

MINUTES OF THE BOARD
February 18, 2021, 4pm
North Country Community Mental Health
Zoom Meeting



BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Michael Newman, attending virtually from Cheboygan MI; Ron Iseler, attending virtually from Gaylord MI; David White, attending virtually from Resort Township MI; Katina Banko, attending virtually from Kalkaska MI; Paul Liss, attending virtually from Vanderbilt MI; Robert Draves attending virtually from East Jordan MI; Christian Marcus attending virtually from Elmira MI; Robert Boyd, attending virtually from Cheboygan MI; Louis Scholl, attending virtually from Mancelona MI; Dennis Priess, attending virtually from Charlevoix MI; Caroline Loper, attending virtually from Central Lake MI; Karla Sherman, attending virtually from Petoskey MI; Sr. Augusta Stratz, attending virtually from Kalkaska MI; Ed Ginop, attending virtually from Cheboygan MI, arriving at 4:06

All members attending virtually are doing so due to MDHHS Epidemic Order.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF: Christine Gebhard, Kevin Hartley, Brian Babbitt, Lorraine Manary

GUESTS: Sara Sircely, Managing Director of Substance Use Disorder Services, NMRE

Ms. Sherman called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Ms. Sherman welcomed Board members and staff to the meeting. A roll call was taken, and quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CONSENT AGENDA

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

MOTION BY LOUIS SCHOLL TO ACCEPT THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED, SUPPORT BY ROBERT BOYD.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Karla Sherman, Michael Newman, Ron Iseler, David White, Robert Draves, Katina Banko, Paul Liss, Robert Boyd, Christian Marcus, Dennis Priess, Louis Scholl, Sr. Augusta Stratz, Caroline Loper

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS – BOARD ACTION*

Finance Committee Report: Mr. Ginop reviewed the minutes of the February 18, 2021 finance committee meeting.

MOTION BY ED GINOP TO APPROVE PLACING THE DECEMBER 31, 2020 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ON FILE FOR AUDIT, SUPPORT BY KARLA SHERMAN.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Karla Sherman, Michael Newman, Ron Iseler, David White, Robert Draves, Katina Banko, Paul Liss, Robert Boyd, Christian Marcus, Ed Ginop, Dennis Priess, Louis Scholl, Sr. Augusta Stratz, Caroline Loper

NAYS: None **MOTION CARRIED.**

ENTERPRISE VEHICLE LEASE: Mr. Ginop reviewed the lease proposal by Enterprise Fleet Management for replacement of nineteen vehicles. This was approved by the Finance committee during its meeting on February 18, 2021.

MOTION BY ROBERT BOYD TO APPROVE THE ENTERPRISE FLEET MANAGEMENT LEASE AGREEMENT FOR NINETEEN VEHICLES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$121,895.28, SUPPORT BY LOUIS SCHOLL.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Karla Sherman, Michael Newman, Ron Iseler, David White, Robert Draves, Katina Banko, Paul Liss, Robert Boyd, Christian Marcus, Ed Ginop, Dennis Priess, Louis Scholl, Sr. Augusta Stratz, Caroline Loper

NAYS: None **MOTION CARRIED.**

REHMANN CONSULTING: STANDARD COST ALLOCATIONS: Mr. Ginop directed the boards attention to the engagement letter for Rehmann to provide consulting services to implement the Standard Cost Allocation Model required by MDHHS. This was approved by the Finance committee during its meeting on February 18, 2021.

MOTION BY ED GINOP TO APPROVE THE REHMANN ENGAGEMENT LETTER WITH A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$46,500, SUPPORT BY KARLA SHERMAN.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Karla Sherman, Michael Newman, Ron Iseler, David White, Robert Draves, Katina Banko, Paul Liss, Robert Boyd, Christian Marcus, Ed Ginop, Dennis Priess, Louis Scholl, Sr. Augusta Stratz, Caroline Loper

NAYS: None **MOTION CARRIED.**

Program Committee Report: Mr. Iseler reviewed the minutes of the February 16, 2021 program committee meeting. This included the FY2020 Utilization Management Annual Report, the Administrative Services Report and NMRE Delegated Functions Review and Corrective Action Plan.

MOTION BY CHRISTIAN MARCUS TO ACCEPT THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT AS PRESENTED, SUPPORT BY KARLA SHERMAN.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Karla Sherman, Michael Newman, Ron Iseler, David White, Robert Draves, Katina Banko, Paul Liss, Robert Boyd, Christian Marcus, Ed Ginop, Dennis Priess, Louis Scholl, Sr. Augusta Stratz, Caroline Loper

NAYS: None **MOTION CARRIED.**

ACTION ITEM(S) WITHOUT COMMITTEE REVIEW*

None

PRESENTATION

Ms. Sircely provided information on Public Act 2 (Liquor Tax) Funding, the formulary used to determine local amounts, and its potential uses. The funds are for the expressed purpose of local use in treatment, intervention, and prevention of substance use disorder (SUD) services. Ms. Sircely explained the NMRE application and approval process for requesting these funds. She provided an overview of the currently funded projects and dollar amounts awarded to each. As of November 2020, there is a fund balance of \$1,866,000 for the six counties served by NCCMH, with the highest being in Emmet County at \$541,757. A future goal is to have a Rapid Response team based at McLaren Northern MI. Ms. Sircely shared her contact information for board members should they have any questions at a later time. ssircely@nmre.org.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT/COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Gebhard noted a number of things from her CEO report. The Strategic Plan was shared with staff on January 26. A series of staff recognition events were held, seven county-based events and an all staff recognition on February 16. She credited the IT department for putting together a Superhero presentation, superimposing staff photos on the heroes. The presentation was well received by all and included longevity awards, and two achievement awards. Achievement awards were given to Deb Erber, Director of Health Services, and the team award was given to the COVID response team, which includes the executive team.

Ms. Gebhard mentioned having provided orientation to Mr. Gary Knapp, our incoming board member from Antrim County. Mr. Knapp has experience in the criminal justice system; he will join the board in April.

Two staff, Carole Merritt-Doherty and Nina Martenson presented at the CMHAM Winter Conference on the restructuring and evolution of emergency services. The presentation will be shared with the board. Ms. Gebhard announced that Kalkaska County passed the Stepping Up Resolution at their meeting on Feb. 17, all NCCMH counties now have a resolution in place. TDB Solutions survey on crisis stabilization closes today; to date there are 674 responses split evenly between Northern Lakes and North Country CMH’s. Focus groups are starting today, and individual interviews are being planned. Ms. Gebhard mentioned a news piece on an alternative crisis management center in Jackson and noted this is an option that could be recommended.

Ms. Gebhard mentioned Robert Gordon’s departure as director of MDHHS. Elizabeth Hertel has taken the position and believes she will be a strong advocate for incremental changes to CMH, versus the sweeping changes that had been planned. Ms. Gebhard directed the boards attention to the draft policy platform, which includes a change to the definition of recipient in the Mental Health Code, which she opposes at this time. The Senate supplemental appropriations include restoration of block grant dollars for addressing substance use disorders. Ms. Gebhard shared a copy of the update she provided to the Petoskey Chamber’s “State of the Community” event. She mentioned the new MyStrength app, which NCCMH will be rolling out

soon, supported through a two-year grant. Lastly, Ms. Gebhard shared an email from a client in which they share their gratitude and recognized three staff for their efforts and support.

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT UPDATE

The most recent issue of the LEAN-ING Tree was provided in the board packet.

NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY

Discussion focused on Section 928 and the drawdown of local match dollars. The governor has not addressed this in her draft budget. Ms. Gebhard has requested (through the CMHA) a meeting with herself, Alan Bolter, and the Lieutenant Governor to discuss. MDHHS' new Self-Determination Technical Guidance states CMHSPs cannot require additional training for staff hired to provide services under a Self Determination agreement. Ms. Gebhard is questioning this with MDHHS.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Gebhard provided a short update on the COVID Response Plan. She shared a thermometer which is located on the agencies Intranet showing the percent of staff fully vaccinated; it currently stands at 21%.

The SAMHSA grant application for mental health training has been submitted. If awarded it would bring \$125,000 per year for five years to provide mental health awareness training to various stakeholder groups, e.g. law enforcement, healthcare, school personnel, and the community. This ties in very well with the Stepping Up Initiative.

NEW BUSINESS

None

BOARD & STAFF COMMENTS

Mr. Iseler asked if there is any impact or changes at NCCMH based on events in the Grand Traverse County jail. Grand Traverse county has a contract with Northern Lakes CMH for 2 FTE to work in the jail. There is no impact for our agency.

Mr. Liss asked Board members to watch for the CEO evaluation and asks that they be returned to him by March 5, at which time he will set a Personnel Committee meeting.

Ms. Loper thanked Ms. Gebhard for the birthday card she received.

Ms. Gebhard shared a short compilation of the All Staff Recognition PowerPoint and showed the board polo shirt and superhero cookie which were given to staff. Board members will have the opportunity to receive a shirt.

Ms. Sherman said it was very nice to see everyone.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:38 p.m. by Board Chair, Ed Ginop.


Edward Ginop, Board Chair