



OPRA Board Meeting Minutes
January 25, 2023
10am – 12:30pm

Call to Order and “Safe Place” statement

Chair Adam Guinther called the meeting to order at 10:00 am and read the “Safe Place” statement.

Pete Moore welcomed newly elected Board member, Dustin Watkins (District 4) and announced re-appointed At-Large Board members Bob Gaston and Kurt Miller.

Board Minutes

- Lisa Reed motioned to accept the minutes, Scott DeLong seconded. Motion carries.

Financial Report

- Liz Owens gave the Financial Report. Roy Cherry motioned to accept the Financial Report and Melissa Morelli seconded. Motion carried.

Board & Policy Report

- State of the Statehouse Updates
 - Pete Moore talked about the unexpected new Speaker of the House, Jason Stephens (R). Pete also discussed new committee chair appointments and the development of OPRA’s strategy to build relationships with leaders among various committees during the budget process.
- State Budget Updates
 - Pete Moore talked about Director Hauck’s letter to the Office of Budget Management (OBM) to make the case for why DODD should increase their budget so rates can be raised.
 - The OPRA team along with members of the Coalition met with the Governor’s policy advisors on January 17th to reinforce our budget ask with additional data. This was a follow up meeting from July 2022. The Governor is set to give his State of the State address on January 31st.
 - Board members provided their feedback and asked questions regarding the budget updates.
- Budget Messaging
 - Pete discussed the presentation from the Impact Group regarding the communication plan. The presentation ‘as is’ received mixed reviews from providers. The Coalition is meeting to share some new thoughts and changes to help streamline the messaging.
 - Board members provided their feedback and asked questions regarding budget messaging.

Blueprint/14C

- Pete gave an update on the initiatives to eliminate 14c in Ohio. Rep. Jarrells (D) is leading the effort to get legislation in place. The OPRA team is arranging a meeting with Rep. Jarrells and Rep. Lipps (R) to express concerns about this elimination.

- Scott Marks gave a quick update on the Blueprint. The OPRA team along with the Blueprint reps is working on 2 different approaches to the Milliman proposal. One in form of a letter outlining major concerns and a counter proposal with alternative rate models to DODD by the February 22nd feedback date.

ICF Development Rule & Waiver Nursing

- Pete suggested that a more serious effort on these issues need to take place and the need to develop some next step action items to address the development rule and its impact with many of our ICF providers.

CEO Report

- Pete shared that OPRA is close to releasing a new job posting for Medicaid Policy and Data Director.
- Gina Weisshaar has been brought on as a full-time member of the OPRA team. She will be playing a major role in coordinating OPRA's member recruiting efforts.
- OPRA will hold another March Guest/Member initiative to help with recruiting efforts. Last year we had 15 non-members participate and we gained 5 new members in 2022.
- Membership renewals were sent out the first week of January. Another email blast will be sent on February 1st to those who have not yet renewed. The membership renewal period ends on April 1st.
- OPRA is planning 2 PAC Golf events so far in 2023 – Golf outing on June 2nd at Urbana Country Club and Top Golf event on October 25th.
- Melissa announced that Ryan Shazier will be the Keynote Speaker for the 2023 Spring Conference, and exhibitor and sponsor opportunities will be made available on February 1st.
- The OPRA Board Retreat is scheduled for August 23rd-26th.

Jamie Steele presented an idea to the Board to form a small committee group to develop new models to address the lack of services across the state.

Christine Touvelle discussed the efforts of APSI and OACB to develop a new statute around supported decision making. More information about this effort will be forthcoming.

The next Board meeting will be virtual and scheduled for February 22nd.

Adam Guinther motioned to adjourn at 12:02pm. 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, Tim Menke and Dustin Watkins

District 5 – Jeff Johnson and Michelle Madden- Secretary - Phil Miller (absent)

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

District 7 – Diane Beastrom, Tammy Honkala and Beth Lucas

At-Large – John Swanson, Scott DeLong- Vice Chair, Felicia Hall, Bob Gaston and Kurt Miller

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