



NORTH COUNTRY

COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH

MINUTES OF THE BOARD

May 18, 2023, 4:00 PM

203 E. Cayuga Street, Room 217, Bellaire

BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Caroline Loper, Ed Ginop, Michael Newman, Ron Iseler, Jarris Rubingh, Annemarie Conway, Dana Wingo, Edward Belitz, Gary Knapp, Karla Sherman

MEMBERS ATTENDING VIRTUALLY: Robert Boyd (Joined at 4:15 PM)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: David White

STAFF: Brian Babbitt, Kim Rappleyea, Geoffrey VonLau, Maddison Mattack

GUESTS:

Mr. Ginop called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM

ROLL CALL

Mr. Ginop welcomed Board members and staff to the meeting. There is a quorum present.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST: No board members expressed a conflict with any agenda item.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda includes the agenda overview, minutes of the previous meeting, privileging recommendations and contracts signed in the past month. Items requiring approval will be placed on the meeting agenda.

MOTION BY CAROLINE LOPER TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA; SUPPORT BY KARLA SHERMAN.

MOTION CARRIES

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS – BOARD ACTION*

Program Committee Report: Mr. Iseler highlighted some of the main points from the April 27 Program Committee meeting. Agenda Items included a change to the language of the Advanced Directives Policy as follows "Staff will inform the client of their right to file a grievance with Customer Services if the client believes North Country CMH is noncompliant with their Psychiatric Advance Directive" and Northern Affiliation was changed to Northern Michigan Regional Entity, the Risk Management Summary for FY22, and an update on the Needs Assessment Survey.

MOTION BY KARLA SHERMAN TO APPROVE THE UPDATED LANGUAGE IN THE ADVANCED DIRECTIVES POLICY: SUPPORT BY ANNEMARIE CONWAY;

MOTION CARRIED

Personnel Committee Report: Ms. Sherman reviewed the minutes of the May 10 meeting in which an informational presentation on competency-based interviewing was given.

Finance Committee Report: Mr. Ginop reviewed the Statement of Cash on Deposit and Disbursements through April 30, 2023; Interim Financial Statements as of March 31, 2023 Revenue and Expense by Fund Source; Trending Revenue and Expenses as of March 31, 2023 and NMRE Funding Source Report, and a proposal for signs with the updated branding from Pro Image.

MOTION BY JARRIS RUBINGH TO APPROVE THE SIGN PROPOSAL FROM PRO IMAGE FOR THE KALKASKA, CHARLEVOIX, AND EMMET COUNTY OFFICES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$11,892.03: SUPPORT BY EDWARD BELITZ;

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Ginop requested the financial reports be placed on file for audit.

PRESENTATIONS – Kim Rappleyea presented the Annual Regulatory Compliance Training. The compliance program contains information on these elements; Federal and State False Claims Acts, Deficit Reduction Act, Federal Sentencing Guidelines, Federal and State Whistleblowers Acts, Affordable Care Act, and NMRE Compliance Plan Elements.

ACTION ITEMS WITHOUT COMMITTEE REVIEW: Mr. Babbitt expressed that it would be advisable to hold our quarterly meetings in Petoskey rather than Bellaire due to the façade repair, making parking an issue as well as the impending trial that is likely to draw a crowd. We have also been informed that the Commissioners Room is no longer available to us, and the county will not be able to accommodate us in room 217 for the foreseeable future.

Mr. Rubingh explained that he believes that the façade replacement will take longer than projected and he believes that meeting in Petoskey would probably be easiest.

Ms. Sherman asked Mr. Rubingh if there were any other options in the area so we can “be good neighbors” and continue quarterly meetings.

Both Mr. Rubingh and Mr. Knapp suggested the senior center as a possible option.

Ms. Conway asked if the library was an option.

Mr. Babbitt asked Ms. Rhue to call the Antrim County Commission on Aging to inquire about the senior center and bring the results back to the full board in June.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT/COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Babbitt referred to several items in his report. He drew attention to his participation in the Northern and UP Rural Mental Health Workgroup. He explained that with policies that are

drafted it is important for those to be looked at from a rural health care lens. Mr. Babbitt attended the CMHAM Director's Forum on April 26th and 27th. A topic of discussion was the closing of the Hawthorn Center and moving the Children to Walter Reuter. There are fewer beds at Walter Reuter and there is already a shortage of Children's State Hospital inpatient beds. On April 30th he attended the Walk for Autism Acceptance in Boyne City and drew attention to a press release from 9&10 news included in the board packet. There were over 200 participants at the Autism walk this year. Mr. Babbitt virtually attended NCCMH's MDHHS audit exit interview on May 2nd. The MDHHS audit is different as we upload all the information, MDHHS goes through it and then makes their recommendations. It is 100% hands off from NCCMH's standpoint once the information is uploaded. On May 8th members of the executive team and Ed Ginop, board chair toured the Justin A Borra Behavioral Health Center in Cheboygan. He drew attention to a draft legal opinion on MDHHS's proposed changes to Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Conflict-Free Access and Planning (CFA&P). Mr. Babbitt shared a draft letter that he would like to send to MDHHS Director Elizabeth Hertel that has been reviewed by Eric (NMRE) and Robert Sheehan (CMHAM) stating NCCMH's objection to the proposed policy. Mr. Babbitt asked if the board was agreeable to having Mr. Ginop and himself sign it and there was resounding support. It was also suggested that it be sent to senators, the governor, representatives, and Farah Hanley by Mr. Rubingh and it was agreed that the letter be copied to all.

Mr. Iseler specifically asked Mr. Babbitt to speak on his Day in the Field at the Gaylord Alpine workshop on May 9th. Mr. Babbitt said that he really enjoyed spending time there and that the most impactful moment for him was engaging and interacting with a client who was playing with building blocks who does not usually tolerate interactions with persons they do not know.

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT UPDATE – Included in the packet is an update on the Needs Assessment Survey that is sent out every other year.

NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY

The draft minutes of the April Board of Directors Meeting and financials through March 31, 2023 were shared. Mr. Ginop stated that the biggest discussion was surrounding the PA2 and the SUD Oversight Advisory Board.

OLD BUSINESS – Mr. Babbitt met with the architect. They are working with Kalkaska Memorial Health Center's property, so he is making sure that everything is going to be compliant with the auditors. Currently he is making sure that he does not have to bid out the project.

NEW BUSINESS – CMHAM Summer Conference, Last Call. Mr. Babbitt reminded board members that there was still time to sign up for the CMHAM summer conference, but that we did just receive notice from Monique at CMHAM that the room block hold was expiring.

BOARD & STAFF COMMENTS – Mr. Rubingh asked if Antrim County is moving forward with Stepping Up. Mr. Babbitt said that initiatives are not underway, but engagement is happening, county participation is happening, and Wayne State is involved. Meetings are happening monthly. Things are moving forward, but it still is in pre planning stages.

Ms. Rhue brought to the board's attention the bags that are at the back of the room. They were used at the Bellaire office's Bridge Walk to Mental Health and the staff in the Bellaire office are offering them to the board members if they would like to take one.

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Ms. Sherman reminded the board members about the CEO Evaluations that were included in the folders Ms. Rhue had for each member. She said if board members had them filled out, she would collect them at that time, or they could take them home and return them to her via the pre-paid envelope.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:53 PM by Board Chair Ed Ginop.


Ed Ginop, Board Chair