

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 15, 2023
SHARWELL BUILDING**

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners Richard Mirabito, Tony R. Mussare, Scott L. Metzger from Lycoming County, and Commissioner Jeff Snyder, from Clinton County, were in attendance.

Staff: Keith Wagner – Joinder Executive Director; Matthew Salvatori - CYS Administrator; Emma Thompson – Joinder Administrative Officer; Rhonda Asaro – Joinder Fiscal Officer; Aundrea Trautner – Joinder Administrative Assistant; Vanessa Shellman – HealthChoices Clinical Manager, and Jon DeWald – Joinder Solicitor.

Guests: Patricia Crossley- Williamsport Sun-Gazette; Leslee Rundio – Community Services Group; Nicole Miele Knarr – Community Care Behavioral Health Organization; Emily Hulse – Community Services Group, Barbara Vanaskie – West Branch Drug & Alcohol Abuse Commission; Rob Labatch – Hope Enterprises, Inc.; and Casey Monaghan – Public Guest.

CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Lycoming-Clinton Joinder Board was Called to Order at 1:01 p.m. by Commissioner Mirabito, Joinder Board President. Zoom/call-in is available for today’s meeting, and some guests were in attendance via this option.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Commissioner Metzger Moved, and Commissioner Mussare Seconded a Motion to:

“Approve the minutes from the February 15, 2023, Executive Committee Meeting of the Joinder Board as presented by staff.”

The Motion passed unanimously.

CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023

FY 22-23 MH Amendments

Mr. Wagner noted one amendment agreement on today’s agenda for Robert Castellano. Mr. Castellano provides assessments and psychological referrals to incarcerated individuals. This amendment will cover his services for the full fiscal year of 2022-2023.

Commissioner Snyder Moved, and Commissioner Metzger Seconded a Motion to:

“Approve the following Amendment Agreement pertaining to mental health services with the Lycoming-Clinton Mental Health/Intellectual Disability Program for the period 7/1/22 to 6/30/23:

Robert Castellano for Mental Health and Suicide Assessments for inmates at Lycoming County Prison in the amount of \$20,000.00 for the period 7/1/22 to 06/30/23.”

The Motion passed unanimously.

FY 22-23 MH Renewal Agreements

Mr. Wagner noted one renewal agreement on today’s agenda for Community Services Group (CSG). The total agreement amount is lower than last year due to the closure of a group home. There are now 2 group homes available to clients in the area, eight beds in Lycoming County and six beds in Clinton County. Commissioner Mirabito questioned the cost of services for only fourteen beds. Leslee Rudio explained that the agreement also provides other services, including CSG’s Independent Living program and other community client support services. Commissioner Mirabito inquired as to what kind of services the IL program provides. Most of these individuals have never lived on their own or held a job, and the IL program helps them gain employment, obtain an apartment, and live independently without assistance. There are currently 18 adults that participate in this program at one time with up to 70 participating throughout the year.

Commissioner Mussare Moved, and Commissioner Metzger Seconded a Motion to:

“Approve the following Renewal Agreement pertaining to mental health services and intellectual disability services with the Lycoming-Clinton Mental Health/Intellectual Disability Program for the period 7/1/22 to 6/30/23:

- *Community Services Group for Residential Services in the amount of \$1,335,755.00.”*

The Motion passed unanimously.

JOINDER FY 22-23 New Agreement

Mr. Wagner noted one new Joinder Agreement on today’s agenda for West Branch Drug and Alcohol Abuse Commission. Mr. Wagner stated that back in 2017, a grant was obtained to start a crisis intervention program for first responders and police personnel. The previous trainer for this program left in 2019, and because of COVID, the CIT program postponed all future trainings. To continue the program, we need more staff volunteers. Barb Vanaskie from West Branch has agreed to head the program and reestablish the trainings for law enforcement and other criminal justice and first responder personnel.

Commissioner Metzger Moved, and Commissioner Snyder Seconded a Motion to:

“Approve the following New Agreement pertaining to mental health services and intellectual disability services with the Lycoming-Clinton Mental Health/Intellectual Disability Program for the period 3/1/23 to 6/30/23:

- *West Branch Drug and Alcohol Abuse Commission for CIT Training and Coordination in the amount of \$6,500.00.”*

The Motion passed unanimously.

HealthChoices Reinvestment Agreements Calendar Year 2023

Mr. Wagner noted that reinvestment funds are being given to assist with the purchase of “Bridge Devices,” produced by the company Masimo. This device is placed in the ear and helps to reduce the symptoms associated with opioid withdrawal. Mr. Wagner stated that in the past many clients have refused treatment for their addiction because of the fear associated with the withdrawal process. He hopes that this non-medicated form of treatment will lessen those fears and allow individuals to have an easier transition into sobriety. White Deer has agreed to participate in a study allowing 900 members over a 3-year period to test this new device. White Deer is reporting the information learned from the study to The Center for Medical Services (CMS), which is working towards a non-medicated form of treatment to assist individuals suffering from opioid addiction.

Commissioner Metzger inquired whether he was allowed to vote on this topic, and Joinder solicitor Jon Dewald stated yes, as there was no conflict of interest.

Commissioner Mussare Moved, and Commissioner Metzger Seconded a Motion to:

“Approve the following Reinvestment Agreement for Opioid Withdrawal Treatment Services between the Lycoming-Clinton Joinder Board, on behalf of its Lycoming-Clinton HealthChoices Program for the period 1/1/23 to 12/31/25.”

The Motion passed unanimously.

Electronic Signatures

An electronic signature alternative through DocuSign was presented at the meeting. Instead of signing agreements and forms by hand using the ink-to-paper method, all agreements going forward will be signed using an electronic method. DocuSign will allow us to streamline the contract process and cut down on the costs of expensive stationery.

Commissioner Snyder Moved, and Commissioner Metzger Seconded a Motion to:

“Approve the use of electronic signatures through DocuSign.”

The Motion passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS, NEXT MEETING, AND ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Mirabito inquired if there were any additional questions or comments from the guests who were in attendance. With nothing further presented, it was noted that the Joinder Board's next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 19, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.** in the lower-level conference room of the Sharwell Building in Williamsport.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

An Executive Session was held following the conclusion of the Executive Committee meeting to discuss a variety of personnel and other matters.

With no further business presented before the Joinder Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Keith A. Wagner, Executive Director
Joinder Board Secretary