



Delaware County Behavioral Health

243 Delaware Street, Walton, NY 13856

(P)607-832-5888 * (F)607-832-6081



*Douglas Elston, LCSW-R
Director of Community Services*

*Sara Cirba, MPA, LCSW
Deputy Director of Community Services*

Delaware County Mental Health Committee Meeting

- Regular Meeting Minutes
- Executive Session Minutes
- Draft Minutes
- Approved Minutes

January 20th, 2025

PRESENT: Joe Cetta, Art Merrill, Wayne Marshfield, Maya Boukai and Doug Elston

EXCUSED: Betty Scott & Sara Cirba

GUESTS: JoAnn Miller

The meeting was called to order at 12:29 p.m., by Joe Cetta.

Minutes: The minutes from November 18th, 2024 were reviewed and approved upon

Motion from Art Merrill and seconded by Maya Boukai.

Motion carried by Wayne Marshfield & Joe Cetta

Census: Mental Health -- 584

Alcohol & Drug – 148

Supportive Housing – 28

AOT -- 2

Vacancies: We currently have several Interns in the clinic, 2 Social Workers and a Nurse Practitioner will be starting within the next few weeks. We currently have the following vacancies:

Senior Staff Worker (2)

CASAC

Nurse Practitioner-Psychiatry

Receptionist- waiting for the eligible list to come out

Recently Filled the following positions:

Staff Social Worker- Katelyn Clare started today, she will be providing services for adults and children.

Community MH Nurse- Margaret Bullis started on January 6th, 2025.

Updates

Concerns of Mold: The County and the Union both did mold tests; both came back with no mold. The maintenance department will be cleaning the carpets in the spring to be proactive.

Sidney Satellite: On January 10th, Doug, Sara and JoAnn met with Eric Wilson, the Town of Sidney Supervisor to look at a space within The Hospital. The space they are interested in has a



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private entrance, waiting area, 2 office spaces, as well as conference room space. Eric will be in contact with Doug once they know what the rent might be and when it could be available.

Opioid Settlement Committee: Next meeting will be in February; currently have a balance of \$179,000, however there is a discrepancy between what the Attorney General's Office is reporting. Doug will be reaching out to discuss the issue.

New Business

Thriving Communities: On January 14th and 15th Sara Cirba worked with DSS and Delaware Opportunities to create a day for staff to attend presentations and listen to a keynote speaker. The committee members heard Keith Weaver at the DSS Committee meeting giving Sara and the keynote speaker rave compliments for their presentations and they felt that Keith also did a great job.

BH 2nd Annual Community Days: This year we decided to move the dates in hopes that the weather will be warmer than last year.

- Mental Health Community Day is scheduled for May 29th, 2025, from 12:00-5:00 p.m.
- Celebrating Recovery Fall Festival is scheduled for September 18th, 2025, from 12:00-5:00 p.m.

We will reach out to other area agencies for tabling.

Operating Hours: We have adjusted our Thursday hours from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., to 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., due to the lack of clients attending at 5:00.

Blue Envelope: On Friday, January 17th Doug joined Sherriff DuMond at a press conference to promote that the county will now be participating in the "Blue Envelope" program. The envelope is given to a driver that is on the Autism Spectrum that will house their insurance card, registration and possibly their license. If the driver is pulled over for a traffic violation and sees the blue envelope this will let them know how to continue as the lights and anxiety may make the driver uneasy.

Security: Doug spoke with Mark, the owner of the security company, about moving security, making them more visible with the public and making sure that their firearms are always concealed. Security would be located at the current front lobby receptionist desk; they would verify any scheduled appointment and direct them. If someone comes in and does have a scheduled appointment the billing staff is right next to the desk, and they would assist. As well as when he does his scheduled rounds, they would cover the desk. The committee feels this would be a better and more useful fit for our security officer.

730-Restoration: The total cost for the year 2024 was \$327,557.78; whereas in the year 2023 it cost \$51,292.46. State facilities charge rates starting at \$1,151.61 up to \$3,560.03 per day. These individuals do not even have reside in the county, it's where the crime was committed, and



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the 730 examination was ordered. Each county is responsible for covering these fees, the state does not pay anything. Art and Joe both agreed that the money will have to be allocated from another line to help with the cost; this is not an amount we budget for as it fluctuates throughout the years. Doug provided the committee with a spreadsheet for the last 10 years.

Adjournment/Next meeting:

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Joe Cetta and seconded by Art Merrill

Motion carried by Wayne Marshfield and Maya Boukai.

Meeting adjourned at 1:13 p.m. by Joe Cetta.

The next meeting is March 17th, 2025, at 12:30 p.m. at the Behavioral Health Facility.

Submitted By: JoAnn Miller