
MENTAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY BOARD

BELMONT-HARRISON-MONROE COUNTIES

Minutes of JUNE 23, 2026

Tuesday, June 23, 2026 – 5:30 p.m.

Members Present: Jamie Betts, John Carr, Joe Hise, Jacquelyn Knight, Richard Schenk, Nicole Weigand, Joe Vavra, Stephen Williams

Members Absent: Lisa Carpenter, Jessica Cook, Lori Mann, Caitlyn Romshak

Staff Present: Lisa Ward, Lisa Jones, Rachel Scott-Roth, Judi Hanse

Others Present: Todd Hollett, Absolute Business Services

Preliminary

1. In the absence of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson Jacquelyn Knight called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.
2. Executive Secretary Judi Hanse called the roll of members. It was noted that a quorum was present.
3. Board Meeting Agenda – June 23, 2026 – **Jamie Betts made a motion, seconded by Nicole Weigand to approve the June 23, 2026, Board Meeting Agenda. The motion passed unanimously.** (copy attached)
4. Board Meeting Minutes – May 19, 2026 – **Richard Schenk made a motion, seconded by Jamie Betts to approve the May 19, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes. The motion passed unanimously.** (copy attached)

Community Partnerships/Announcements – Lisa Ward

1. Final Report on FY2024-FY2027 Strategic Plan – Ms. Ward reviewed the Final Report on FY2024 – FY2027 Strategic Plan that was prepared by Patricia Allen. Many areas of success were noted, and she informed the Board that we would be working on the FY2027 – FY2030 Strategic Plan to be presented at the September board meeting.

Executive Director's Report – Lisa Ward

1. General Service and System Updates
 - a. **Property Tax Abolishment Update** – Ms. Ward explained that not enough signatures for the November ballot, 2026 although they are still attempting to accomplish this by the November ballot in 2027.
 - b. **SAVE THE DATE: New Board Member Training – Monday, July 13, 2026** – Ms. Ward reminded everyone that she plans to have a New Board Member Training on Monday, July 13,

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2026 at 5:30 p.m. for those who have been on the Board for the past year to get better acquainted with the Board Policy and Procedures.

- c. **Managed Care Ohio Medicaid: Prior Authorization Community Provider Impact** – Ms. Ward explained that the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) Prior Authorization rule changes regarding select services starting July 1, 2026. The new utilization management policies approved by the Ohio Department of Medicaid are in response to a sustained and statistically significant increase in the utilization of community behavioral health services across all Medicaid populations. This growth, while reflective of expanded access, has surfaced concerns about systemwide gaps which may fail to catch overutilization or layering of multiple services without coordinated clinical oversight. Following extensive feedback from provider associations and managed care plans, this action is intended to ensure that Medicaid members receive appropriate care and to establish necessary guardrails that uphold integrity across the service continuum. Ms. Ward will continue to monitor the impact these new limitations could have on provider agencies, the MHR Boards's benefit plan and our clients.
- d. **Adult Mobile Crisis Rule** – Ms. Ward reported that the Ohio Department of Behavioral Health has proposed a set of rules for Adult Mobile Crisis that are intended to provide greater stability, consistency, and clarity for the crisis services system in Ohio. Stakeholders are encouraged to provide feedback on the rules by June 19, 2026. OACBHA is preparing a correspondence, and Ms. Ward will also provide individual comments that will be submitted. The rules are scheduled to be submitted to the Ohio Common Sense Initiative by July 1.

Finance Reports – Executive Director Ward

1. Finance Committee Meeting Minutes 05/19/26 – Ms. Ward stated that the May 19, 2026 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes are in the Board Packet.
2. **Presentation of Bills (June 2026)**: Ms. Ward presented the bills for the Board system for June 2026 totaling \$570,559.25. She reviewed the vouchers for payment and there is not a Then and Now Certificate. **Steve Williams made a motion, seconded by Joe Hise to approve the June 2026 bills totaling \$570,559.25. The motion passed unanimously.** (copy attached)
3. **June Financial Reports**
 - a. **FY2026 Board Revenue and Expenditures Report, and Cash Balance** - Mr. Hollett presented the financial reports for Income and Expenses for FY2026 through May 31, 2026.
 - b. **FY2026 Contract Services Report** - Mr. Hollett presented the financial reports for FY2026 contracts and Services through May. **Joe Vavra made a motion, seconded by Richard Schenk to accept the Financial Reports as presented. The motion passed unanimously.**
 - c. **Belmont County Cost Allocation Billing for 2026** - Ms. Ward reviewed the Belmont County Cost Allocation Billing with the Board Members last month. She then received another letter stating that the amount has been updated to \$21, 584. **Richard Schenk made a motion,**

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seconded by Steve Williams to decline payment of the 2026 Cost Allocation of \$21,584 to the Belmont County Commissioners. The motion passed unanimously.

- d. **FY 2027 Board Operating Budget (Final) -** Ms. Ward and Mr. Hollett presented the FY 2027 Board Operating Budget to the Board. **Steve Williams made a motion, seconded by Jamie Betts to accept the FY2027 Final Board Operating Budget as presented. The motion passed unanimously.**
- e. **SFY 2027 – CY Anticipated Allocation** - Ms. Ward reviewed the SFY 2027 – CY Anticipated Allocation with the Board.
- f. **SFY 2027 – CY Anticipated Revenue** - Ms. Ward reviewed the SFY 2027 - CY Anticipated Revenues with the Board.
- g. **Budget Commission Certification of ARPA Funds** - Ms. Ward commented that the ARPA Funds for The Village Network need to be certified by the Budget Commission. **Steve Williams made a motion, seconded by Joe Vavra to approve the ARPA Funds for The Village Network to be certified by the Budget Commission. The motion passed unanimously.**
- h. **Budget Adjustment: Transfer funds from the Belmont County Cash Fund #0000-S49 general account to Contract Services E-2310-S049 – 554-011** – Ms. Ward explained that the Belmont County Cash Fund in the general account needs to be transferred to Contract Services E-2310-S049 – 554-011. **Richard Schenk made a motion, seconded by Joe Vavra to transfer funds from the Belmont County Cash Fund #0000-S49 general account to Contract Services E-2310-S049 – 554-011. The motion passed unanimously.**
- i. **ARPA Payment for The Village Network** – Ms. Ward explained that the ARPA Payment for The Village Network is \$1,116,314.34. **Richard Schenk made a motion, seconded by Joe Vavra to make the ARPA Payment for The Village Network for \$1,116,314.34. The motion passed unanimously.**
- j. **Board Office Credit Card update** – Ms. Ward commented that the Board has received approval for a credit card. The compliance officer for the card will be Todd Hollett.
- k. **New Accounting Software for the Belmont County Auditor’s Office** – Ms. Ward explained that the Belmont County Auditor’s Office is in the process of operating a new accounting software for the County. Staff participated in the training and will be working to learn the new system.

Executive Committee – Meeting on June 8th 5:00 p.m. (virtual) - Ms. Ward referred to the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes in the Board packet from the June 8th virtual meeting. She reviewed the documents that the Executive Committee discussed and approved.

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New Business

1. **Election of Officers – Slate of Officers**
Slate of Officers for June Meeting: Vice-Chairperson Jacquelyn Knight read the slate of officers for FY2027. Steve Williams made a motion, seconded by Richard Schenk to accept the existing slate of officers for FY2027 - Caitlyn Romshak – Chairperson; Jacquelyn Knight - Vice-Chairperson; Jamie Betts – Secretary. The motion passed unanimously.
2. **Southeast Healthcare FY2027 Contract:** Ms. Ward reviewed the FY2027 contract for Southeast Healthcare. Richard Schenk made a motion, seconded by Steve Williams to approve the FY2027 Southeast Healthcare service contract up to \$835,869.00. The motion passed unanimously.
3. **Coleman Health Services FY2027 Contract:** Ms. Ward reviewed the FY2027 contract for Coleman Health Services. Joe Hise made a motion, seconded by Jamie Betts to approve the FY2027 contract for Coleman Health Services up to \$780,412.00. The motion passed unanimously.
4. **East Central Ohio Educational Services Center -Student Services FY2027 Contract:** Ms. Ward reviewed the FY2027 contract for East Central Ohio Educational Services Center - Student Services Contract. Richard Schenk made a motion, seconded by Nicole Weigand to approve the FY2027 contract for East Central Ohio Educational Services Center, up to \$606,529.00. The motion passed unanimously.
5. **Belmont County Juvenile Court FY2027 Contract:** Ms. Ward reviewed the FY2027 contract for Belmont County Juvenile Court. Steve Williams made a motion, seconded by John Carr to approve the FY2027 Community Wellness and Recovery Grant Contract for Belmont County Juvenile Court up to \$42,286.00 CrossFit for Change. The motion passed unanimously.
6. **Kendall Behavioral Services FY2027 Contract:** Ms. Ward reviewed the FY2027 contract for Kendall Behavioral Services. Steve Williams made a motion, seconded by Joe Vavra to approve the FY2027 Community Wellness and Recovery Grant Contract for Kendall Behavioral Services up to \$20,132.00. The motion passed unanimously.
7. **Belmont County Commissioners- Belmont County Jail Services:** Ms. Ward reviewed the FY2027 contract for Belmont County Commissioners – Belmont County Jail Services. Richard Schenk made a motion, seconded by Joe Hise to approve the FY2027 Community Wellness and Recovery Grant Contract for Belmont County Commissioners Jail Services up to \$81,309.00. The motion passed unanimously.
8. **Cedar Ridge Behavioral Health Solutions FY2027 - Cedar Ridge Behavioral Health Solutions FY2027 Contract:** Ms. Ward reviewed the contract for Cedar Ridge Behavioral Health Solutions for FY2027. Richard Schenk made a motion, seconded by Nicole Weigand to approve the FY2027 Contract for Cedar Ridge Behavioral Health Solutions up to \$655,599.00. The motion passed unanimously.
9. **Belmont County CARES Program Cumberland Trail Fire Department -** Ms. Ward reviewed the FY2027 contract for Belmont County CARES Program Cumberland Trail Fire Department. Joe Vavra made a motion, seconded by Richard Schenk to approve the FY2027 Contract for Community Wellness Grant for the Belmont County CARES Program up to 170,216.00. The motion passed unanimously.
10. **NAMI of Greater Wheeling Contract for FY2027 -** Ms. Ward reviewed the FY2027 contract for NAMI of Greater Wheeling. Steve Williams made a motion, seconded by Joe Hise to approve the FY2027 NAMI of Greater Wheeling contract up to \$184,000.00. The motion passed unanimously.

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11. **Tri-County Help Center Contract for FY2027** - Ms. Ward reviewed the FY2027 contract for Tri-County Help Center Inc. Contract – Richard Schenk made a motion, seconded by John Carr to approve the FY2027 Tri-County Help Center Contract for \$335,157.00. The motion passed unanimously.
12. **The Village Network Service Contract for FY2027** - Ms. Ward reviewed the FY2027 contract for The Village Network – Joe Hise made a motion, seconded by Nicole Weigand to approve The Village Network FY2027 Contract for \$149,633.00. The motion passed unanimously.
13. **Neurobehavioral Health Consultants Contract for FY2027**- Ms. Ward reviewed the FY2027 contract for Neurobehavioral Health Consultants – Joe Vavra made a motion, seconded by John Carr to approve the FY2027 Neurobehavioral Health Consultants Contract for \$115,000.00. The motion passed unanimously.
14. **Shared Funding Agreement for Tomorrow's Youth Project FY2027** - Ms. Ward reviewed the contract for Shared Funding Agreement for Tomorrow's Youth Project for FY2027 for up to \$50,000.00 – Joe Vavra made a motion, seconded by John Carr to approve the FY2027 Shared Funding Agreement for Tomorrow's Youth Project for \$50,000.00. The motion passed unanimously.

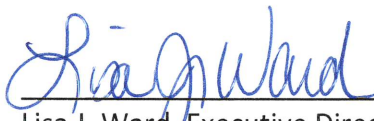
Old Business

There was none.

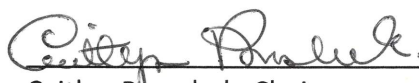
Public Comment

There was none.

Adjournment - At 6:30 p.m., Richard Schenk made a motion, seconded by Nicole Weigand to adjourn the June 23, 2026, meeting. The motion passed unanimously.



Lisa J. Ward, Executive Director



Caitlyn Romshak, Chairperson



Jacquelyn Knight, Vice-Chairperson