

Minutes of the OPC Area Board/LME Board Meeting
Thursday, April 12, 2007
Administrative Office - Europa Center

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Jimmy Clayton, Commissioner Tom Vanderbeck, George Greger-Holt, Lori Ireland, Kathleen Herr, Richard Edwards, Sue Schwartz, Amanda Blanks, John Stewart, Sandra Herring, Jim Leis, Henry Pleasant

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Commissioner Moses Carey

STAFF PRESENT:

Dave Jenny, Lynne Hamlet, Donna Prather, Debra Farrington, Judy Truitt, Ivy Williams, Cim Brailer, Janine Reda

GUESTS PRESENT,

LeAnn Brown, OPC Attorney
Virginia Hill, Chair of CFAC

CALL TO ORDER

OPC Chair, George Greger-Holt called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. The first order of business was to swear in Dr. Lynn Ikenberry. Dr. Ikenberry swore he would support and maintain the Constitution and laws of the United States, the Constitution and laws of the State of North Carolina, and faithfully discharge the duties of the office as a member of the Orange Person Chatham Area Program Board.

CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Greger-Holt opened the floor for public comment. There was none.

READING OF THE MINUTES

Mr. Greger-Holt requested an amendment to the March 2007 Minutes, to include the results of the closed session. John Stewart motioned to approve the March 8, 2007 Minutes of the OPC Area Board meeting upon the inclusion of the closed session results. Henry Pleasant seconded the motion. The motion carried with thirteen board members voting in favor and none opposing.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON

Mr. Greger-Holt deferred his report to Judy Truitt, seeing that she planned to cover all pertinent information.

AREA DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Truitt began the meeting by discussing the Community Forum.

1. Community Forum

The Forum will begin at 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, May 22, 2007 at the Sunrise Church located off New Hope Church Road, Exit 263 off Interstate 40. OPC plans to advertise in all three counties beginning the second week of May.

2. Legislative Update

OPC received a report from the Legislative Oversight Committee, which was included in the packet. OPC is currently waiting for an update. Ms. Truitt also reported Representative Verla Insko has become interested in the connection between mental health and the criminal justice system, and wants LMEs to monitor prisoners' mental health throughout each county of the state. Ms. Truitt also requested that Board Members offer up information they are privileged to regarding the recent changes implemented by the Division of Mental Health (further noted DMH) in their communities.

3. County General Funds Report

Located on page 42 of the April Board Packet is a memorandum from Wanda Mitchell, a DMH Budget and Finance team leader. This year there has been a strong infusion of county money demonstrating how the Counties have supported the LMEs, and Ms. Truitt expressed her pride and appreciation towards all OPC counties.

4. Area and County Populations

For updates on county population figures, please turn to page 50. Ms. Truitt drew attention to the fact that monies received from DMH are divided out per capita.

5. Second Quarter Performance Report

OPC had no serious concerns noted in the Second Quarter of the SFY 06-07 Performance Report, which is located on page 58 of the April Board Packet.

OPC received several critical items of data after information was due to DMH for the Performance Report. DMH penalized OPC for its late submission. All staff members understand the importance of sending information to DMH and plan for on time submissions in the future.

There was discussion relating to continuity of care. Kathleen Herr expressed her concern regarding the no-show rate. Ms. Truitt explained that if a consumer reschedules their appointment, their initial appointment is still considered a no-show, and this may account for the higher no-show rate. Timely access to care was a priority of Mental Health reform, but DMH did not account for that lack of financing for crisis services, and high no-show rates. OPC plans to run reports identifying the number of IPRS consumers discharged and how many of those

were given appointments and how many consumers rescheduled or did not attend their appointment.

6. DMH Milestones and Accomplishments

Ms. Truitt asked the Board Members to review page 90 through 93 for updates, changes, and additions at the state level.

7. LME Cost Model SFY 2008 and Governor's Budget

A memorandum released by DMH, located on page two of the packet provided at the April Board Meeting, relating to the LME Cost Model states that Mental Health has been allocated less than half of what it needs to run the LMEs as they currently exist. The Governor's Budget does not include the additional funds needed and this could create many problems for LMEs across the state, including OPC (for more on the Governor's Budget please see page nine of the packet provided at the April Board Meeting). Ms. Truitt plans to attend the Area Director's Forum the day following the April OPC Board Meeting and hopes to receive more information regarding the budget at that time.

8. Community Support Rate Cut

DMH requested that LMEs perform Audits of providers, however; LMEs did not audit any providers within their own catchment area. DMH did not audit every provider; only 167 providers across the state were selected. The audits revealed major inconsistencies with community support. The recent rate cut for community support directly correlates to audits that DMH and LME staff performed. DMH placed the audited providers into three categories providers who were committing overt fraud, providers who needed rehabilitation, and providers who had few to no problems. DMH felt as though they had to cut the rate once finding out that paraprofessionals were performing the majority of services.

DMH stated the current rate for community support is temporary and that the rate could increase or decrease depending on the results of their investigation. Initially DMH said the rate would be retroactive but now the \$10 rate per 15-minute units will begin as of April 5, 2007.

OPC is holding an emergency meeting with community support providers to guide and support them during this time. OPC is also evaluating which providers who do not offer community support currently, may be willing to provide it in the future if other providers are not able to withstand the rate-cut to community support.

Caring Family Network (further noted CFN) in the past year has transitioned from running outpatient clinics to a comprehensive service agency. This transition year created much difficulty for CFN and with the new rate for community support, they run the risk of losing \$300K per month statewide. OPC and CFN have had issues sending and receiving billing. CFN did not submit billing for the first five months of the year and once they began submitting billing

OPC had one claims adjudicator. DMH has recently agreed to move funds allowing OPC to help CFN stabilize their budget.

9. LME Review by Dr. Alice Lin

Ms. Truitt informed the Board that DMH has asked Dr. Alice Lin to visit OPC in the next few months to perform an LME implementation review. DMH selected seven LMEs for Dr. Lin to review. Dr. Lin would like to speak to Board Members, Staff, Providers, and Consumers during her visit. Ms. Truitt will inform the Board as soon as OPC receives more information from DMH regarding Dr. Lin's review.

10. Mental Health Trust Fund Initiatives and Homeless Mental Health Housing Initiative

Ms. Truitt was incredibly pleased to inform the Board that DMH approved all OPC submissions to the Mental Health Trust Fund. Unfortunately, OPC did not receive the Homeless Mental Health Housing Initiative.

11. Crisis Money

OPC hopes to pull down \$131K in Crisis Money. Ms. Truitt will update the Board at the May Board meeting.

FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT

Dave Jenny asked the Board to turn to page 94 of the April Board Packet and locate the Financial Report. Mr. Jenny explained that Jack Parsons, the Division's financial consultant visited April third and fourth. Mr. Parsons' background was as a chief financial officer at an LME in the western part of the state; Mr. Jenny indicated Mr. Parsons' helpfulness and that he plans to return to meet with Kris O'Keefe, Contracts and Claims Coordinator, before the close of the month.

OPC has still not received information from our Regional Accountant on the outcome of the 2003 TSR for non-UCR funds, nor the non-UCR payback for 2006.

Planning meetings have begun to develop the LME operating budget for next fiscal year. Items are being identified as one-time items during this year, normal operating expenses, and resources needed to implement OPC's Local Business Plan.

Henry Christoph joined the Finance Department as Data Analyst. Henry is experienced in extracting data and developing management reports. He is a much-needed resource for all OPC departments.

With the receipt of the Claims module for ProFiler, the Finance Department anticipates the full implementation in July. Discussion of the full utilization of ProFiler will influence contracts for next year. With all functions contained in one system there will be the ability to control contract funds through service authorizations.

Mr. Jenny reviewed the Income Statements with the Board. He pointed out how OPC received two payments from DMH, for more detail please see page 97. Commissioner Clayton motioned to approve the Finance Report and Income Statements. Henry Pleasant seconded the motion. The motion carried with thirteen board members voting in favor and none opposing.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee:

Lori Ireland reported that the Finance committee had no further information beyond Mr. Jenny's report. The next Finance Committee meeting will be held on May 10, 2007 at 6 p.m.

DD Committee:

The DD Committee did not meet tonight. The next DD Committee meeting will be held on May 10, 2007 at 6 p.m.

Adult MH/SA Committee:

Amanda Blanks reported that the Adult MH/SA committee discussed the rate reduction and how that will affect consumers and providers as well as the revisions, DMH has asked OPC to make revisions to its Crisis Plan. The next Adult MH/SA Committee meeting will be held on May 10, 2007 at 6 p.m.

Human Resources Committee:

The HR committee had nothing new to report. The next HR committee meeting is to be announced.

Client Rights Committee:

The Client Rights Committee (CRC) reviewed provider surveys. The feedback relates to what CRC practices currently look like. Additionally, technical assistance was a common theme. The CRC wants to examine accreditation requirements regarding CR monitoring as a platform to develop technical assistance for providers. During the CRC meeting, one CRC member explained how using non-verbal charts and graphics for people with low literacy are helpful. The CRC plans to start including useful resources pertaining to client rights for providers in OPC's provider newsletter. The next regular meeting of the OPC Client Rights Committee will be Tuesday, May 1 at 5:00 PM in the AO Conference Room at the Europa Center.

Child & Family Committee:

The Child and Family Committee did not meet. The next Child and Family Committee meeting will be held on May 10, 2007 at 6 p.m. Debra Farrington added that there is a plan to present new ideas about subcommittee restructuring at the May Board Meeting.

Consumer & Family Advisory Committee:

Virginia Hill, CFAC Chair reported that CFAC met with Andy Sacks, as well as Ms. Truitt and together they are thinking about new ways and opportunities for CFAC to contribute. Discussion ensued regarding a permanent Board seat for the CFAC chair. Mr. Greger-Holt interjected that this would be discussed with the changes to the OPC Board Bylaws.

Old Business:

1. Resolution of the Boards of Commissioners of Orange-Person-Chatham Counties

LeAnn Nease Brown, OPC attorney revised the bylaws to include changes regarding the appointment of Board Members. These changes are included in the packet handed out at the April Board Meeting on page 19-21. The OPC Board adopted the new bylaws in January and the statute contemplates the manner of appointment. Each county may choose to appoint Board Members in a different manner however; the manner needs to be uniform. County Commissioners have to determine how they will appoint Board Members. The Board also decided they would like to remove the at-large Board seats, include a seat for a CFAC member, and divide the remaining three amongst the three counties.

Henry Pleasant motioned for Ms. Nease Brown to revise the current bylaws in preparation for a review at the next Board meeting. Commissioner Tom Vanderbeck seconded the motion. The motion carried with thirteen board members voting in favor and none opposing.

New Business:

Ms. Truitt announced that she is going on vacation at the end of April, but she plans to check in while she is gone.

Board Meeting:

The next Board Meeting is on May 10, 2007 at the Europa Center Suite 490. The Committee meetings will begin at 6:00pm and the Board Meeting will begin at 7:00pm.

Adjournment:

Jim Leis made the motion to adjourn the OPC Board meeting and Sue Schwartz seconded. The motion carried with all board members voting in favor and no one opposing. The meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Herr
Secretary