
MENTAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY BOARD
BELMONT-HARRISON-MONROE COUNTIES

Minutes of JULY 21, 2026

Tuesday, July 21, 2026 – 5:30 p.m.

Members Present: Jamie Betts (virtual), John Carr, Jessica Cook (virtual), Courtney Fiutem, Joe Hise, Jacquelyn Knight, Caitlyn Romshak, Richard Schenk,
Members Absent: Lisa Carpenter, Joe Vavra, Nicole Weigand, Stephen Williams
Staff Present: Lisa Ward, Patricia Allen, Lisa Jones, Rachel Scott-Roth, Judi Hanse
Others Present: Todd Hollett, Absolute Business Services

Preliminary

1. Chairperson, Caitlyn Romshak called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.
2. Oath of Office – Courtney Fiutem – OH Dept. of Behavioral Health (DBH) Appointment – Oath of Office was administered by Joell Kopyar-Thompson a notary from Tri-County Help Center.
2. Executive Secretary Judi Hanse called the roll of members. It was noted that a quorum was present.
3. Board Meeting Agenda – July 21, 2026 – **Richard Schenk made a motion, seconded by Jacquelyn Knight to approve the July 21, 2026, Board Meeting Agenda. The motion passed unanimously with the following roll call vote.** (copy attached)
Jamie Betts – yes John Carr – yes Jessica Cook – yes Courtney Fiutem – yes
Joe Hise – yes Jacquelyn Knight – yes Caitlyn Romshak – yes Richard Schenk - yes
4. Board Meeting Minutes – June 23, 2026 – **John Carr made a motion, seconded by Jacquelyn Knight to approve the June 23, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes. The motion passed unanimously with the following roll call vote.** (copy attached)
Jamie Betts – yes John Carr – yes Jessica Cook – yes Courtney Fiutem – yes
Joe Hise – yes Jacquelyn Knight – yes Caitlyn Romshak – yes Richard Schenk - yes

Executive Director's Report – Lisa Ward

General Service and System Updates

1. **Review of New Monthly Finance Reports-** Todd Hollett – Mr. Hollett reviewed the new Income Statement by Contract Vendor and the Income Statement by Funding Source with the Board.
2. **Country Garden Manor FY2026 Contract Update with DBH** – Ms. Ward – Ms. Ward explained the updates Ohio Department of Behavioral Health made to the Country Garden Manor FY2026 Contract with the Board.
3. **New Board Member Training –July 13, 2026** – Ms. Ward commented that Jamie Betts and Jessica Cook attended the New Board Member Training held on June 13, 2026.
4. **2026 -2028 Community Assessment and Plan** - Ms. Ward presented the 2026 – 2028 Community Assessment and Plan to the Board. This community assessment and plan is completed every 2 years providing DBH with the Board's 2 year plan. This plan has been approved by the Department.

Richard Schenk made a motion, seconded by Joe Hise to approve the 2026 – 2028

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Community Assessment and Plan. The motion passed unanimously with the following roll call vote. (copy attached)

Jamie Betts – yes John Carr – yes Jessica Cook – yes Courtney Fiutem – yes
Joe Hise – yes Jacquelyn Knight – yes Caitlyn Romshak – yes Richard Schenk - yes

Community Partnerships/Announcements – Director Patricia Allen

1. **Stepping - Up Belmont County** – Ms. Allen informed the Board Members that on June 17, 2026, Belmont County became a Stepping Up County. She explained that the Stepping Up is a national initiative targeted at reducing the number of people with mental illnesses in jails and seeks to break the cycle of jail being the de facto mental health hospital. Stepping Up's philosophy and goal is to affect positive change through strong community and statewide partnerships, so that people with mental illnesses and co-occurring substance use disorders get connected with the help they need. This basically just formalizes the philosophy already supported by the Sheriff, jail, commissioners, and the Board.

Finance Reports – Executive Director Ward

1. **Presentation of Bills (July 2026):** Ms. Ward presented the bills for the Board system for July 2026 totaling \$397,395.96. She reviewed the vouchers for payment and there is not a Then and Now Certificate. **Richard Schenk made a motion, seconded by Jacquelyn Knight to approve the July 2026 bills totaling \$397,395.96. The motion passed unanimously with the following roll call vote. (copy attached)**

Jamie Betts – yes John Carr – yes Jessica Cook – yes Courtney Fiutem – yes
Joe Hise – yes Jacquelyn Knight – yes Caitlyn Romshak – yes Richard Schenk - yes

2. **July Financial Reports**

- a. **FY2026 Board Revenue and Expenditures Report, and Cash Balance** - Ms. Jones presented the financial reports for Income and Expenses for FY2026 through June 30, 2026. **Joe Vavra made a motion, seconded by Richard Schenk to accept the Financial Reports as presented. The motion passed unanimously with the following roll call vote. (copy attached)**

Jamie Betts – yes John Carr – yes Jessica Cook – yes Courtney Fiutem – yes
Joe Hise – yes Jacquelyn Knight – yes Caitlyn Romshak – yes Richard Schenk - yes

New Business

1. **Revised By-Laws** – Ms. Ward reviewed the changes made to the Board By-Laws. **Richard Schenk made a motion, seconded by Jacquelyn Knight to approve the changes to the By-Laws as presented. The motion passed unanimously with the following roll call vote. (copy attached)**

Jamie Betts – yes John Carr – yes Jessica Cook – yes Courtney Fiutem – yes
Joe Hise – yes Jacquelyn Knight – yes Caitlyn Romshak – yes Richard Schenk – yes

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Belmont County Department of Job and Family Services have a pooled funding account and share in the residential cost of children served. **Joe Hise made a motion, seconded by John Carr to approve the payment of \$100,000 to Belmont County Job and Family Services for the purposes of the Board's share of the pooled funding cost. The motion passed unanimously with the following roll call vote.**

Jamie Betts – yes John Carr – yes Jessica Cook – yes Courtney Fiutem – yes
Joe Hise – yes Jacquelyn Knight – yes Caitlyn Romshak – yes Richard Schenk – yes

3. Director and Officers Liability Insurance Review FY2027 Ms. Ward referred to the Director and Officers Liability Insurance Review. She gave the yearly update on the Director and Officers Liability Insurance. The Director and Officers Liability Insurance is renewed in August each year. **Jacquelyn Knight made a motion, seconded by Courtney Fiutem that the Board of Directors received a yearly update on the Director and Officers Liability Insurance. The motion passed unanimously with the following roll call vote.** (copy attached)

Jamie Betts – yes John Carr – yes Jessica Cook – yes Courtney Fiutem – yes
Joe Hise – yes Jacquelyn Knight – yes Caitlyn Romshak – yes Richard Schenk – yes

4. **Board Member Resignation – Lori Mann** Ms. Ward informed the Board that Lori Mann has resigned from the MHR Board. **Courtney Fiutem made a motion, seconded by John Carr to regrettably accept the resignation of Lori Mann. The motion passed unanimously with the following roll call vote.**

Jamie Betts – yes John Carr – yes Jessica Cook – yes Courtney Fiutem – yes
Joe Hise – yes Jacquelyn Knight – yes Caitlyn Romshak – yes Richard Schenk – yes

5. Vendor Viability & Certificate of Good Standing - Ms. Ward presented a new Board Policy Vendor Viability & Certificate of Good Standing for the Board Members to review and make any necessary changes or additions.

Old Business

There was none.

Public Comment

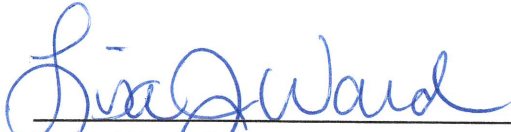
There was none.

Adjournment - At 6:14 p.m., Richard Schenk made a motion, seconded by Joe Hise to adjourn the July 21, 2026, meeting. The motion passed unanimously with the following roll call vote.

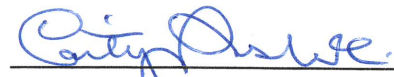
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Joe Hise – yes Jacquelyn Knight – yes Caitlyn Romshak – yes Richard Schenk – yes

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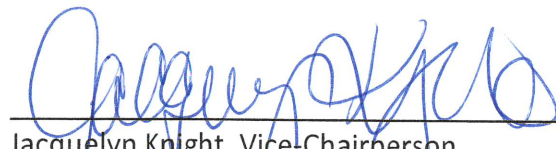
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Lisa J. Ward, Executive Director



Caitlyn Romshak, Chairperson



Jacquelyn Knight, Vice-Chairperson

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING: TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2026 @ 4:30 P.M.
BOARD MEETING: TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2026 @ 5:30 P.M.**