



**Middlesex County Restoration Center
Monday, November 8, 2021
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm
Virtual via Zoom**

MINUTES

Attendees: Sheriff Peter Koutoujian from Middlesex Sheriff's Office, Danna Mauch from Massachusetts Association for Mental Health, Senator Cindy Friedman, Scott Taberner from Executive Office for Health and Human Services, Lydia Conley from Association for Behavioral Healthcare, Judge Rosemary Minehan, Chief Robert Bongiorno from Bedford Police Department, Deidre Calvert from Bureau of Substance Addiction Services, David Swanson from the Office of Senator Cindy Friedman, Nancy Connolly from Association for Behavioral Health, Abby Kim from Association for Behavioral Health, Sarah McBride Office of Representative Ken Gordon, Tim Burton from Massachusetts Association for Mental Health, Kevin Maccioli from Middlesex Sheriff's Office, Marisa Hebble from Massachusetts Trial Court, David Ryan from Middlesex Sheriff's Office, Catia Sharp from Commonwealth Medicine, Katharine London from Commonwealth Medicine, Tamika Jeune from Commonwealth Medicine, Debra Williams from Commonwealth Medicine, Beth Waldman from Bailit Health, Rachel Isaacson from Bailit Health, Ellie Shea-Delaney from Bailit Health

12:00 PM: WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

The Commonwealth Medicine team and the Bailit Health team introduced themselves to the Commission. The Bailit Health team are the technical advisors for the procurement drafting that Commonwealth Medicine is spearheading.

12:05 PM: LEGISLATIVE AND BUDGET UPDATE

Senator Friedman mentioned the ARPA bill which is in process currently. There were no other legislative items to discuss.

12:20 PM: APPROVING THE MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

Sheriff Koutoujian accepted a motion to approve minutes from the last meeting. Unanimous vote in favor of approving the minutes from the last meeting.

12:25 PM: UPDATE ON WORK PLAN

Scott Taberner reviewed the legal entities and legal relationships between the Massachusetts legislature, the Middlesex County Restoration Center, the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS), the Department of Mental Health (DMH), and Commonwealth Medicine. The legal department at EOHHS identified three possible procuring entities for the Middlesex County Restoration Center. The three possible procuring entities are Commonwealth Medicine, EOHHS, or DMH. EOHHS does not have the workforce capabilities to be the procuring entity. DMH was ruled out as a procuring entity because their scope is narrowly defined. Therefore, the recommendation is that Commonwealth Medicine becomes the procuring entity for the Middlesex County Restoration Center.

Katharine London explained that Commonwealth Medicine largely provides staff extensions to public agencies. Commonwealth Medicine as the procuring entity would be required to manage the contract, in addition to administering the procurement.

Senator Friedman explained that the role of the Commission requires clear delineation via legislation.

Consider a vote for December Commission meeting. Determine whether the Middlesex County Restoration Center Commission agrees that Commonwealth Medicine should be the procuring entity for the Middlesex County Restoration Center pilot.

Catia Sharp provided a procurement work plan update and a review of the service model. The procurement drafting will go through December 2021. Any Commission members who would like to join the Procurement Subcommittee, please let Catia Sharp know your interest.

12:45 PM: REVIEW OF BUDGET

Catia Sharp provided a review of the original Advocates budget. The current work on the procurement centers on maximizing billing opportunities and updating the budget to reflect the current financial environment.

12:50 PM: FINANCING UPDATE

David Ryan provided an update on the federal earmark which may go into an EOHHS line item.

1:05 PM: COMMUNICATIONS DISCUSSION

The Commission ran out of time and was unable to address this agenda item.

1:25 PM: NEXT STEPS AND CLOSING

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 7, 2021, 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm as a virtual meeting via Zoom.