

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
May 11, 2020
North Country Community Mental Health
Skype/Telephone meeting

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ed Ginop, Patty Cox, Paul Liss, Robert Draves, David White, Caroline Loper, Ron Iseler, Louis Scholl, Karla Sherman, Sr. Augusta Stratz, Robert Boyd, Mike Newman, Dennis Priess

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Christian Marcus

STAFF: Christine Gebhard, Brian Babbitt, Kevin Hartley, Amy Christie, Deb Erber, Tim Stapp, Lorraine Manary

Mr. Ginop called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m.

ROLL CALL – a quorum was present.

Mr. Ginop welcomed the Board members and staff to the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Furlough Policy

Ms. Gebhard provided an overview of the Furlough policy and why it is needed. Ms. Cox reviewed the recent Personnel Committee meeting and noted two changes to the policy which address short term disability and union dues. Ms. Cox recommended the board approve it with a retroactive start date of March 1.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE FURLOUGH POLICY AS PRESENTED WITH A RETROACTIVE START DATE OF MARCH 1, 2020 MADE BY PATTY COX, SECOND BY KARLA SHERMAN. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED BY ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES - Ed Ginop, Patty Cox, Paul Liss, Robert Draves, David White, Caroline Loper, Ron Iseler, Louis Scholl, Karla Sherman, Sr. Augusta Stratz, Christian Marcus, Robert Boyd, Mike Newman

NAYS – NONE.

MOTION CARRIED

COVID-19 Transition Back to Work Plan

Mr. Babbitt provided an overview of the agency's plan for resuming face-to-face client contacts and returning staff to worksites. The framework was developed using the Governor's MI Safe Start Plan and World Health Organization recommendations. Face-to-face services and safeguards are phased in or out based on pandemic risk level and risks associated with each specific NCCMH program. Efforts to mitigate risk for clients and staff include altering the physical configuration of lobbies and conference rooms to limit capacity; creating physical barriers such as passthroughs at the front desk and proper PPE; screening for staff and clients; scheduling appointments, home visits and vehicle use in a manner that limits the potential for transmission; and enhanced cleaning and disinfecting of worksites. Guidance based on risk level—high, medium, or low—were described for each program. Mr. Babbitt indicated that each county would also be assessed separately.

MOTION TO ACCEPT AND SUPPORT THE COVID-19 TRANSITION BACK TO WORK PLAN AS PRESENTED WAS MADE BY LOUIS SCHOLL, SECOND BY SR. AUGUSTA STRATZ. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED BY ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES - Ed Ginop, Patty Cox, Paul Liss, Robert Draves, David White, Caroline Loper, Ron Iseler, Louis Scholl, Karla Sherman, Sr. Augusta Stratz, Christian Marcus, Mike Newman

NAYS – NONE.

MOTION CARRIED

MDHHS COVID-GF Contract

Ms. Gebhard informed the board that NCCMH will receive \$83,000 of the \$5M million allotted to CMHSPs for COVID-19 related expenses.

BOARD COMMENTS

Board members voiced their appreciation for NCCMH staff and all they are doing to assure client needs are met.



Ed Ginop, Board Chair