

# **OHIO PROVIDER RESOURCE ASSOCIATION**

## **REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

August, 24 2011

### **I. CALL TO ORDER:**

Than Johnson, President; called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. at the OPRA offices in Grandview, Ohio. Present were Michael DeFrancesco, Vice-President; Steve McPeake, Treasurer; Pat Colombo, Secretary; Gary Toth, Past President; Greg Bair, Anna Barrett; Roy Cherry; Dona England-Afek; Jay Fabian; Janice Hall; Robert Heinzerling; Betty Holland; Rich Johnson; Becky LeMasters; Donna Merrill; Jorji Milliken; Michael Rench; Tom Rice; David Robinson; Debbie Schmieding; John Swanson; Tom Weaver, Chris Wolf. There being twenty five members, a quorum was constituted and official business was transacted. Also present was Mark Davis, President; Anita Allen, Vice-President; Teri Derry, Director of Training and Professional Development and Jeff Davis, Director of Government Relations.

### **II. FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

Steve McPeake reported that there was no report due to vacations. The committee will meet in the next month to review investments.

### **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The Board reviewed minutes from June and July 2011. Dona England-Afek moved that the minutes be accepted. Anna Barrett seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

### **IV. STATE BUDGET AND LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:**

Senate Bill 5 is being pushed again. Jeff Davis reported that there is an expectation that the budget will be revisited again next year. Jeff also distributed a report regarding state finances. Unemployment is very worrisome. Than Johnson discussed the creation of an ad hoc Government Relations Committee. Jeff Davis also described some meetings he has been having with individual legislators for self-advocates. He is willing to do this as his time permits.

### **V. OPRA STRATEGIC PLAN:**

Mark Davis reported that he held a staff retreat last week to review the plan and progress made thus far. The staff will develop a report for the Board which will be reviewed at the October Board Retreat. There is recognition that due to budget cuts, member agencies may not be able to provide the resources to OPRA which have been possible in the past.

### **VI. EFFICIENCIES AND SIMPLIFICATION STRATEGIC FOCUS AREA:**

Mark Davis and Than Johnson discussed the 3% utilization reduction called for in the budget. Thus far there is not much activity on the part of the counties. There is concern that discussions need to begin soon between providers and counties in order to make this happen.

Anita Allen discussed the adult day services requirements. Last month this Board voted to approve the changes suggested in this area, but there has been no activity since then. She also reported that she is meeting with the CBA to begin talking about changes to be made as the result of the SSA and Program Managers Grant work which has been done thus far.

Mark Davis reported that FPF changes remains in limbo due to Federal debt discussions.

Anita Allen reported that there has been no further progress in simplifying the QA and Nursing QA reviews.

## **VII. REIMBURSEMENT AND DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL WAGES STRATEGIC FOCUS AREA:**

Mark Davis discussed the waiver pilot and some efficiency work that is being done in MEIORC's region. He will be meeting with some superintendents in that region and will have more to report in the future. The waiver pilot remains at CMS and there is still an intent to implement it as soon as it is approved. There was discussion about the financial viability of the pilot, especially in years two and three. There was also a lengthy discussion of the use of remote monitoring and what would be done with any savings which result from its use. OPRA's position remains that these efficiency dividends be used to for direct care wages/provider fiscal relief, waiting list and county/state budgets.

Anita Allen reported that Pat McCormick will be in this afternoon to meet with the ICF group to continue to work on the IAF data. She is also meeting with ODJFS to discuss the new ICF payment and transition to DODD. The outlier work is also beginning and she is meeting tomorrow with a consultant regarding this.

## **VIII: WAITING LIST AND UNMET NEEDS STRATEGIC PLAN FOCUS AREA:**

No report.

## **IX. SELF WAIVER:**

Jeff Davis reported that the waiver is still in front of CMS. He is working with a small group to look at the rules and will be sending some additional information out to the full board.

## **X. MEMBERSHIP AND MEMBER SERVICES STRATEGIC FOCUS AREA:**

Teri Derry reported that they have been meeting and new member welcome packets are almost complete and there are many new members.

Ginny Whisman continues to attend district meetings to discuss DC downsizing.

## **XI. RULES SUMMARY:**

Jeff Davis reported that DODD is looking at administrative efficiencies and he feels that the MUI rule and the 06 rule may well be re-opened. There is also support from the county boards regarding this.

## **XII. FEDERAL ISSUES:**

Mark Davis discussed the continuing concern about the viability of Medicaid at the federal level. He does not expect to hear back regarding the questions and comments which were sent to CMS concerning HCBS. He expects that CMS will review all stakeholder comments and then release the rule. There is no set timeline for any of these activities by CMS. He further reported on meetings he has been attending about Health Homes. There was a hand out as well.

## **XIII. BOARD RETREAT**

The date will be October 19 and further information will be forth coming.

## **XIV. CMS/STATE/COUNTY/PROVIDER REGION V SUMMIT:**

All six states have agreed to participate. CMS is now deciding if they will participate.

## **XV. DSP WEEK RESOLUTION:**

Mark Davis distributed a resolution for DSP Week. Jay Fabian moved that it be adopted and Deb Schmieding seconded. In discussion, the resolution was amended. It was approved. A copy is attached.

## **XVI. ADJOURNMENT:**

Than Johnson adjourned the meeting at 12:07

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Colombo  
Secretary