



# NORTH COUNTRY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH

## MINUTES OF THE BOARD

March 21, 2024 2:30 PM

1420 Plaza Drive, Board Room, Petoskey

### BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Ed Ginop, Michael Newman, Jarris Rubingh, Karla Sherman, David White, Caroline Loper, Dana Wingo, Robert Boyd, Bob Baldwin

**BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING VIRTUALLY:** Edward Belitz

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

**STAFF:** Brian Babbitt, Nancy Rhue, Tim Stapp Jr., Ann Friend, Joe Balberde, Kim Rappleyea, Emily Meeder-Ramirez, Dominique Cook (virtually)

### GUESTS:

Mr. Ginop called the meeting to order at 2:36 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:** None

### 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 ROBERT BOYD:**

**MOTION CARRIES**

### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS – BOARD ACTION\*

**Program Committee:** Mr. White reviewed the minutes of the February 22<sup>nd</sup> Program committee which included updates on the CARF Accreditation Quality Improvement plan, Administrative Services annual report, Customer Services, Grievances and Appeals annual report, and the Quality Plan update.

**Finance Committee Report:** Mr. White reviewed the Statement of Cash on Deposit and Disbursements through February 29, 2024; Interim Financial Statements as of January 31, 2024, Revenue and Expense by Fund Source; Trending Revenue and Expenses as of January

31, 2024, NMRE Funding Source Report, Procurement Policy update, and proposals from Spence Brothers, Architecture Technology, P.C, and Machin Engineering

**MOTION BY DAVID WHITE TO APPROVE THE PROCUREMENT POLICY; SUPPORT BY KARLA SHERMAN:**

**MOTION CARRIES**

**MOTION BY DAVID WHITE TO APPROVE THE SPENCE BROTHERS PRECONSTRUCTION SERVICES PROPOSAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$14,000 (FOURTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS); SUPPORT BY BOB BOYD:**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**AYE: KARLA SHERMAN, JARRIS RUBINGH, BOB BALDWIN, DAVID WHITE, ROBERT BOYD, DANA WINGO, CAROLINE LOPER, MIKE NEWMAN, ED GINOP**

**NAY: NONE**

**NOT VOTING: EDWARD BELITZ**

**ABSENT: ANNEMARIE CONWAY, RON ISELER, GARY KNAPP**

**MOTION CARRIES**

**MOTION BY DAVID WHITE TO APPROVE THE ARCHITECTURE TECHNOLOGY, P.C. OWNER ARCHITECT AGREEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$77,700 (SEVENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED DOLLARS); SUPPORT BY KARLA SHERMAN:**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**AYE: DAVID WHITE, KARLA SHERMAN, DANA WINGO, ROBERT BOYD, JARRIS RUBINGH, MIKE NEWMAN, BOB BALDWIN, CAROLINE LOPER, ED GINOP**

**NAY: NONE**

**NOT VOTING: EDWARD BELITZ**

**ABSENT: ANNEMARIE CONWAY, RON ISELER, GARY KNAPP**

**MOTION CARRIES**

**MOTION BY DAVID WHITE TO APPROVE THE MACHIN ENGINEERING PROPOSAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$26,200 (TWENTY-SIX THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS); SUPPORT BY BOB BOYD:**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**AYE: KARLA SHERMAN, MIKE NEWMAN, CAROLINE LOPER, DAVID WHITE, ROBERT BOYD, JARRIS RUBINGH, BOB BALDWIN, ED GINOP**

**NAY: NONE**

**NOT VOTING: EDWARD BELITZ**

**ABSENT: ANNEMARIE CONWAY, RON ISELER, GARY KNAPP**

**MOTION CARRIES**

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

**PRESENTATIONS – Self Determination Annual Report, Emily Meeder-Ramirez- Ms.**

Meeder-Ramirez presented the FY23 Self Determination annual report. Self-Determination arrangements offer a way for clients to have control over how and by whom their authorized services are provided. The client is the director of their life, and an arrangement helps to amplify the control they have in how they live their life. Personal needs, goals and objectives are identified as a part of the person-centered planning process and at that point a Self Determination budget is developed to ensure the funding is identified that will help pay for the approved services. The principles that drive SD arrangements are freedom, authority, support, and responsibility. Through SD arrangements clients can live independently with support from Medicaid providers, build small businesses, maintain employment, and learn how to earn income. Clients can maintain residence in their family homes, and many have family members working for them, providing necessary services and care. Through SD arrangements clients are choosing how to live, who to hire, how to pay their supports, and ensure they have opportunities to connect with their community. Most SD budgets go toward community living supports (CLS). The total cost for SD services delivered in FY 23 was \$2,779,800 with Medicaid and HAB waivers being the largest funding sources. CLS, supported employment, respite care, and overnight healthcare services were the largest categories of utilization. Adults make up 84% of the population utilizing SD arrangements, and 89% of SD arrangements are persons with a developmental disability. In FY23 21 clients ended their SD arrangements, and 12 new arrangements began. 15 SD arrangements have been in place for 10+ years, 14 began between 2014 and 2016 and are still active, 19 began between 2017 and 2019 and are still active. The average length of stay in an SD arrangement is 6.4 years. Satisfaction surveys began in 2022 with a Microsoft form electronically provided to all with email addresses on file. Continued concerns surround staffing and staff pay. At the end of her presentation Ms. Meeder-Ramirez showed the board the updated SD arrangement informational pamphlet.

**ACTION ITEMS WITHOUT COMMITTEE REVIEW: None**

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

Mr. Babbitt referred to several items in his report. On February 23rd he attended the Juvenile Justice lecture at North Central Michigan College given by Judge Snyder. NCCMH staff regularly work within the 2 courts that Judge Snyder presides over. She spoke about the juvenile programs and read some statements from kids who had graduated from the programs. There is not much information on the youth that age out of the juvenile drug court system and recidivism as adults. On February 27th Mr. Babbitt had a day in the field with Geoffrey Von Lau of ACT South. He stated that it was nice to meet the clients and get more perspective on what the ACT teams do daily. March 8th he virtually attended the discussion with Wayne State University and Antrim County where the crisis data was reviewed. Through data collection from NCCMH and Central Dispatch, the goal is to understand where the need is. Antrim County is pursuing a roadside intercept model for jail diversion. On March 15th Mr. Babbitt was on a call

with the state regarding CCBHCs and rural flexibility. Feedback was positive and it appears that the state understands that the CCBHC model is not feasible in rural areas. On a subsequent CMHAM call there was talk that 3 or 4 of the original CCBHCs from the pilot program may not make it. CCBHC funding is based on annual legislative appropriations, and the entity takes on all financial risk. Mr. Babbitt drew attention to documents in his report that give an overview on Medicaid enrollment versus revenue trends. On March 20th he virtually attended the CMHA Legislation and Policy meeting. He highlighted a package of guardianship bills; it would cap the number of people an individual may be legal guardian of at 36 and also increase visits the guardian must make to the person they are guardian over to monthly. HB5549 refers to creating a behavioral health threat assessment team in schools. Funding has increased for behavioral health services in schools, however the risk for duplication of services also increases. Mr. Babbitt was sent a meeting invitation for CFAP implementation set for April 1st. Currently there are two conflicting sets of messages, the first being there is no interest in making structural changes to the mental health code and the latter being messages from consultants stating that structural changes will be required. There is a lot of pushback from CMHSPs and persons served. If structural changes are required that would mean that clients would have to go to multiple places to receive services and must tell their story several times. CMS has granted rural exemptions to CFAP, and it is an option that NCCMH will pursue. Mr. Babbitt drew attention to the document "State of America's Direct Support Workforce Crisis." Mr. Babbitt informed the board that he will be a panelist at the State Reform Health Policy Conference on April 4th. Mr. Babbitt drew attention to an article from Psychiatric Times included in his report titled "Mass Shootings' Relationship to Mental Illness." A study based on interviewing thirty-five mass shooters over 37 years had stated that upwards of 87% of perpetrators were diagnosed with a major psychiatric illness. However, a more comprehensive study attributes 3-5% of violence in the us is due to mental disorders.

**QUALITY IMPROVEMENT UPDATE** – There is no update this month.

#### **NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY**

Minutes of the January Operations Committee meeting, Draft minutes of the February Board of Directors meeting, and financials through January 2024 were shared.

**OLD BUSINESS** – Mr. Babbitt shared the most recent Medicaid redetermination statistics. As of February 2024, 607,000 individuals have fallen off the Medicaid rolls statewide. Original predictions were that 500,000 persons would come off the Medicaid rolls during the year that redeterminations are happening.

Mr. Babbitt explained that with the proposals for the Kalkaska building approved that he will likely need to convene the finance committee outside of the regularly scheduled meetings for proposal approvals so the build can move forward in a timely manner.

**NEW BUSINESS** – Mr. Ginop made Nominating Committee appointments. They include Annemarie Conway, Caroline Loper, Edward Belitz, Mike Newman, David White, and Ron Iseler. Ms. Rhue will email the committee to set up a time to meet to discuss the slate of officers they would like to recommend to the board in April.

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**BOARD & STAFF COMMENTS –**

Mr. Rubingh welcomed Mr. Baldwin to the board.

Mr. Baldwin stated that he has a son with a learning disability, and he is invested in the work that we do.

Mr. Boyd would like to thank the Cheboygan County Board of Commissioners for reappointing him to the NCCMH Board of Directors.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 PM by Board Chair Ed Ginop.



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Ed Ginop, Board Chair