

Forest Warren Governing Board

June 20, 2023

Location: Forest County

Forest County Commissioners: Mark Kingston, Bob Snyder

Warren County Commissioners: Ben Kafferlin, Tricia Durbin, Jeff Eggleston

FWHS: Adam McNeill, Kathy Lebon, Jennifer Fromknecht

Meeting called to order 10:05 am.

Pledge of Allegiance

1. Approval of governing board minutes from April 18, 2023 Commissioner Eggleston made a motion to approve and Commissioner Snyder seconded. The motion carried.

Commissioner Snyder made a motion to approve the contracts and Commissioner Eggleston seconded. The motion carried.

Adam Stated MH has a new contract with MHY for MST Psych, it is focused on a family approach for treatment. The prescribers go into the homes and work with the whole family. They have a 7-person team that is overseen by a psychiatrist. The team meets weekly to discuss the entire family. 39 out of 42 families they worked with didn't have any placements within the first six months after treatment. They work with the most at risk/hardest cases we have, from 9-17 years old. Working with issues within the entire family for 6 months.

Adam is considering adding a MH Program Specialist and a caseworker to follow the cases for 6 months after the initial treatment. Still doing case management for the entire family. Then hand off the case to the appropriate department, agency or provider. Commissioner Durbin asked if this is something a service a provider can do. Adam said to a degree. The problem is if the client misses 3 phone calls or appointments, the provider will drop them as a client. Adam said he could contract with a provider that isn't productivity motivated such as the Guidance Center. Adam stated that BHARP is working with providers to create an APA payment for BCM and other programs that are productivity based, and are failing. The APA would supplement loses and cover expenses. Commissioner Eggleston said the case management piece of this program is so important. Some providers may not be in a position to manage the needs we may have. Commissioner Eggleston stated that our goal is to keep the clients from crisis. In the long run keeping a child from crisis does save money. Adam stated as an example if you keep one child from going to placement, it will save over \$100,00 a year and if we can keep 4 or 5, we save half a million dollars. Commissioner Eggleston added that is the cost of placement, there are other costs associated with a child going to placement such as court related costs and all the management costs.

2. Fiscal

Fiscal Reports:

Kathy stated we have not yet received anything regarding the Human Services Block Grant. Last year we didn't get it until mid-June. If we don't get it by the end of the week, Kathy will follow up to see where it is.

Kathy said for our 22-23 FY we are operating at 74% of the authorized 92%. If you look at D&A, Warren County match is down to 5.4%, as soon as authorization from the State to set aside funds, that will go up to 10%. Kathy said there was a budget revision done just to shift some line items for EI and ID. Over all we are good.

Cash Flow:

Kathy stated we have more than enough in cash flow to operate. We did return \$160,000 to the State for FY 20-21 between EI and ID.

Fixed Assets:

Kathy said we are requesting a surface bundle with a docking station and Microsoft licensing for the new MH clerical. The total is \$2,689 with County Match being \$269.00.

Disposal of fixed Assets:

Kathy said the items listed for disposal are items that are not working or are outdated. Commissioner Durbin asked what is done with the items. Kathy said we have a gentleman that comes and takes the items and takes them apart and sells the scraps. So, they don't end up going to the dump.

Commissioner Eggleston made a motion to approve the fiscal reports, and Commissioner Durbin seconded. The motion carried.

3. Contracts

Adam stated EI has one contract amendment, to increase the ceiling \$1000.00. We have FY renewals for EI, ID, MH and D&A. EI has one new contract for a new speech therapist.

Contracts were approved at the beginning of the meeting

4. Updates

Commissioner Durbin asked if there are any issues placing children. Adam said yes, it's not just us. It is a problem across the country. There are not enough beds for children in the ASD and ID population that are transitioning into adulthood. The number of children without natural supports, that are going to age out of the system is going to tip the scales. Adam said right now there are discussions about LTSR's. OMHSAS is willing to give money to providers that are willing to create LTSR's. Commissioner Durbin said there is a lot of talk in Harrisburg about this situation. There are also the funds going to the Department of Education, Commissioner Durbin wants to advocate for how the funds should be used. Adam thinks it is great that the educational system is getting MH funds for counseling services and social work. Adam said he wonders about the policy and procedures, guidelines, is there a monitoring piece, is there a plan on how to use the funds, will there be any after hours crisis, and what happens at the end of the school year? Adam said it is a program that is very much needed. Commissioner Eggleston stated that Adam and others from FWHS have been instrumental in developing a positive relationship with the school district.

Commissioner Eggleston stated that they have to officially approve the contract that was sent to the Commissioners with HMA. Commissioner Eggleston said that we need to have at least one representative from Warren County and at least one representative from Forest County as a principal point of contact for the Strategic Planning Initiative we are working on throughout the summer with HMA. Commissioner Eggleston asked the Forest County Commissioners if that would be Commissioner Wimer, Commissioner Kingston said they would have to discuss that with Commissioner Wimer and get back to him.

Commissioner Eggleston made a motion to adopt the contract with HMA, and Commissioner Snyder seconded. The motion carried.

Adam stated the ARC Inspire grant is moving along. This is a workforce redevelopment grant tied to D&A and SUD individuals. It would bring stakeholders from the Counties together with the Career Center, temp agencies and employers. It will help individuals in recovery get employed. Adam's plan is to have HMA incorporate this

into the strategic plan. Commissioner Durbin said there is a program similar in Lawrence County that is for post jail/substance abuse related individuals get back into the workforce. It might be something to take a look at to see how they are doing things.

Commissioner Kingston asked what Warren County is doing with the opioid money. Commissioner Eggleston said that is to be determined, they are having discussions about that. Adam stated MAT is one idea that is putting the dollars to treatment. Adam said we need to think about people detoxing in jail. Commissioner Eggleston said MAT will happen one way or another. Adam said we need to think long term. Commissioner Eggleston said the budget is what is going to keep going back and forth. It's not that much money, especially when broken out over 18 years. If you are subsidizing individuals that don't have insurance or any assistance while in jail, we will most likely chew up the budget in no time. Commissioner Durbin asked if MAT creates a permanent solution. Adam said if you can get them to continue when they get out of jail, yes. Adam stated we need numbers across the board for individuals at the jail. Commissioner Eggleston said the jail has data that Adam could discuss with Rusty Barr. Adam said when he came into this position, one of his first projects was getting the assessments organized so it would give out information for new inmates so we would know if they need MH or D&A liabilities. Commissioner Kingston asked if they considered giving any money to the schools. Adam said there is a prevention program with SAP and the schools are discussing an ESAP for the elementary schools. Adam said that typically MH and SUD go hand in hand. The schools are getting MH money, so they might think about spending some of those dollars on the ESAP program. Commissioner Eggleston said that if multiple counties pulled their opioid money they could have some sort of facility to treat individuals. Commissioner Durbin said they had a discussion at the District One meeting about doing something regionally. There was interest in this. Mercer County has a building that could be used. Commissioner Eggleston said they had discussions to have a section for treatment in the jail. Adam said we need a residential step-down house for individuals coming out of jail. Commissioner Durbin asked if other counties would want to collaborate on that or if they already have something like that that we could collaborate on. Commissioner Eggleston said a D&A focused halfway house or transitional house for our county alone wouldn't be feasible because of the cost. But working with 3 or 4 counties it would work. Commissioner Kingston said they possibly have a place that is empty and set up. Commissioner Eggleston stated the biggest issue would be managing and staffing.

5. Public Comment
No public comment

6. Next meeting will be held on August 18, 2023 in Warren County at 10 am.

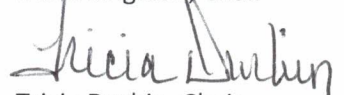
7. Adjournment

Commissioner Snyder made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Eggleston seconded. The motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,


Jennifer Fromknecht, Administrative Assistant


Mark Kingston, Chair


Tricia Durbin, Chair