

**Beaufort County Alcohol & Drug Abuse Department  
Virtual Board Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, October 14, 2020**

**Attending Board Members:** Thomas Hale, Worth Liipfert, Linda Hoffman, Javier Zimbron, Carol Hartman and Joe Naughton

**Absent Board Members:** None

**Visitors:** Larry McElynn, County Council Member and Liaison to Beaufort County Alcohol & Drug Abuse Board; Chuck Adkinson, Assistant County Administrator for Community Services

**Attending Beaufort County Alcohol & Drug Abuse (BCADAD) Staff:** Steve Donaldson, BJ Ray and Christina Coker

**Meeting called to order at 4:05pm by:** Joe Naughton then handed off to Worth Liipfert upon his arrival

**Pledge of Allegiance was cited**

**Emailed Handouts to Board Members:**

Agenda  
Minutes from September 16, 2020 Meeting  
Director's Report

**Agenda Approval:**

Motion made by Carol Hartman; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Javier Zimbron  
Motion passed unanimously

**Previous Meeting Minutes Approval:**

Motion made by Joe Naughton to approve the minutes from September 16, 2020 with the correction of the spelling of his name on page 3; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Carol Hartman  
Motion passed unanimously

**Action Items from last meeting:** None

**Public Comment:** None

**Director's Report:**

- **Screening-Brief-Interview-Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) Program:**
  - Steve gave a quick update on the progress being made by Beaufort Memorial Hospital (BMH) in getting this program up and running.
  
- **Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Program:**
  - BMH is moving forward with implementing the Medication Assisted Treatment Program. The following steps have been taken in the past month:
    - Dr. Philip A. Cusumano has been named as Director of Addiction Medicine for BMH
    - Waiver training for BMH Staff has been set up. Waiver training is required for staff physicians to be able to prescribe MAT Medications.

- Beaufort Pharmacy in northern Beaufort County and Burke's Main Street Pharmacy in southern Beaufort County have signed contracts to distribute medications as part of the MAT Program. They will be able to distribute all medications at the contract price with the exception of Vivitrol which can be ordered through Bessie's Pharmacy.
- **CARF (Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities)**
  - Beaufort County Alcohol & Drug Abuse Department has been awarded a 3-year accreditation through CARF.
  - Steve reported that all recommendations received from CARF were addressed by Leadership and the Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) was developed. The QIP was submitted to CARF and it has received CARF approval.
- **Prevention**
  - The next Narcan Curbside event will be held on October 17<sup>th</sup> from 10am-1pm at both BCADAD locations. The recovering community (NA; AA; Nar-a-non and Al-a-non) will be represented at both locations during this event.
  - DEA Take Back the Meds Event – In cooperation with the Sheriff's Department and Lowcountry Alliance for Healthy Youth (LCAHY) with Teens for Healthy Youth, BCADAD Prevention Staff will be participating in this event on October 24<sup>th</sup> from 10am-2pm at the Sheriff's Department on Duke Street and at the County Government Center in Bluffton. Road signage for this event will be put out next week.
  - Virtual event, "Zoom in before You get Zoomed out- Refocused and Self Care" is being offered to the community this evening beginning at 7pm. This event is being facilitated by Katie Godowns, Certified Senior Prevention Specialist at BCADAD.
- **Outcomes**
  - Steve reported that even though the census for BCADAD is down, the percentage of patients completing services is very good at 71%. He also reported that 100% of patients completing satisfaction surveys were satisfied or very satisfied with BCADAD Services.
- **Community Awareness & Marketing**
  - Work with The County Channel on a series of shows centered around Addiction, MAT, Stigma and Recovery continues to move forward. It is hoped these will air sometime in early 2021.
- **New Opportunities**
  - South Carolina Department of Mental Health (SCDMH) – Mental Health Drug Court - Dr. Versey has asked Steve to join a work group on the future of Morris Village in Columbia, SC. Steve has agreed to participate in this group and will keep the Board advised of the progress and any recommendation determined by the group.
  - **ECHO Grant – Federal Opiate Funds**  
This grant opportunity has been opened up to the entire State- not just 301 agencies. Our Prevention Staff (Wade Bishop, Katie Godowns and Galen Sturup Comeau) along with Christina Coker are writing this grant proposal which is due by the end of the month. Details of the grant proposal will be discussed at the next Board Meeting.

- **National Council for Behavioral Health Grant - \$33K Grant**  
Steve worked with Chief Bruce Kline of the Lady's Island-St. Helena Fire Department and Assistant Chief Brian Wagner of the Burton Fire Department on a grant which will provide funding to follow up with persons receiving Narcan through Emergency Medical Services (EMS). "Project Hope" would allow for First Responders and BCADAD Staff to follow up with these patients to encourage their engagement in services provided by BCADAD Treatment Staff. It would also be used as a method of obtaining more accurate data for the Overdose Map. It would be a goal of this grant to encourage 50 people to be assessed for services at BCADAD and 60% of those persons to engage in treatment services. Safety concerns were also addressed in the grant with the grant purchasing bullet-proof vests and safety training for First Responders and BCADAD Staff involved in Project Hope.
- **Financial Report: Christina Coker**
  - Christina went over the Year-To-Date financial form which included figures for the 1st quarter of FY21 (7/1-9/30/2020). She reported that the figures showed that BCADAD had received 9% of expected revenue and used 18% of expected expenses. She reported that BCADAD should expect to transfer over \$463K to zero out finances for FY21. It was also reported that this figure will be impacted by funds received from Debt Set Off expected in March/April 2021.
- **Board Vacancy**
  - Steve reported that Javier had referred a couple of people to talk to him about the Board vacancy. Steve spoke with both. One person did not live in Beaufort County and therefore did not qualify but the 2<sup>nd</sup> person has submitted an application. The County will also be advertising the opening on the BCADAD Board. Steve will stay on top of this situation and report on the status at the next Board meeting.
- **New Vice Chair**
  - With the departure of Dominique Driessen-Espana there has been a vacancy in the position of Vice Chair. It was asked if a replacement was needed and if so, were there any volunteers. Worth felt that a Vice Chair was needed and asked Carol Hartman if she would take the position. Carol tentatively accepted the position with the understanding that she would be speaking with Worth regarding job requirements/expectations. They will meet regarding this matter and advise the Board next month of her final decision.

**Next Virtual Meeting is November 18, 2020 – 4pm**

**Motion to Adjourn:** Motion made by Worth Liipfert; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Javier Zimbron  
Motion passed unanimously.

**Meeting Adjourned**

Submitted: bjr