1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Janice Hall, President, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Present at the meeting were; Tom Weaver, Vice President, Roy Cherry, Treasurer, Robert Heinzerling, Secretary; Marti Adams; Dona England-Afek; Anna Barrett; Pat Colombo; Roger Fortener; Adam Guinther; Becky Lemasters; Michael Malone; Steve McPeake; Patricia Otter; Debbie Schmieding; Jamie Steele; John Swanson; and Gary Toth. Also present were OPRA Staff: Mark Davis, President; Anita Allen, Vice-President; Teri Derry, Director of Training and Professional Development and Jeff Davis, Director of Government Relations.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Dona England-Afek motioned to approve the July 2013 Board meeting minutes. Roy Cherry seconded. Motion carried.

1. **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Roy Cherry reported that the Finance Committee had just received the financials from McManus on 8.27.13. They will be reviewed and presented at the September Board meeting.

1. **EFFICIENCIES AND SIMPLIFICATION**

Jeff Davis reported that training on new MUI rule revisions were being scheduled by DODD. There have been reports of misinterpretations by a COG of information from these trainings and this issue is being addressed by DODD. Concerns regarding increased MUI’s due to new interpretations of peer-to-peer were discussed and Jeff will bring these concerns to the MUI workgroup.

Anita Allen reported no update on SSA and Program Management. OPRA member comments on the proposed rule have been sent to DODD however there has been no reply to date.

Anita Allen reported that the Behavior Support workgroup continues to meet and discuss the state’s requirements versus federal regulations.

Teri Derry reported that the Waiver Pilot is making progress. Meetings have been held with Hamilton, Athens, Madison, Clark and Champaign county staff focusing on the discovery process. DODD continues to work with counties around applying the rate and gathering data. Phase 2 will include programmatic aspects, and will involve working on individual, provider and SSA relationships. Next steps are to submit the interim report to the Ohio Office of Health Transformation on the current status and proposed next steps of the pilot. DODD

Anita Allen reported on Level of Care pilot project. Ms. Allen reported that 400 LOC packets are required for a valid sample size, however only 250 have been received to date, delaying the project and potentially extending timelines. DODD has indicated that the electronic version will be online sometime after January 2014.

Mark Davis reported on OHT streamlining initiative. Mr. Davis reviewed the status of OPRA’s negotiations with the Governor’s office, about the proposed pilot for joint reviews by both ODH and DODD. We have made significant progress in these negotiations and it is likely that OPRA will participate in the pilot. The issue of unannounced visits remains unresolved.

Mark Davis reported on the status of national deeming for licensure and county board accreditation. The Partnership (OSCBDD, APSI and OPRA) has agreed that this should be our next priority. Mark Davis and Nancy Neely, Licking County Superintendent, are the point people for this project.

Mark Davis shared updates on simplifying the background check process. A meeting is being held this week, to discuss the processes for this project. Currently there are six different methodologies, and OPRA is recommending that providers only enter data once and the other 5 methodologies are automated.

1. **MEDICAID EXPANSION UPDATE**

Mark Davis updated the Board on Medicaid Expansion. A coalition is planning on filing a ballot initiative around Labor Day, for a voter initiated statute for Medicaid expansion. OPRA has been involved in the discussions on the organizational structure of the ballot campaign. The plan is for the ballot campaign to have an executive committee with a buy-in requirement of $250,000. Mark recommended that OPRA not participate at the level of the executive committee. The plan is for the ballot campaign to have a steering committee with a buy-in requirement of $15,000 or the in-kind equivalent. Mark asked the board to have discussions about OPRA participating financially at the $15,000 level and on the steering committee, as Medicaid expansion is a critical issue for OPRA. Steve McPeake moved that Mark be authorized to have OPRA contribute up to $15,000 to the Medicaid expansion ballot campaign. (need name of board member who seconded this motion). Motion carried.

Mark Davis discussed the three phases of obtaining signatures for the ballot initiative. OPRA Board members agreed to assist in gathering signatures and delivering them to the OPRA offices before the September 4th, 10:00am deadline.

1. **MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCE JOINT COMMITTEE**

Jeff Davis reported on the status of the dues rebate implementation. A letter has been sent to all members regarding a 5% rebate for FY14 which can be either deducted from dues currently owed or applied to FY14 dues. A dues proposal will be presented to the Board in September.

Tom Weaver introduced a 3-part plan: 1) member survey to create the strategy for new member retention; 2) significant reduction in first year dues for new members - followed by the implementation of a strategy to demonstrate the value of OPRA membership to these new members so that they renew the following year 3) revising the dues formula for 2015, based on the number of new members and projected OPRA dues revenue and OPRA budget. The sub-committee will report out at the September board meeting.

1. **REIMBURSEMENT TRANSFORMATION FOR WORKFORCE SUSTAINABILITY**

Jeff Davis reported on the status of the waiver rate increase. Everyone should have received notice of the rate increase for FY14. The workgroup determined that excluding Level One and independent providers made negligible difference so they were included. The targeted implementation date is January 1, 2014. Next steps include discussion and decisions about the distribution of the additional money in FY15.

Mark Davis reported on LTSS provider rate meeting with Advocated for Ohio’s Future (AOF) endorsers. The meeting was held to prepare for Medicaid Director, John McCarthy’s work that may occur. Director McCarthy has stated his intent to jointly review all LTSS waiver rate methodologies to ensure a consistent rationale is used in determining these rates.

1. **STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW PROCESS**

Mark Davis reported on the OPRA Strategic Plan process. Members will be asked to provide feedback through committees. OPRA will gather the information and present to the Board at the Board Retreat.

Teri Derry reported on the status of the video conferencing. A switch to broadband from our current T-1 line is necessary to allow for the increased bandwidth required to make the system to work properly. Installation is near completion. A go-live date is tentatively set for September 16th.

1. **FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES AND UNMET NEEDS**

Jeff Davis reported on Employment First. RSC Director Kevin Miller and Deputy Director Susan Pugh were speakers at the 8.27.13 Policy Committee and discussed the DODD/RSC Employment First agreement. About 50 members were present for this engaging conversation. Director Miller discussed reciprocate certification/deeming for providers who hold DODD certification in lieu of the required CARF certification currently required for RSC VRP3 funding. Director Miller is committed to working with OPRA to increase the number of private providers for RSC and to further community employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities. Janice Hall appointed a committee of the Board to review the issue and bring recommendations back to the full Board. The committee is: Dona England-Afek, Trish Otter, Debbie Schmieding, and Anna Barrett with Jeff and Teri staffing the committee. This committee’s report, and the issue of a day service provider market representation “void”, will also be added to the OPRA Board Retreat agenda for further discussion.

Mark Davis reported on the status of DD health homes. Director Martin has asked that OPRA work with him on the possibility of an IDD-specific health home.

1. **POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT**

Jeff Davis reported on Policy Committee. Jeff discussed the committee’s work regarding the ISP, and development of a position statement from OPRA regarding who we would like to see write/conduct the ISP and planning process going forward.

1. **OTHER**

Teri Derry reminded everyone that the OPRA Fall Conference will be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Dublin OH on October 8th and 9th.

Possible dates for the board retreat will be sent out to board members to advise on their availability. We will target dates after the conference.

Jeff Davis reported that the Summer OPRA PAC Golf outing brought in approximately $16,000.

Teri Derry reported that as of this date 92 people are registered for the three-state Technology Summit. Only 10% of those registrants are from Ohio.

Tom Weaver reported that Toward Independence’s Executive Director, Bob Archer, will retire effective August 30, 2013. Mark Schlater will become the new Executive Director.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

Adam Guinther motioned to adjourn the meeting. Janice Hall adjourned the meeting at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Heinzerling, Secretary