

MINUTES OF THE BOARD
May 21, 2020
North Country Community Mental Health
Telephone and Video-Conference Meeting

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ed Ginop, Sr. Augusta Stratz, Karla Sherman, Michael Newman, Ron Iseler, Robert Draves, David White, Patty Cox, Paul Liss, Dennis Priess, Christian Marcus (arrived 4:10), Caroline Loper (arrived 4:23)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Louis Scholl, Robert Boyd

STAFF: Christine Gebhard, Kevin Hartley, Brian Babbitt, Stacey Chipman, Julie Moran, Tim Stapp, Lorraine Manary

GUESTS: One guest was present via the Zoom link

Mr. Ginop called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Ginop welcomed Board members and staff to the meeting. A roll call was taken and quorum present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda includes the agenda overview, minutes of the previous meeting and contracts signed in the past month.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED BY KARLA SHERMAN, SUPPORT BY PATTY COX.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Ed Ginop, Sr. Augusta Stratz, Karla Sherman, Michael Newman, Ron Iseler, Robert Draves, David White, Patty Cox, Paul Liss, Dennis Priess

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS – BOARD ACTION*

Finance Committee Report: Mr. Ginop reviewed the minutes of the finance committee meeting. This included the Statement of Cash on Deposit, Interim Financial Statements, and Revenue by Fund Source.

Mr. Ginop asked members if there were any questions about the financial reports. Hearing none, Mr. Ginop directed the reports be placed on file for audit.

Salary and Wage Scale proposed changes.

Mr. Ginop also reported that the Finance Committee recommends the board accept the proposed Salary and Wage Scale allocating the 2.5% COLA approved in the FY20 budget, and it be retroactive to January 1, 2020.

MOTION BY DENNIS PRIESS, SUPPORT BY SR. AUGUSTA STRATZ TO APPROVE THE SALARY AND WAGE COMPENSATION SCALE, AS PRESENTED, RETROACTIVE TO JANUARY 1, 2020.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Ed Ginop, Sr. Augusta Stratz, Karla Sherman, Michael Newman, Ron Iseler, Christian Marcus, Robert Draves, David White, Patty Cox, Paul Liss, Dennis Priess

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION ITEM(S) WITHOUT COMMITTEE REVIEW: NONE

PRESENTATION: Community Outreach & Advocacy

Julie Moran, Outreach and Advocacy Coordinator, provided an overview for FY 2020 communication and outreach plan “Our Vision, Our Voice” with the purpose of supporting NCCMH, the clients we serve and the public mental health system. There are five key strategies; develop a communications calendar, identify topics of interest, create opportunities to increase community conversations about mental health and disabilities issues, provide ongoing news releases to inform the public of our work, and to promote Art Speaks and PhotoVoice with displays in the community. The plan includes two objectives; increase public awareness of NCCMH as an innovative key resource for behavioral health issues and services, and to engage clients in community outreach and advocacy.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT/COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Gebhard had meetings with the three Intermediate School Districts to discuss future school-based services via telehealth. Ms. Gebhard provided an update on the Medicaid pay increase for direct care workers; Senate Bill 690 includes a \$3/hr increase from April through September. The Medicaid Services Administration (MSA) has extended several temporary policies that were due to expire, i.e. telephone and telemedicine service codes, and Medicaid coverage for individuals who were Medicaid eligible in March will not be terminated. The behavioral health system redesign is on hold for the current time.

Ms. Gebhard directed the boards attention to the Executive Team Summary, specifically to the Clinical Services update on NCCMH’s work with County Jails who are part of the Stepping Up Initiative. Wayne State University is providing iPads for the jails to be used for telehealth services. The IT team has put together video guides for jail personnel which has been very helpful. Our Human Resources department is dealing with a higher number of employee issues due to COVID. We furloughed seven additional staff due to a shortage of work.

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT UPDATE

No report this month

NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY

The Internal Services Fund is increasing, which is a very positive indicator.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business brought before the board.

NEW BUSINESS

Grant Agreement between MDHHS and NCCMH for additional General Funds for COVID specific expenses was signed and submitted. The funds have already been received and will be very helpful in purchasing the additional supplies and services needed to maintain a safe work environment.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MDHHS COVID-19 GRANT AGREEMENT # E20204022-00, BETWEEN MDHHS AND NCCMH IN THE AMOUNT OF \$83,806, BY PATTY COX, SUPPORT BY KARLA SHERMAN.

Ayes: Ed Ginop, Sr. Augusta Stratz, Karla Sherman, Michael Newman, Ron Iseler, Christian Marcus, Robert Draves, David White, Patty Cox, Paul Liss, Dennis Priess, Caroline Loper

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

BOARD & STAFF COMMENTS

Ms. Loper thanked the agency and IT for helping get her set up for remote access to meetings. Mr. Iseler asked if there were reports of any clients or staff being affected by the Corona Virus, there have been none.

The guest attending asked if the board packet was available to the public. At this time, only Board Minutes are posted on our website. She also asked if Day Program staff were included in the \$3 increase. They are not.

Ms. Sherman mentioned it was very nice to hear everyone, and Sr. Stratz wished everyone a good holiday weekend and thanked the staff for the wonderful work they are doing.

Ms. Gebhard asked the boards preference for a virtual or face to face meeting in June. Board members attendance in person will be limited to six due to room capacity and social distancing guidelines. Board members interested in attending in person are asked to let us know in advance.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m. by Board Chair, Ed Ginop.


Edward Ginop, Board Chair

