



# **NORTH COUNTRY**

## **COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH**

### **MINUTES OF THE BOARD**

**July 20, 2023, 4:00 PM**

**1420 Plaza Drive, Petoskey, Board Room**

### **BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING:**

Caroline Loper, Ed Ginop, Michael Newman, Jarris Rubingh, Dana Wingo, Edward Belitz, Karla Sherman, David White

**MEMBERS ATTENDING VIRTUALLY:** Robert Boyd, Gary Knapp

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Annemarie Conway, Ron Iseler

**STAFF:** Brian Babbitt, Kim Rappleyea Nancy Rhue, Tim Stapp Jr., Ann Friend, Amy Christie, Joe Balberde, Chanda Harwood, Alyssa McCauley

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

### **MOTION CARRIES**

### **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS – BOARD ACTION\***

**Program Committee Report:** Mr. Ginop shared the Minutes of the June 22 meeting which included the 2023 Biannual Region 2 MDHHS Survey results and the QI presentation.

**Personnel Committee Report:** Ms. Sherman reviewed the minutes of the July 5 meeting. Agenda items included approval of the May 10, 2023 meeting and the CEO Annual Review.

**MOTION BY KARLA SHERMAN TO APPROVE A FOUR PERCENT (4%) COLA INCREASE IN THE CEO SALARY; SUPPORT BY EWARD BELITZ:**

**ABSTAINED FROM VOTING: DANA WINGO**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Finance Committee Report:** Mr. White reviewed the Statement of Cash on Deposit and Disbursements through June 30, 2023; Interim Financial Statements as of May 31, 2023 Revenue and Expense by Fund Source; Trending Revenue and Expenses as of May 31, 2023 and NMRE Funding Source Report.

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

**PRESENTATIONS** – Chanda Harwood, Alyssa McCauley and Joe Balberde presented on the HATCH program and Integrated Health Dashboard. The HATCH Program stands for Holistic Approach to Coordinated Healthcare. The goals of the HATCH Program are to improve care management of clients with SMI/SED, improve care coordination between physical and behavioral health services, improve transitions between primary, specialty, and inpatient care settings. Benefits to clients who are enrolled in the HATCH program include help with navigating health care and social service programs, reduction in social isolation of clients, increased education on topics related to chronic disease prevention, physical activity and nutrition, increased care coordination, transportation assistance, increased follow-up, resource linking, and implementation of health and wellness initiatives. The HATCH program was piloted in 2020, in October of 2021 Alyssa McCauley took over the roll of HATCH Coordinator. In October of 2021 there were 15 clients enrolled, currently there are 83 clients enrolled and 10 referrals in process. HATCH growth goals include educating staff in the role of the HATCH program, have 100+ clients enrolled in the next 6 months, hire an RN, continue to work with IT to integrate HATCH forms in the EHR, attend trainings offered by the NMRE, and pursue advanced certifications for Community Health Workers. Most of our clients are eligible for HATCH. Clients just must have Medicaid, a serious mental illness or serious emotional disturbance. There is no age requirement, and we currently have 935 potential clients. With enrollment in the HATCH program things that NCCMH staff already do, now becomes a billable service: examples of non-billable services that are HATCH services, include phone calls, prior authorizations, team huddles/discussions between staff regarding the client, and care coordination meetings between NCCMH and PCPs.

**ACTION ITEMS WITHOUT COMMITTEE REVIEW:** Mr. Babbitt shared the NMRE/NCCMH Boilerplate contract. Most of the updates are around Standard Cost Allocation. The NMRE has Standard Cost Allocation built into their contract, the language in the boilerplate contract with NMRE does not necessarily hold us to adopting SCA, but it gives us the flexibility to do so if needed.

**MOTION BY KARLA SHERMAN TO APPROVE SIGNING THE NCCMH/NMRE  
BOILERPLATE CONTRACT; SUPPORT BY DAVID WHITE:**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**YAY: DAVID WHITE, DANA WINGO, KARLA SHERMAN, EDWARD BELITZ, MICHAEL  
NEWMAN, CAROLINE LOPER, JARRIS RUBINGH, EDWARD GINOP**

**NAY: NONE**

**NOT VOTING: BOB BOYD, GARY KNAPP**

**ABSENT: RON ISELER, ANNEMARIE CONWAY**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Mr. Babbitt brought forward the updated Non-Discrimination Policy. Changes in the language include removal of outdated terminology, and inclusion of sexual orientation, gender expression, inability to pay, Medicaid, Medicare, and Children Health Insurance Program. Updates to the policy were made to become compliant with a loan forgiveness program NCCMH has applied for.

**MOTION BY CAROLINE LOPER TO APPROVE THE UPDATED NON-DISCRIMINATION  
POLICY; SUPPORT BY DANA WINGO:**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT/COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Babbitt referred to several items in his report. On June 16 he met with Dr Ibrahim regarding the Alpine Crisis Residential Unit in Gaylord. Movement on opening the 6 bed Adult CRU has stalled. The agreement with the NMRE regarding the Alpine CRU is being reworked. On June 22 Mr. Babbitt met with Derek Miller from RPC, Ann Friend, and Eric Kurtz. The basis of that meeting was to potentially have RPC look at the Standard Cost Allocation and CFR 200 to see if there were any conflicts. Mr. Babbitt stated that from his understanding SCA and CFR 200 do not have any conflicts. On July 27 Mr. Babbitt met with staff in Kalkaska to obtain feedback on the potential build with KMHC. He stated that they have received preliminary drawings for the building and the plans are similar to the Charlevoix office. June 30 was the NCCMH All Staff Day of Education and Recognition. July 13 he virtually attended the CMHAM meeting regarding children's services. They are working with MDHHS and the Department of Children's Services to filter policy through a rural lens. Mr. Babbitt attended the Directors Forum on July 18 and 19. There were conversations regarding the status of inpatient state hospital beds for children. With Hawthorne closed, 26 children were moved to Walter Reuther. They are not taking any new admissions and there are 40 children on the wait list. There are 300 adults on the waitlist for forensic psychiatry. There will be 260 beds at the new Hawthorne building, 80 for children and 180 for adults. Caro Hospital had their open house, but there is no date given for "move in" yet. Mr. Babbitt referred to a letter received from Governor Whitmer in response to the letter sent on behalf of NCCMH and its board of directors regarding Conflict Free Access and Planning. The response letter did not address any of the CFAP concerns stated in the letter NCCMH sent but outlined what had been done to improve access to mental health services for Michigan's constituents. Mr. Babbitt drew attention to a press release from DHHS and a screen capture

regarding the Public Health Emergency Unwind. Currently after the first 30 days there are 100,000 outstanding recertification applications waiting to be processed. Mr. Babbitt gave an update on the Justin A. Borra Behavioral Health Unit in Cheboygan, licensing has been granted, Laura Daniel the previous director resigned, Mr. Babbitt has a meeting with McLaren's Director of Nursing, David Monan on July 24 for more information. Mr. Babbitt concluded his report by referencing the length of engagement data that was requested by board members at the previous meeting and the PA2 fund breakdown by county that were also included in the packet.

**QUALITY IMPROVEMENT UPDATE** – No report this month

**NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY**

Draft minutes of the June Board of Directors Meeting, May Operations Committee Minutes, and financials through May 31, 2023 were shared.

**OLD BUSINESS** – Ms. Rhue shared the results received from the email sent out regarding a potential time change for the Board Meeting. Keeping the day the same but moving the time up to after lunch, roughly around 2 was the most suggested. It is agreed that we will mark up the bylaws and present them to the board for vote at the next meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS** –

**BOARD & STAFF COMMENTS** –

Mr. Rubingh asked if the sweep accounts had been set up yet. They have not but Ms. Friend is working on it.

Mr. Belitz said he went to the veteran's summit in Traverse City, suicide and firearms were the main talking points. He states that if a veteran has a firearm that they can pass it to a friend for safe keeping and without a warrant the police cannot seize the gun. Veteran's families can put a veteran on the do not sell list if they are worried about their mental health.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:41 PM by Board Chair Ed Ginop.

  
Ed Ginop, Board Chair