

## LCMHS Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: February 17, 2021

Start time: 5:00pm

Adjourned: 6:37pm

Board Members: Mike Feulner, MaryAnne Lewis, Luke Jandreau, Fred Ober, Sharon Menard, Polly Manosh, Saudia Lamont, Zach Williams

Absent: Chip Troiano

Staff: Michael Hartman, Jennifer Stratton, Jim Heath, Robyn Daley

Guests: Brittany Rhoads, Mark Mayer (KBS), Cote Trombley (KBS)

Notes: Luciana Swenson

Topic	Discussion	Action	Person Responsible
Approval of minutes	Mr. Ober made the motion to accept the minutes from January 2021. Ms. Lewis seconded the motion. All approved.	<b>By unanimous vote the minutes of January were approved.</b>	
CYFS Update by Robyn Daley	Ms. Daley presented the current status of the Children's department, the need for an Child Placing Agency in addition to DCF, and the interest in providing the service through LCMHS.		
Kittell, Branagan & Sargent (KBS) Presentation	Mr. Trombley and Mr. Mayer presented the audit report from FY2020.		
CEO Report	<p>Mr. Hartman presented the CEO report.</p> <p>Mr. Hartman said that we have hired 4 employees since the report, but still have openings and continue to have low rate of application around the State for other DAs as well.</p> <p>We have contracted with The Perlines, a team of 2 that is working with staff and managers, for the next 8 weeks. The overarching goal is to improve climate and culture throughout the organization through agency wide skill development sessions offered at the team level paired with opportunities for non-clinical supervision and coaching.</p> <p>Now former DAIL Commissioner, Monica Hutt, will stepping into the role as the Chief Prevention Officer for the State based in the Governor's office. She will work collaboratively with State Agencies and partners across the state to focus on prevention and substance use. Deputy Commissioner Tierney-Ward will be interim commissioner.</p>		

	<p>Federal Medicaid matching rate got increase through Covid concerns (increase of 6%) and this should maintain the agency for now. However, we could possibly have a decrease of 6% in January, and the agency should be prepared for a shifting in rates.</p> <p>Emergency rate case that was in place last year is not in place now, so Children’s service hours (and pay) has decreased. We do not have a lot of predictability.</p> <p>We continue to work with the new Electronic Medical Records System (EMR) and small adjustments. The new record is proving to be helpful, but the transition did slow and change some work flows and it has taken us a bit of time to get the data organized. Developmental Services and Emergency Services have been higher than noted before, as we are documenting them better with the new system.</p> <p>We had 70 employees vaccinated towards the end of December (with both doses) and another 70, including shared living providers to receive the shots soon. Genoa is also in the process of getting set up to provide the vaccine.</p> <p>We have decided to provide more medical mask availability for staff so they can wear 2 masks when providing services. We are not pushing the 2-mask usage, but strongly advising.</p> <p>We continue to meet weekly with the medical team to review policies and Covid related issues. Noticeable Covid exhaustion on staff in general.</p> <p>In March and April, we will be holding a series of trainings by Dr. Mercedes Avila of UVM who will be doing a training on cultural diversity and awareness via Zoom. This is co-sponsored by VT Care Partners and the agency. As well an agency wide reading and discussion group has been underway this month discussing the work of Dr. Anneliese Singh via her book, The Racial Healing Handbook.</p> <p>Mr. Feulner will send a message to staff to acknowledge and thank staff for the work during the pandemic.</p>		
<p>Finance Committee Update</p>	<p>Mr. Feulner asked if there are any questions regarding the financial report.</p> <p>Ms. Lamont said she was surprised on the low dollar amount from towns to LCMHS.</p>		

	<p>Mr. Hartman said that the pandemic affected the requests for additional funds to budgets, each town has a different way to approve increases.</p>		
Golf Tournament	<p>Ms. Manosh said that there are currently 6 sponsors (\$500/each) and 30 players. She asked if board members will help with sponsorship. She said she is very confident that she can raise over \$20,000 for the event.</p> <p>Even if there are still Covid restrictions, the event is outside and people are spaced out. It worked fine in the Summer of 2020. Luncheon will probably be boxed lunch. Manosh will go to businesses for gifts/donations that will be on a silent auction for the tournament.</p> <p>If board members could be present to help with the event, it would be great. Save the day, Saturday, August 7<sup>th</sup>. Also, if each board member could bring in one sponsor for \$500, the event would definitely be successful.</p>		
Collaborative agreement/ Shared Resources/ WCMHS	<p>Mr. Hartman and Mr. Feulner joined the WCMHS board meeting with a presentation regarding security systems. The idea is to create a shared entity with as many DAs as interested with a 30% share of resources that LCMHS can take advantage similar to the IT project. Hartman is part of the board of the entity. More to come as the project develops.</p>		
IRS appeal	<p>Mr. Hartman said that we decided to pursue working with a tax advocate, which is an office within the IRS that can support businesses. We have learned that the proposal to pay \$440,000 is not actually in the system as an “owed” amount. Not a lot of clarity from them, but should know more in the next couple of months, and may go on for quite some time.</p>		
Survey	<p>Mr. Feulner asked board members to complete the survey he sent the link earlier today, and email him once completed. This survey is part of the re-designation process that needs to be completed by March 12<sup>th</sup>.</p>		

Adjourn

Mr. Ober made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Lewis. Motion passed unanimously.

**By unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 6:37pm.**