

FOREST WARREN COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES

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Warren County Commissioners

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Single County Authority for Drug & Alcohol Services
Melissa Baxter, SCA Director

ATOD/MH/DD Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 7, 2025
Human Services 12:00 p.m.

Present: Commissioner Kline, Sarah Lyon, Mark Rhoads (via Zoom), Heather Stover (via Zoom), Diane Weckerly (via Zoom)

Absent: Commissioner Durbin

Staff Present: Adam McNeill (via Zoom), Melissa Baxter, Julie Lacki, Tammy Shippee, Annette Miller (Recording Secretary)

Ex-Officio:

Guests: Kim Thurston (via Zoom), Jen Gesing (via Zoom), Amanda Milliren, Nicole Neukum (via Zoom), Jackie Bonace, Lisa Babo (via Zoom), Judy Baker, Jean Berry (via Zoom), Heather Cathcart

I INTRODUCTIONS

- Commissioner Kline called meeting to order.

II MINUTES

- A quorum was present and Commissioner Kline asked for a motion to approve the minutes from December 3, 2024. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes, all were in favor and the motion carried.

III BOARD MEMBER ADDITIONS/OFFICER NOMINATIONS

- Commissioner Kline asked for a motion to approve the nomination of Jackie Bonace as a new Board member. A motion was made and seconded to approve the nomination, all were in favor and the motion carried.
- Commissioner Kline asked for a motion to approve the nomination of Misty Pennington as a new Board member. A motion was made and seconded to approve the nomination, all were in favor and the motion carried.
- Commissioner Kline asked for a motion to approve the nomination of Dr. Peter Kauffman as a new Board member. A motion was made and seconded to approve the nomination, all were in favor and the motion carried.
- Nomination for 2025 Chairperson was put on hold.
- Additional Board member suggestions/nominations was put on hold as well.
- There were no volunteers for the Nominating or Bylaws Committees. Adam McNeill advised that he will contact members for further discussion.

IV TREASURER REPORT

- Commissioner Kline asked for a motion to approve Melissa Baxter and Sarah Lyon as signatories on the bank account to replace Jessica Uber and Pam Khare. A motion was made and seconded to approve the removal, all were in favor and the motion passed.

V STATS – available in packet

VI UPDATES

- a) **ATOD-** Melissa Baxter gave the ATOD update.
 - In regard to Stats, we continue to fund an increased number of clients for Intensive Outpatient and we are funding the highest number of clients in Outpatient in the last twelve months. The open client count is the highest it has been in the last twelve months as well.
 - Continue to be busy with assessments, Case Management, housing and homelessness.
- b) **MH-** Julie Lacki gave the MH update.
 - Mental Health stats staying steady and there is one male going to the Warren State Hospital today and another on the 22nd. There has been an increase in referrals for competency hearings and referrals to Torrance.
 - Sharon Regional Medical Center closed their doors as well as Bradford Regional Medical Center. We are in touch with Warren General Hospital as the loss of the two psychiatric facilities will impact them.
- c) **DD/EI-** Tammy Shippee gave the DD and EI update.
 - Still looking to fill a Case Aide position for ID, there are three interviews this week.
 - Lakeshore will hold their annual Autism Acceptance event on April 24th and 25th.
 - After having been in Philadelphia for years, a consumer will be moving into a residential facility in Kittanning, which will be much closer for his family.
- d) **Managed Care-** Lisa Babo gave the Managed Care update.
 - There will be an Adult Member meeting on March 7, 2025. The flyer will be shared when available.
- e) **Human Services/Strategic Plan-** Adam McNeill gave the Human Services/Strategic Plan update.
 - Adam is working on increasing collaboration, through merging our Board with the Children & Youth Board. He is also collaborating with the Warren Worx program to look at staff recruitment and retention.
 - Continuing to work with EOC to increase safe and affordable housing.
- f) **Other**
 - Jen Gesing gave an update on the proposed PRTF regulations she discussed last month. Concerns were submitted to the State and the Independent Regulatory Review Commission has requested OMHSAS go back and review the regulations.
 - Jen Gesing shared some staffing changes. Dr. Joshua Halbauer will be the new doctor at the Outpatient Clinic and he will split his time between Beacon Light and Deerfield. Abby Wenzel will be back in the agency.
 - Kim Thurston shared that with the two hospital closings, Sharon Regional and Bradford Regional, there are many staff looking for work and they are trying to help in finding them positions.

VII CONSUMER/FAMILY CONCERNS

- Jackie Bonace asked for an update on the concern discussed last month regarding a Special Olympic athlete who lost his mother. Tammi Shippee shared that there are concerns with repairs needed on his home and his remaining family has determined to look for alternate housing for him.

VIII BOARD RESTRUCTURE UPDTE

- No further updates discussed.

IX ADJOURNMENT

- Commissioner Kline asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made and seconded to adjourn, all were in favor and the motion carried.
- Next Meeting is March 4, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette Miller, Recording Secretary