

**MHMR of Tarrant County
Board Meeting Minutes
January 25, 2022**

Members Present:

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

Executive Staff Present:

- Susan Garnett, Chief Executive Officer
- Catherine Carlton, Chief of Staff/Chief of Disability Services
- Lucas Wilson, 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
- Thomas Bledsoe, Chief Human Resources Officer
- Aleed Rivera, General Counsel/Center Administrator
- Victoria San Martin, Board Liaison

Guests Present:

Tommy Nelson - Auditor with Scott, Singleton, Fincher, and Company, P.C
Richard Vickers – Citizen
Paul Duncan – Staff
Holly Wafford – Staff
Nicole Griffis – Staff
Anthony Meridith – Staff
Linda Thomas - Staff
Thomas Foley – Staff
Donna Hayes – Staff
Cassandra Spellman – Staff
Deanna Kratovil – Staff
Rand Otten - Staff
Chena Spencer - Staff
Pamela Gordan-Dwyer – Staff
Dewanna Wade – Staff

Kristin Alonzo – Staff
Karen Schmidt - Staff
Hazel Sims-Robinson - Staff

Call to Order

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

Comments from Chairperson

1. Happy New Year!
2. We will start the meeting with Victoria San Martin taking roll.
3. Thank you for accommodating and joining the meeting and call. As we mentioned previously, these meetings are now back to normal as required by the Texas Office of the Attorney General and require a quorum be present in the room, as we have today. We will continue to have a virtual option for those not able to attend in person.
4. The next Program Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 14, 2022.
5. The next Business Committee meeting will be Thursday, February 17, 2022, at 9 a.m.
6. The next Regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Tuesday, February 22, 2022, at noon.
7. 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 held virtually.

Comments from Citizens

None at this time.

Board Training

Tommy Nelson, auditor with Scott, Singleton, Fincher, and Company, P.C., shared Fiscal Year 2021 Financial Audit and Single Audit.

Committee Updates

1. **Early Childhood Services CAC** (Laura Kender) – The committee update was provided in the Board packet. Ms. Kender highlighted new leadership for the CAC.
2. **Disability Services CAC** (Catherine Carlton) – The committee update was provided in the Board packet.
3. **Homeless Services CAC** (Ramey Heddins) – The committee update was provided in the Board packet.
4. **MHMR Foundation** (Rand Otten) – The Foundation Impact Summary was provided in the Board packet.
5. **Texas Council Update** (Bob Brown) – The update was provided in the Board packet.

Consent Agenda Items

Approval of Minutes of the November 30, 2021, Board Meeting

Resolved, by the Board of Trustees, that the November 30, 2021, Board Meeting Minutes are approved.

Motion: Made by T. Ware and seconded by Bob Brown that the Consent Agenda item is approved; and the motion passed unanimously.

Action Agenda Items

Approval of Appointment of Brittany Lopez to the Ealy Childhood Services Community Advisory Committee

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

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

Approval of Appointment of Shawneeqa Blount to the Ealy Childhood Services Community Advisory Committee

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

Motion: Made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Ware that the Action Agenda item is approved; and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval to Submit a One-Year Grant Continuation Proposal 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 for FY 2023

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 continuation proposal to renew funding for FY 2023 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 Resolutions included in Exhibit A.

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

Approval to Submit a One-Year Grant Continuation Proposal to the Criminal Justice Division Office of the Governor for Project Canvas to Provide Innovative Services for Commercially Sexually Exploited Youth for FY 2023

Resolved, by the Board of Trustees, that it is in the best interest of the citizens of Tarrant County, to continue providing innovative services for commercially sexually exploited youth.

Resolved, by the Board of Trustees, that it hereby authorizes the submission of a one-year grant continuation proposal to renew funding for FY 2023 for Project Canvas. 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 Resolutions included in Exhibit A.

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

Approval to Amend Schedule 2 of Fiscal Year 2022, Expense Contracts, to Add an Agreement with Acclaim Physician Group, Inc. to Provide Medical Services at the Mental Health Jail Diversion Center in the Amount of \$583,000 for a 13-Month Period

Resolved, by the Board of Trustees, that it authorizes and approves to amend Schedule 2 of Fiscal Year 2022, Expense Contracts, to add an agreement with Acclaim Physician Group, Inc. (Acclaim) to provide medical services at the Mental Health Jail Diversion Center in the amount of \$583,000 for a 13-month period.

Further Resolved, that the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is hereby authorized to negotiate and execute such documents, instruments and agreements as reasonably necessary and appropriate to obtain the services provided by Acclaim.

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

CEO Report

- **Revenue/Expenditures Update** – Susan Garnett shared State of Texas contracts updates:
 - i. Depression Connection for Recovery – Consumer Operated Services Contract for \$48,787 from HHSC for the purpose of supporting service expansion in relation to the COVID-19 Supplemental Grant. With this \$48,787 along with the other \$97,400 COS contract, together this puts the total as \$146,187.
 - ii. HHSC LIDDA Performance Contract - Amendment to add \$577,858.75. Total HHSC share \$7,968,026.71; LIDDA match share \$614,732.10; total contract value \$8,582,758.81
 - iii. DOJ OJP BJA R22056 – Federal award amount of \$550,000 for the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (FY22 \$170,000, FY23 \$190,000, FY24 \$190,000). In kind match \$216,661.

- **COVID-19 Update** –Grace White shared updates on the impact of COVID-19 has had on the agency for both patients and staff. Ms. White praised staff at 24-hour programs on managing staff shortages and continuing to serve patients.
 - i. Aleed Rivera shared an update on the vaccine mandate noting that some MHMR program staff must comply with the mandate of the vaccine. Ms. Rivera shared that she is meeting with employees who work in parts of the agency that is impacted by the vaccine mandate.
 - 1. Programs that are affected are those that are federally funded.
 - ii. Deadline for vaccine mandate in Texas, as of now, is that employees in identified programs must be vaccinated with one dose by Feb. 1 and second dose by March 22.
 - iii. As of right now, the mandate does not include the booster shot; this requirement could change at any moment.
- **UKG Outage** – Diana Awde provided an update on the UKG outage.
 - i. Ms. Awde shared it was cyber security incident that took place in early December that lasted a few weeks. MHMR employees did not have any data compromised during the outage.
 - ii. Ms. Awde recognized Lucas Wilson and his team for their work making sure that all employees got paid on time during the holiday season.
 - iii. The agency is still in the recovery process.
- **Super Doctors Texas Monthly 2021** – Ms. Garnett shared that Dr. Carol Nati is a Texas Monthly Super Doctor in Psychiatry for 2021 as voted by her peers.
- **Mental Health Jail Diversion Center** – Ms. Garnett and Ramey Heddins shared the following updates:
 - i. Tarrant County used ARPA funding to purchase the facility.
 - ii. Operations are done through MHMR for two years; after that if it provides value operations will be integrated into the county's budget.
 - iii. Victoria San Martin will schedule a tour of the facility for board members who would like to see the Mental Health Jail Diversion Center with Ramey Heddins.
 - iv. The County is also providing ARPA funding for Assistant Outpatient Treatment, restarting a grant program that ended.
 - v. MHMR has also requested funding for mental health consultation for children at schools/daycares, Help Me Thrive (ages 6-adult) and consultation for pediatrician offices.
 - vi. Ms. Garnett shared that Tarrant County is a great community partner and county leadership wants to continue to invest in programs for the community.
- **Holiday Events** – Catherine Carlton highlighted agency holiday events that took place for patients and employees.

Executive Session

There was no need for an Executive Session.

Adjourn

Made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Ware that the January 25, 2022, meeting is adjourned. The motion passed. Ms. Sims adjourned the meeting at 1:43 p.m.



Carolyn Sims, Chair



Lea Ann Capel, Secretary