



**Core Committee Members in Attendance:** Diane Beastrom, Chair; Scott DeLong, Vice Chair; Jeff Johnson; Rich Johnson; Wylie Jones; Kurt Miller; Dave Rastoka; Brenda Smith; Jo Spargo; Abbey Summers; and Tim Neville attended the meeting in person. Ryan Knodel attended the meeting virtually.

Other Members in attendance include Gary Brown, Than Johnson, and Patrick Selbe. Justin Blumhorst, Ric Brown, Jan Dougherty, Bob Gaston, Anne Hanning, Margaret Himes, Amy Krukemyer, Laura LaGodney, Kevin Lundy, Melinda Ponder, Jamie Steele, and Janelle Wehrman attended virtually.

1. Policy Committee Role

- a. Clarification: with the new structure of OPRA's committees, the role of the Policy Committee is to review issues and positions that need to be voted on the Board

2. CEO Search and Selection

- a. Diane Beastrom gave overview of the process so far and next steps

3. Budget updates in general and clarify NMT proposal/status

- a. OPRA had multiple Members provide written and verbal testimony on the budget
- b. Projected state revenue is down
  - i. OPRA is not sure how that will impact Directors Davis, Miller, or Corcoran's budgets until we have a fuller picture of the revenue numbers
  - ii. The House of Representatives will be making revisions over the next week or two
  - iii. OPRA will be monitoring the action of both chambers and the Governor
- c. Christine Touvelle gave an overview the budget timeline
- d. Christine Touvelle shared the amendment OPRA submitted
- e. Gary Brown talked about an amendment to work on the ICF bed tax. Bed tax will be based on inpatient days so vacancies don't hurt ICFs. Increase in funds from the bed tax will stay in the ICF program to help support children with complex behavioral needs. Perhaps would help adults as well.
- f. ICF Quality Indicators

- i. There was some pushback from the Legislature about removing all of the ICF quality Indicators, it has been suggested to reduce the number to five indicators, which need to be identified by the end of 2019.
- ii. OPRA is working the Legislature and DODD to figure out next steps
- iii. Revised proposed structure of the indicators:
  - 1. Only take out 1% that provider will have the opportunity to earn back
  - 2. Instead of 13 indicators, there will be 5 that ICFs can meet to receive the incentive
  - 3. Stakeholders have till the end of the 20196 to agree on the indicators
  - 4. The indicators will be implemented at the beginning of FY 2021
- g. Need to hone the DSP wage increase messaging
  - i. The increase in funding is to the DSP wage component of the HPC rate
  - ii. Concerns about how the county and families are talking with agencies and DSPs
  - iii. The increase in DODD's budget does not mean every DSP providing HPC will be making \$12.38
  - iv. The increase and average wage does not include costs like overtime and fringe benefits or cost of doing business
  - v. The communication needs to emphasize that the increase to \$12.38 is over the biennium
  - vi. It also needs to differentiate between average wage, starting wage, and wage of someone who has been a long-term employee
  - vii. DSPs continue to get needed increases but frontline supervisors and program directors deserve increases as well
- h. There are significant concerns about the use of the National Core Indicators (NCI) Staff Stability Survey and wage reporting on a disaggregate level. There is concern on the correctness of the

survey- is everyone doing the formula correct? Are providers who are filling out the survey including overtime in their wage calculations?

- i. Wage increase- there was a suggestion to make a simplistic (1 page) reporting tool on what you spend on average on DSP (include overtime, benefits, etc.)
- ii. Needs to include all HPC hours (even those provided by frontline supervisors or program directors), not just staff that are “DSPs”

1. Policy Committee is going to work with Gary Brown on developing a tool to assist with better determination of the average wage. The goal would be to have DODD sign off on the tool.

- iii. Need to sit down with the stakeholder group to streamline communications on where the increase is going (DSP wage, ERE, total compensation concept). Concerns have been expressed related to using NCI survey data to track DSP increases. A method is needed, is this the right one?

**Next steps:**

- Associations must use a consistent message related to increased funding for DSP wages
- Follow up with DODD to determine the role they will take to get the message out accurately

- iv. Significant concerns expressed over lack of funding for frontline supervisors and managers. Turnover for these positions is increasing.

- i. Inflationary increase for on-site/on-call- Rep. Lipps mentioned this during testimony. OPRA is supportive of this idea but think it probably will not make it into the budget.

- i. If it is included in budget language, it would only last for two years since budget language only pertains to the specific biennium

- j. DSP competency add-on – no change yet, to be determined after the budget
- k. At this moment, nothing members need to do right now in terms of the budget except pay attention

4. Coalition letter

- a. Any feedback or impact?
  - i. Helped to bring day service providers into OPRA's budget advocacy efforts

5. 14C

- a. ANCOR held a webinar on the federal legislation
  - i. ANCOR believes the legislation is likely not going to go anywhere during this federal legislative session
- b. OPRA's position statement is being revised and waiting for the results of the survey
  - i. Survey of the OPRA Membership on 14c is getting closer to being finalized- should see it sometime soon
  - ii. Mark Knuckles newsletter related to 14c
    - 1. Brought some issues up that OPRA and Vorys is investigating – Lisa is following up
  - iii. DODD workgroup is addressing the 50% wage issue, not 14c
- c. **Next steps:** have the paper ready to send the Committee by May meeting
  - i. Policy Committee will review the paper. Based on feedback the paper will either go to the OPRA Board for discussion and a vote in May or will be sent back for more revisions

6. EVV updates

- a. Scott DeLong gave update on user acceptance testing
  - i. Lots of concerns over how the Sandata system is currently working and how it will work in the DODD system
  - ii. He will have summary of experience to give DODD and the Policy Committee
- b. Have someone from DODD who is the lead from DODD to next policy meeting

- i. Josh Anderson is DODD's lead on EVV so it would be good to invite him
    - c. Christine Touvelle gave an update on the status of EVV
      - i. Timeline for the Ohio Department of Medicaid's training
        - 1. Registration for Sandata training is open. Training will begin in May.
      - ii. Reviewed the services applicable to EVV
        - 1. Nursing services and 15 minute unit H/PC
7. Committee/workgroup meeting updates:
- a. Single ISP
    - i. Kelly Miller is in charge of the initiative at DODD
    - ii. DODD has an aggressive timeline- the goal is to this done by the end of the year.
    - iii. Single ISP will apply to ICFs and County Boards
    - iv. DODD is working on forming a workgroup. Anita Allen, Gina Kerman, and Than Johnson will represent OPRA at the workgroup
  - b. Monthly Rate Calculator
    - i. Gary Brown gave an update on the MRC workgroup. The workgroup created an updated revised best practice document which should be done by the end of the month
    - ii. The group has extensively talked about what needs to be fixed within CPT in order for the MRC to be successful
      - 1. Edit access for certain people, CPT pop-up and email notifications, CPT certification through MyLearning, established timeline on provider CPT approval once a CPT is "finished"
  - c. Provider Certification – Dave Rastoka and Anita Allen reported:
    - i. Committee meet last month for four hours
    - ii. There are 43 people on the last workgroup

- iii. The meeting was a broad discussion on ideas for potential changes and discussion on workgroup organization. Nothing was decided at the meeting
- iv. There was extensive discussion on reducing DSP age to 16 without HS diploma/GED and competency testing. No decisions made about the age issue, but there seemed to be support. DODD will grant a waiver for under age 18. Diane Beastro agreed to bring this issue to the board again for consideration in April.
- v. DODD is hoping to wrap up by the end of the year but seems difficult unless the work gets split up
- vi. Next meeting is the 27<sup>th</sup>

8. Vorys session at OPRA– discuss and possible provider impact

- a. The Policy Committee would like some follow up from Vorys about some of the information presented during the conference
  - i. OPRA is going to set up a webinar with Vorys.

9. Audits – ODM contracting with State Auditor’s Office for audit of claims 2015-2017

- a. Members talked about reviews by the State Auditor’s office they recently experienced.
  - i. Auditor’s team looked at HR files (CPR/First Aid and background checks), timesheets and billing documentation for the 2 year time frame on essentially everyone they provided services to. Only desk review- no interviews of staff or individuals served. Unsure on what spurned the investigation. Seems to be a one-sided dialogue.
  - ii. How to prepare for an audit, when to respond to an audit, and other helpful tips will be presented during the webinar with Vorys

10. Cameras in settings

- a. Status of Vorys review

- i. Vorys is working on this but are not done yet. There are a lot of rules and laws that play into this which change depending on the setting. There are a variety of issues that complicate the response. Are the cameras recording or are they live streaming? Is there sound? Who has access to the cameras? Is the home an ICF, waiver home, or home owned or rented by an individual?

11. White paper

- a. Not finished yet. The plan is to wait till the new CEO is in place to review and see what they want to do with it.

12. Other items

- a. Day services training- Day services has more extensive training requirements for staff than for HPC.
  - i. A comprehensive review of training requirements is needed to determine what is really necessary for each of the services and perceived benefits of the particular training requirements.
  - ii. The Day Array Committee will review and outline with recommendations. Lisa will follow up to get this topic on the agenda. A starting point will be OPRA's training crosswalk.
- b. Gary offered to draft a one page document to clarify money spent on DSP's compared t average rate for 1:1 (this is the base rate). The average is different due to 7 different cost of doing business averages. Need to get OSOC out of the calculation, as well. Gary will present this to the Policy committee in May.

Next meeting is May 20, 2019 at 10:00 – 2:00.