



Agenda Item Summary

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**File #: 24-00431**

**Agenda Date: 5/28/2024**

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**Agenda Item Name:**

**Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Grant Planning Committee Membership Appointments**

**Presenter:**

Amy Weber, Court Services Assistant, Department of Court Services, 374-3676

**Description:**

Consider the appointment of one new committee member and the reappointment of two prior committee members to the Criminal Justice, Mental health, and Substance Abuse Grant Planning Committee

**Recommended Action:**

Appoint one new committee member and reappoint two prior committee members to the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Grant Planning Committee for the following positions:

- 1) Representative of an Area Homeless Program or Supportive Housing Program
  - a. Eric Davis, St. Francis House
- 2) Director of a Local Substance Abuse Treatment Program
  - a. Jason Baumstark, VA
- 3) Director of a Community Mental Health Agency (or Designee)
  - a. Lauren Cohn, Meridian Behavioral Health Care, Inc

**Prior Board Motions:**

Eric Davis was previously appointed in September 2022

Jason Baumstark was previously appointed in August 2021

Lauren Cohn has not previously been a CJMHSAG Committee Member

**Fiscal Note:**

None

**Strategic Guide:**

Public Safety

**Background:**

This committee was created by Resolution in 2007. The committee, in coordination with the County Office of Management and budget and the County Court Services department, shall make a formal recommendation to the county on how the CJMHSAG may best be implemented in the community.

The membership of the Advisory Board is comprised of 19 positions, as stipulated by the State, which has set forth membership requirements for the composition of the committee. This board's positions are specific, designated membership categories.

Grant Funding officially ended on March 31, 2023, and as such, the Board of County Commissioners resolved to dissolve this Advisory Board via Resolution 2023-78, in September 2023.

When it was discovered that new Grant Funding would come available in the Spring of 2024, the Board of County Commissioners, at the request of Meridian Behavioral Healthcare and Alachua County Community Support Services, re-established the CJMHSAG Advisory Board, and all rules of procedure previously followed, per State Statute.

As such, there are currently three (3) vacancies on the CJMHSAG Planning Committee, and three citizens have applied, one for each vacancy. Each position will have a 2-year term, starting on the date that they are approved by the Board of County Commissioners.

Representative of an Area Homeless Program or Supportive Housing Program  
Applicant: Eric Davis (Most recent appointment: September 2022)

Director of a Local Substance Abuse Treatment Program  
Applicant: Jason Baumstark (Most recent appointment: August 2021)

Director of a Community Mental Health Agency  
Applicant: Lauren Cohn (Has not previously served on this board)  
Lauren has been designated for this position by Don Savoie, MBHCI Director