



OPRA Board Meeting Minutes
November 17, 2022
10am – 12:30pm

Call to Order and “Safe Place” statement

Chair Adam Guinther called the meeting to order at 10:01 am and read the “Safe Place” statement.

Board Minutes

- Diane Beaström motioned to accept the minutes, Melissa Morelli seconded. Motion carries.

Financial Report

- Liz Owens gave the Financial Report. Michelle Madden motioned to accept the Financial Report and Lisa Reed seconded. Motion carried.

Governance Committee update

- OPRA Elections
 - Pete Moore gave an overview that the Board elections are up and running.
 - Reported that member participation increased in this year’s elections, and election results will be shared with the membership in the coming weeks.

6.5% Retention Bonus Update

- Pete Moore gave an overview of the project. OPRA is working with our partners and language has been drafted.
- Efforts are ongoing to get legislation passed during the lame duck period to enact payments sooner than later.
- Board Members provided feedback and asked questions on the updates.

State Budget Updates

- Pete Moore gave an overview on the advocacy efforts and communication strategies for the biennium budget request.
- Based on ICF and waiver justifications, the budget ask is a 40% increase for ICFs and a 50% increase for waiver services.
- PowerPoints for the ICF and waiver justifications were part of the November Board Packet sent to the Board on November 11th.
- Kurt Miller gave an in-depth overview on the ICF justifications for the budget ask.
- Scott Marks gave an in-depth overview on the waiver justifications for the budget ask.
- Board Members provided feedback and asked questions on the updates.

ARPA Funding

- Senator Romanchuk is leading an effort to use ARPA funding for possible relief payments for essential workers in Ohio. OPRA is scheduled to meet with the Senator on November 30th to discuss ideas on how ARPA funding can be used to support providers.

DRO Hearings

- The first hearing of the joint committee was held a few weeks ago. Testimony was given by parents and guardians of a few ICF residents. There's still a lot of work to be done. We hope to get more insight on the committee's recommendations after the next meeting.

14c

- OPRA continues to meet with legislators. OPRA is meeting with a primary sponsor of the current 14c language at 2pm today.

Other Topics

- PNM Issues
 - ODM is working around the clock to resolve PNM issues. Board members was asked to submit a list of issues they are having to share with the Medicaid GR and Policy team to pinpoint the problems.
- Rule Comments
 - OPRA submitted comments to DODD regarding the new ICF rules. The department confirmed the submission, and we're waiting to hear feedback to determine next steps.
- OOD/CESP
 - OPRA has been advocating for the relaxation of the OOD rule for CESP certification requirement for community employment. OPRA was successful in getting OOD to relax their rules to make it easier for employment services to get people on board to provide service.

OPRA Team Updates

- Pete Moore gave an overview of the OPRA priorities for 2023 and focus on the following efforts to eventually reduce membership dues:
 - Member Recruitment
 - Non Dues Revenue (Training)
 - DD System Redesign
- 2023 Membership
 - OPRA's goals is to increase membership to also help reduce membership dues.
 - Adding a new \$10,000 Public Entity level to help bring in new providers.
 - Reinstating the Member Guest Initiative month in March 2023.
 - Partnering with county board provider liaisons.
- OPRA Conference
 - Overall the 2022 Fall Conference was a big success. OPRA received good reviews of the sessions and conference in general.
 - In 2024, OPRA will be moving the Spring Conference to Toledo. Going forward, the Spring Conferences will rotate to different cities throughout Ohio.
 - OPRA is looking to introduce a new format to focus more on leadership and team building. Details and ideas are in the works.



Michelle Herndon motioned to adjourn at 11:58am, Jim Steffey seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Madden, Secretary

Present Board Members

District 1 – Jamie Steele, Melissa Morelli and Jim Steffey

District 2 – Dennis Grant, Ashley Brocious and Michelle Herndon

District 3 – Edgar Barnett, Lisa Reed and Mary Thompson-Hufford

District 4 – Roy Cherry and Tim Menke

District 5 – Jeff Johnson, Michelle Madden- Secretary and Phil Miller

District 6 – Adam Guinther- Chair, Liz Owens- Treasurer and Bob Heinzerling

District 7 – Diane Beastrom and Tammy Honkala

District 8 – John Swanson, Scott DeLong- Vice Chair and Felicia Hall

At-Large – Bob Gaston, Kurt Miller

OPRA Staff – Pete Moore, Scott Marks, Christine Touvelle, Sonya Summers and Melissa Fannon