/2024-9/29/2025

Jeff Langstaff seconded. Discussion: No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 9 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

MOTION VII Audrey Kessler moved to allow the Executive Director to contract with Townhall II to provide SOS 4 services with State funding.

Vendor	Contract	Not to Exceed Amount	Grant Period
Townhall II	SOS 4 Services	\$607,727.00	9/30/2024-9/29/2025

Jeff Langstaff seconded. Discussion: No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 9 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

MOTION VIII Audrey Kessler moved to allow the Executive Director to contract with Our Place to pay for Rent and Utilities in 2025 utilizing Levy dollars if state dollars.

Vendor	Contract	Not to Exceed Amount	Grant Period
Our Place	To pay for Rent and Utilities	\$11,378.00	1/1/2025-6/30/2025

Jeff Langstaff seconded. Discussion: No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 9 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

MOTION IX Audrey Kessler moved to allow the Executive Director to contract with Axxess Family Services to support the Skeels-Mathews Youth Support Worker utilizing Levy dollars.

Vendor	Contract	Not to Exceed Amount	Grant Period
Axxess Family Services	Youth Support Worker	\$9,640.50	1/1/2025-6/30/2025

Roy Mosley seconded. Discussion: No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 9 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

- MOTION X Audrey Kessler moved to allow the Executive Director to contract with Hope Town to reimburse them for renovations at the Recovery Community Organization Center utilizing Levy dollars:

Vendor	Contract	Not to Exceed Amount	Grant Period
Hope Town	Reimbursement for renovation work done and equipment	\$106,266.00	7/1/2024-6/30/2025

Albert Barber seconded. Discussion: No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 9 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

- MOTION XI Audrey Kessler moved to allow the Executive Director to create a contract with the following vendors as indicated:

Vendor	PO	Proposed Not to Exceed Amount	Grant Period
Joshua Bartholomew	To provide CIT support services	\$7,500.00	1/1/2025-12/31/2025
Wells Fargo	To pay for monthly copier lease	\$4,500.00	1/1/2025-12/31/2025
Barry Ward	For Legal Services	\$1,000.00	1/1/2025-12/31/2025
Po Co Guardianship Service Board	Guardianship Services	\$100,000.00	1/1/2025-12/31/2025

Jenn Schumm seconded. Discussion: No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 9 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

- MOTION XII Audrey Kessler moved to allow the Executive Director to close the office at 12:30 p.m. on December 24th and 31st in line with what the County is doing. Jeff Langstaff seconded.
Discussion: No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 9 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

- b. Approve Personnel Policy Part 34 Fraud, Theft in Office, Misuse, or Misappropriation of Public Money Reporting, Required Training, and "Whistleblower" Protection

- MOTION XIII Jennifer Schumm moved to approve Personnel Policy Part 34 Fraud, Theft in Office, Misuse, or Misappropriation of Public Money Reporting, Required Training, and "Whistleblower" Protection as presented. Albert Barber seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. (Aye: 9 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

4. Comments by board members:

Jeff Langstaff thanked Patrick Heenan, Dr. Steven Stein of Our Place for attending. He also commented that Patrick Heenan's You Tube video, On the Road to Recovery, was excellent.

5. Executive Session: Not needed.

6. Adjournment:

- MOTION XIV Albert Barber moved to adjourn. Jeff Langstaff seconded. No discussion. Motion carried.
(Aye: 9 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Dotts

SIGNATURES

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