

# ONEOHIO RECOVERY FOUNDATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**December 13, 2023** 

The OneOhio Recovery Foundation (the "Organization") Board of Directors (the "Board") held a board meeting on December 13, 2023, at 34 S. 3rd Street, Columbus, OH 43215 (the "Meeting").

#### **Board Members in Attendance:**

Non-Metropolitan: Bambi Baughn, Julie Ehemann, Jeff Fix, Mircea Handru, Matt Old, Don Mason, Greta Mayer, Jeannette Wierzbicki

Metropolitan: Judy Dodge, Keith Hochadel, Dawn Tyler Lee, David Matia, Duane Piccirilli, Deborah Matz, Scott Sylak, Denise Driehaus

Statewide: Tom Gregoire, Jane Portman, Michael Roizen

Legislative: Rachel Baker, Evan Kleymeyer, Phil Plummer

#### **Board Members Not in Attendance:**

Rob McColley, Glenn Miller, Kathryn Whittington, Robert Radcliff, Christopher Smitherman, Larry Kidd

#### **Staff Present:**

Sarah Anstine, Alisha Nelson, Jim Quinn

## I. Call to Order & Roll Call of Directors Present

The Meeting was called to order by Chairman Mason at 10:30 a.m. There was a roll call of directors present. A quorum was present for the Meeting.

# II. Approval of the Agenda

Upon Motion duly made by Director Fix to approve the agenda with the amendment that the Board's executive session add the discussion of pending litigation, seconded by Director Matz, the Motion passed by unanimous consent of Directors present.

# III. Adoption/Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The Minutes from the October 11, 2023, Board Meeting were brought forward for consideration by the Board. Upon Motion duly made by Director Ehemann to adopt the Minutes from the October 11, 2023, Board Meeting without amendment, seconded by Director Fix, the Motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote of Directors present.

# IV. Personal Story

Director Matz shared the personal story of the Shelly Bornstein family, the loss of their son to opioid addiction, and the work they have done to help others recover from opioid addiction through founding Hope United.

# V. Committee Reports

## A. Executive Committee Report

# i. 2024 Board Meeting Calendar

Chairman Mason stated that the Executive Committee is proposing a board schedule for 2024 where there will be 10 meetings. Additionally, the Board will hold a retreat in 2024.

Upon Motion duly made by Director Matz to approve the Board Meeting Calendar for 2024 as presented without amendment, seconded by Director Fix, the Motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote of Directors present.

Director Tyler Lee asked if the retreat will be held on the second Wednesday of the month. Ms. Nelson said that the retreat date has not been scheduled yet.

#### **B.** Audit & Finance Committee Report

# i. Operations & Grants Budget

Mr. Kleymeyer stated that Audit & Finance Committee approved the proposed budget for fiscal year 2024. Management has done a great job reducing expenses. Earlier this year, the board allocated \$3.5 million for Foundation operations for 2022 and 2023 expenses. The proposed budget is not requesting a new allocation of funds to operations but instead continues the spend down of the \$3.5 million allocated in 2023. The Committee approved this proposed budget unanimously and Mr. Kleymeyer encouraged the full board to do the same.

Ms. Nelson walked through a few highlights of the budget. The Board previously approved \$51 million for regional grant awards. The proposed grant budget includes grant support system which is about \$359,400 for the expenses of the AkoyaGO software, additional staff member, and grantee professional development. In total, the expected grant budget is \$51,553,621. The operations budget is expected to be \$1,907,247. The biggest difference between 2023 and 2024 operating budget expenditures will be an expected decrease in legal costs.

Also discussed was 2024 revenue. The Foundation expects to receive about \$65 million in payments from settlement distributions. Additionally, the Organization is still awaiting payments from several 2023 settlement distributions.

Director Fix asked about the possibility of compensating the expert panel. Ms. Nelson stated that the budget gives the Board flexibility to approve a stipend for expert panel members if they see fit.

Upon Motion duly made by Director Kleymeyer to approve the 2024 grant budget, seconded by Director Wierzbicki, the Motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote of Directors present.

## C. Expert Panel Selection Committee Report

## i. Expert Panel Policy

Chairman Mason introduced expert panel members in attendance.

Ms. Anstine went over revisions to the expert panel policy. The role of the panel was added into the policy which includes advising the Organization, advising the grant committee, and support grant process.

Director Matia stated that the document references the MOU and Code of Regulations and asked if those are separate documents. Ms. Anstine stated they are separate documents.

Ms. Nelson stated the policy allows the expert panel to recommend new abatement strategies in the future if these strategies are deemed to be evidence-based.

Director Driehaus asked that it is her understanding the role of the expert panel is to ensure grant applications are in-line with the MOU. Ms. Nelson stated that is accurate and that the expert panel could recommend a new abatement strategies and give the Board a recommendation as to whether grant applications meet the abatement strategies in the MOU.

Director Fix stated that he does not see a downside in hearing more ideas, as the Board has to approve those ideas.

Chairman Mason requested the Board enter executive session. Upon Motion duly made by Director Roizen to enter executive session to discuss personnel matters and pending litigation, seconded by Director Matia, the Motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote of Directors present. The Board entered Executive Session at 11:08 a.m.

Chairman Mason declared the end of Executive Session at 11:36 a.m.

Chairman Mason discussed the expert panel. There are several expert panel member vacancies that the Board must appoint up to six (6) members. The Organization's staff is recommending

the Board approve Stefanie Robinson, Zili Sloboda, Kim Sperber, and Christine Wilder as expert panel members.

Upon Motion duly made by Director Fix to approve the addition of Stefanie Robinson, Zili Sloboda, Kim Sperber, and Christine Wilder as members to the expert panel without amendment, seconded by Director Mayer, the Motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote of directors present.

# **D.** Grants Oversight Committee Report

Director Gregoire stated the Committee met on December 13<sup>th</sup>. The Committee will be meeting twice per month for the foreseeable future. Ms. Anstine is frequently traveling across the state to meet with regional boards. Each region is currently working on regional checklist to ensure they are prepared for the launch of the grant cycle.

The Committee heard a presentation from AkoyaGO on the grant software and all members were impressed.

Director Handru asked about regional funding priorities. Director Gregoire said regions do not need to establish funding priorities prior to the grant launch. Ms. Anstine stated each region has to have grant reviewers to review applications, but the scope and structure of how this is done, whether a separate review committee or the full regional board, is up to the region.

Director Wierzbicki asked if there was a schedule for grant disbursements. Ms. Nelson stated there is no schedule yet.

## VI. Executive Director Update

Ms. Nelson gave the Executive Director Update. Staff have spoken with each region and visited almost all of them. Beginning in 2024, Ms. Anstine will host a board meeting recap presentation that will be open to regional board members and stakeholders with the goal of updating these individuals on providing an overview of what happened at each Board meeting. If a director's region needs technical assistance, directors should reach out to Ms. Nelson or Ms. Anstine.

#### VII. Communications Update

Ms. Luck gave the Communications Update. An update on 2023 communications was discussed. The priorities continue to be education through information and building relationships with stakeholders and build trust through transparency by using the Organization's website and other communication tools.

Media engagement was discussed. The Organization was mentioned in over 600 stories and drafted three (3) op-eds in multiple outlets with nearly 600,000 impressions. There have been over 71 million impressions on stories directly related to the Organization. This will only increase in 2024 as the organization continues to grow.

Stakeholder engagement was discussed. The Organization's staff has met with over 20 stakeholder groups across the state.

Ongoing activities were discussed. These consist of a quarterly e-newsletter, facts sheets, and printed materials.

Digital engagement was discussed. There has been a large increase in the number of individuals following social media channels and on the email distribution list.

Planning for 2024 was discussed. This will continue to be stakeholder engagement, thought leadership, a robust grant program communication plan and toolkit, and web and digital content.

#### VIII. Financial Report

Mr. Quinn gave the Financial Report. Reports for October and November were reviewed. In November, there was an unexpected payment from the Mallinckrodt bankruptcy in the amount of \$4.3 million. It is not expected the Organization will receive any more funds from this bankruptcy settlement.

The budget was discussed. The Organization's expenses are under budget for the year with the exception of legal services. Legal services were expected to decrease in September and October, but the Organization recently received an additional invoice which is not reflected in the Organization's approved budget.

Upon Motion duly made by Director Handru to increase the 2023 legal budget up to \$60,000 without amendment, seconded by Director Piccirilli, the Motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote of directors present.

# IX. Open Discussion

Director Matia stated that there was a legislative proposal that the Organization receive a portion of tax revenue from the recently passed recreational marijuana voter-initiated statute. Upon Motion duly made by Director Matia to have the Organization's staff provide direct lobbying to the Ohio legislature regarding the statute's tax revenue structure, seconded by Director Fix, the Motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote of directors present.

Director Driehaus asked that the Organization revisit funding allocations at the February meeting given that the Organization has received additional allocations of funds.

## X. Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, February 14, 2024, at 10:30 a.m.

XI.	Adjourn There being no further business to come before the Board, the Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent. The Meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.
	The undersigned being the Secretary of the OneOhio Recovery Foundation Board of Directors, hereby attests that these minutes are a true and correct original of the December 13, 2023, Board Meeting.

Keith Hochadel		
Keith Hochadel (May 1, 2024 13:38 EDT)		
Board Secretary	Date	