

Board of Trustees
Mental Health Advocacy Service
January 16, 2021

Video-conference via Zoom
10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Staff and Board Present: Joseph Seyler (Director, non-voting), Rob Garda, Patrick O’Neill, Martin Drell, Madalyn Wasilczuk and Steve Scheckman

- 1. Approval of minutes from last meeting:** Martin Drell moved to approve the minutes from October 17, 2020. Rob Garda seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.
- 2. Approval of Contracts:** After a discussion, Rob Garda moved to approve the new leases for MHAS offices on Lake Charles and Mandeville, Louisiana. Steve Scheckman seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

After a discussion, Rob Garda moved to approve and ratify the contract by MHAS with Westlaw for legal research. Madalyn Wasilczuk seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

- 3. Proposed Budget for FY2021-2022:** Joseph Seyler presented and discussed the status for Proposed Budget for FY2021-2022. Currently, MHAS’s budget is facing a proposed cut of \$322, 245.00. Mr. Seyler will be meeting with the Governor’s Office on January 19, 2020 to further discuss MHAS’s budget and intends to suggest a less drastic cut in the budget. No vote was taken by the Board.
- 4. MHAS Annual Report FY 2019-2020:** Joseph Seyler presented and discussed MHAS Annual Report FY 2019-2020. After a discussion, Rob Garda moved to approve MHAS Annual Report FY 2019-2020. Madalyn Wasilczuk seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.
- 5. Applications for MHAS Director Position:** Joseph Seyler advised that twenty-three (23) applications have been submitted for the position of MHAS Director. It was agreed by consensus that a sub-committee of the MHAS Board will: review all applications; determine which candidates to interview; interview the selected candidates; determine its top candidate(s) to refer to the board for a full board interview; and the full board will interview the candidate(s) and make the final decision at the next regularly scheduled board meeting. The current composition of the sub-committee is: Steve Scheckman (chair), Madalyn Wasilczuk, Patrick O’Neill and Rob Garda.

- 6. Next Meeting: March 27, 2021.**
The meeting was then adjourned.