

**MHMR of Tarrant County
Board Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2023**

Members Present:

- Carolyn Sims, Chair
- Bob Brown, Vice Chair
- Lea Ann Capel, Secretary
- Carey Cockerell
- Roy Griffin
- Linda Harman
- Brandon Teague
- Lyn Willis
- Mario Perez
- Chief Henry Reyes, Ex-officio Member

Executive Staff Present:

- Susan Garnett, Chief Executive Officer
- Catherine Carlton, Chief of Staff/Chief of Disability Services
- Aaron Bovos, Chief Financial Officer
- Ramey Heddins, Chief of Behavioral Health Services
- Laura Kender, Chief of Child and Family Services
- Charles Hoffman, Assistant Center Administrator
- Dr. Carol Nati, Chief Medical Officer
- Grace White, Chief Nursing / Quality Officer
- Diana Awde, Chief Information Officer
- Aleed Rivera, General Counsel
- Victoria San Martin, Board Liaison

Guests Present:

Judge Glen Whitley, Citizen
Jim Teague, Citizen
Ciara McCarthy, Star-Telegram
Bill Hill, Staff
Bill Eaton, Staff
Michelle McCall, Staff
Donna Reid, Staff
Paul Duncan, Staff
Alyssa Mierzejewski, Staff
Twanda Wadlington, Staff
Mabel Adjetej, Staff

Call to Order

Carolyn Sims, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.; a quorum was present.

Comments from Chairperson

- Good afternoon, everyone.
- I would like to recognize new staff and a new board member.
- Susan, would you please introduce us?
- We will start the meeting with Victoria San Martin taking roll.
- The next Program Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 20, at noon.
- The next Business Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 22, at noon.
- The next Regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Tuesday, March 28, at noon.
- Upcoming Community Advisory Committee meetings are listed at the bottom of your agenda. Be sure to double check the meeting location as they may be in person, postponed, canceled or virtual.

Comments from Citizens

None at this time.

Special Recognition

Susan Garnett presented a special recognition to former Judge Glen B. Whitley for his service to the community and in support of Mental Health.

Board Training

Catherine Carlton introduced Bill Hill, Bill Eaton and Michelle McCall to present on MHMR Job Fairs.

Committee Updates

1. **Homeless CAC** (Ramey Heddins) - The committee update was provided in the Board packet.
2. **Youth Behavioral Health CAC** (Laura Kender) – The committee update was provided in the Board packet.
3. **Early Childhood CAC** (Laura Kender) - The committee update was provided in the Board packet.
4. **Disability Services CAC** (Catherine Carlton) - The committee update was provided in the Board packet.
5. **Adult Behavioral Health** (Ramey Heddins) - The committee update was provided in the Board packet.
6. **Program Committee** (Carolyn Sims) - The committee update was provided in the Board packet.
7. **Business Committee** (Lyn Willis) - The committee update was provided in the Board packet.
8. **MHMR Foundation** (Twanda Wadlington) – Foundation Impact Summaries were provided in the Board packet.
9. **Texas Council Update** (Bob Brown) – The update was provided in the Board packet.

Consent Agenda Items

Approval of Minutes of the November 29, 2022, Board Meeting

Resolved, by the Board of Trustees, that the November 29, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes are approved.

Motion: Made by Roy Griffin and seconded by Linda Harman that the Consent Agenda item is approved; and the motion passed unanimously.

Action Agenda Items

Approval of Appointment of Jennifer Carpenter to the Early Childhood Services Community Advisory Committee

Resolved, by the Board of Trustees that the appointment of Jennifer Carpenter to the Early Childhood Services (ECS) Community Advisory Committee (CAC) is approved.

Motion: Made by Lyn Willis and seconded by Lea Ann Capel that the Action Agenda item is approved; and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Appointment of Holly Gray to the Disability Services Community Advisory Committee

Resolved by the Board of Trustees that the appointment of Holly Gray to the Disability Services Community Advisory Committee is approved.

Motion: Made by Ms. Capel and seconded by Carey Cockerell that the Action Agenda item is approved; and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval to Submit a Grant Application to the Criminal Justice Division Office of the Governor for Project CANVAS to Provide Residential and Community-Based Services for Victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation

Resolved, by the Board of Trustees, that it is in the best interest of the citizens of Tarrant County, to provide residential and community-based services to commercially sexually exploited youth victims.

Resolved, by the Board of Trustees, that it hereby authorizes the submission of an application for Project CANVAS to the Criminal Justice Division Office of the Governor. In the event of loss or misuse of the grant funds, the MHMR Board of Trustees assures that the funds will be returned to the Office of the Governor in full.

It is further resolved, the Board of Trustees designates Susan Garnett, CEO, as the grantee's authorized official. The authorized official is given the power to apply for, accept, reject, alter or terminate the grant on behalf of MHMR.

It is further resolved, the Board of Trustees authorizes the Board Resolution included in Exhibit A.

Motion: Made by Ms. Capel and seconded by Ms. Willis the Action Agenda item is approved; and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval to Submit a Grant Application to the Criminal Justice Division Office of the Governor for Multi-Disciplinary Teams to Provide Trauma-Informed Culturally Competent Services to People with Disabilities Who Have Been Victims of Crime

Resolved, by the Board of Trustees, that it is in the best interest of the citizens of Tarrant County, to continue to provide trauma-informed culturally competent services to people with disabilities who have been victims of crime.

Resolved, by the Board of Trustees, that it hereby authorizes the submission of a one-year grant proposal to receive funding for FY 2024 for Multi-Disciplinary Teams (MDT) to provide trauma-informed culturally competent services to people with disabilities who have been victims of crime. In the event of loss or misuse of the grant funds, the MHMR Board of Trustees assures that the funds will be returned to the Office of the Governor in full.

It is further resolved, the Board of Trustees designates Susan Garnett, CEO, as the grantee's authorized official. The authorized official is given the power to apply for, accept, reject, alter or terminate the grant on behalf of MHMR.

It is further resolved; the Board of Trustees authorizes the Board Resolution included in Exhibit A

Motion: Made by Mr. Griffin and seconded by Ms. Capel that the Action Agenda item is approved; and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval to Submit a Grant Application to the Criminal Justice Division Office of the Governor for Trauma-Informed Mental Health Services for First Responders Under the Mental Health Law Liaison Resilience Project

Resolved, by the Board of Trustees, that it is in the best interest of the citizens of Tarrant County, to provide trauma-informed mental health services to first responders who, due to the nature of their job, are highly likely to witness traumatic events.

Resolved, by the Board of Trustees, that it hereby authorizes the submission of a one-year grant continuation proposal to apply for funding for FY 2024 for trauma-informed mental health services for first responders under the Mental Health Law Liaison Resilience Project. In the event of loss or misuse of the grant funds, the MHMR Board of Trustees assures that the funds will be returned to the Office of the Governor in full.

It is further resolved, the Board of Trustees designates Susan Garnett, CEO, as the grantee's authorized official. The authorized official is given the power to apply for, accept, reject, alter or terminate the grant on behalf of MHMR.

It is further resolved, the Board of Trustees authorizes the Board Resolution included in Exhibit A.

Motion: Made by Ms. Capel and seconded by Ms. Harman that the Action Agenda item is approved; and the motion passed unanimously.

November and December Financials

Aaron Bovos shared that the November and December Financials were reviewed extensively during the January Business Committee.

January Financials

Mr. Bovos reviewed January Financials and Directed Payment Plan (DPP) and Charity Care Plan (CCP). He outlined what will be reviewed during upcoming meetings to prepare for the future of the agency.

CEO Report

- 1st Quarter Compliance Report – Paul Duncan explained his role as the compliance officer and presented the Q1 compliance report.
- Revenue/Expenditures – There were no updates.
- CCBHC and 1115 Transition (DPP) – Susan Garnett shared that MHMR has been recertified as a Certified Community Behavioral Health Center (CCBHC) for the next three years. Ms. Garnett also shared an update on Direct Payment Program.
- COVID-19 Update – Grace White shared COVID-19 numbers for the agency. Ms. White mentioned low community spread but high transmission level currently for Tarrant County.
- Legislative Update – Ms. Garnett shared that Tarrant County has requested development of a Mental Health Facility for competency restoration. Ms. Garnett shared that wages and inflation are being discussed in Austin.
- Super Doc Texas Monthly 2022 – Ms. Garnett shared that Dr. Carol Nati was named a Super Doc by Texas Monthly, as voted on by her peers.
- Employee Update – Appreciation from employees was shared for longevity/retention payments.
- Holiday Recap – Catherine Carlton shared highlights from several holiday events for the people we serve.

Executive Session

As authorized by Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, the Board of Trustees reserves the right to adjourn into Executive Session at any time during the course of this meeting to seek legal advice from its Attorney about any matters listed on the agenda.

Adjourn

Made by Mr. Griffin and seconded by Ms. Capel that the February 28, 2023, meeting is adjourned. The motion passed. Ms. Sims adjourned the meeting at 1:25 p.m.



Carolyn Sims, Chair



Lea Ann Capel, Secretary