Call to Order: The West Michigan Community Mental Health Board of Directors met for its regular meeting in the Boardroom at the HE Madden Center, located in Ludington, at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 20, 2018. Chairperson Jim Prince presided.

Roll Call: The following members were present: Todd Dancz, Jane Hedberg, Kate Maddox, Jim Prince, Ron Sanders, Andy Sebolt, Barb Stenger, and Larry VanSickle. Members absent: Ron Bacon, Pat Bettin, Dr. Jennifer Branning, and Kay Seng (all excused). A quorum was present.

CMH staff members present were: Lisa Williams, Michele Condit, Faith Nekola, Bethany Sherfinski, and Kimberly Goodrich.

Introductions: Dr. Williams introduced our new WMCMH Board member, Kate Maddox. Ms. Maddox is from Lake County and is replacing Karl Walls. Dr. Williams also introduced WM’s new IT Supervisor, Terry Fuller, as well as Peer Recovery Coach Amanda Franklin and her husband Clinton Franklin. Also with Amanda tonight is Mary Bennett from Michigan Works!

Delegations, Communications and Expressions from the Community: There were none.

Approval of Agenda: Ms. Hedberg made the motion, seconded by Mr. VanSickle, that the West Michigan Community Mental Health Board of Directors approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried.

Conflict of Interest Question: Mr. Prince asked if any board member wished to declare a conflict of interest regarding any matter to be considered by the West Michigan Community Mental Health governing body. No such declarations were made.

Consent Agenda: Mrs. Stenger made the motion, seconded by Mr. Dancz, to approve the item on the consent agenda:

7.1 Minutes from the 1/16/18 WMCMH Board of Directors Meeting. The motion carried.

Executive Committee Meeting Report: Mr. Prince stated that the Executive Committee minutes are available for review in your board packets. There were no action items taken. There were no questions.

Finance Committee Recommendation: Mr. Sanders and Ms. Sherfinski reviewed the recommendation to approve two contracts over $20,000 that were forwarded to the Finance Committee for review. Mr. VanSickle requested additional information on the direct care wage increase. Mr. Sanders explained that this is pass through money from the State to pass on to providers to increase the wages of their direct care workers in the amount of $.50 per hour. Some of the providers have refused the increase due to the taxes and sustainability that goes along with it. Unfortunately it was an ill-conceived
implementation process. Mr. VanSickle has concerns with this due to the budget issues of the LRE, WM, and the State. Mr. Sanders made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Stenger, to approve the contracts over $20,000 as presented. The motion carried, with one no vote.

10. Behavioral Health Services Report: Mrs. Nekola introduced Amanda Franklin, a Peer Recovery Coach at WMCMH, who is presenting the behavioral services report this month. Ms. Franklin has been a Peer Recovery Coach for about a year in the SUD program and consented to share her recovery story. Also, Ms. Franklin entered the PATH Program through Michigan Works! to seek employment. It is through Michigan Works! that Ms. Franklin found her job at WMCMH. Ms. Franklin is receiving an Impact Award tomorrow in Lansing that is going to be live streamed. WMCMH is also receiving an award as the employer for Ms. Franklin. Josh Snyder will be accepting on behalf of WMCMH. Ms. Franklin went on to share her inspiring story of becoming an addict and her road to recovery.

11. Administrative/Operations Report: Ms. Sherfinski reviewed the financial services report through the period ending December 31, 2017, the first quarter of the fiscal year. She stated that we are projecting pretty positively for the year, based on the assumption that things are going to continue as they are now with no additions or subtractions of funding. Ms. Sherfinski then reviewed the Cash and Investments Report as of 12/31/17. There were no questions.

12. Service Enhancement Report: Ms. Condit reported that the Office of Recipient Rights will be here in July to complete its site review and her team is busy getting ready for the desk audit portion of the review.

13. Lakeshore Regional Entity Update: Dr. Williams reported that the Region’s financial struggles will take us all the way through the ISF and into state dollars for FY 2017. The State had stated that if it goes through the risk corridor that they would bid the region out. The LRE decided to take the bid out in their own hands and are crafting a Request for Proposal (RFP) seeking a managed care organization to take over the managed care functions of the region. The LRE board passed a resolution to do the RFP and has asked the CMH boards to support the resolution of the regional board. Mr. VanSickle made the motion, seconded by Mr. Dancz, to approve the Board Resolution to Support the LRE Board Motion to Pursue a RFP as presented. The motion carried.

Dr. Williams reviewed how the Region’s financial status ended for FY2017, with a deficit of $29 million. West Michigan came in better than anticipated due to some of the strategies we implemented at the end of last year. WMCMH’s Medicaid shortfall is approximately the dollar amount associated with the DAB/TANF issue. We are cautiously optimistic that some of the changes WM made will translate into savings this current year as well.

14. Community Mental Health Association of Michigan (CMHAM) Update: The Board Association conference was held at the beginning of February, with several staff and board members attending. Mr. Dancz found it very eye opening and an exciting experience. He appreciated the recovery stories that were presented and they made him more determined to be a more focused person in reducing stigma. Ms. Hedberg stated that the sessions she attended were very good and she appreciated some of the physical and behavioral health integration efforts. She also brought some information
back on an app for teenagers to use if they have friends who voice mental health concerns. Dr. Williams added that they also had a justice focus this year and had a couple powerful speakers around that. There were also a lot of politics going on throughout the conference.

Dr. Williams also shared some information on the DAB movement that the Board Association is pursuing. Her opinion is that it will still not happen.

Dr. Williams presented the information on the CMHAM PAC, which is what funds the legislative advocacy that the Association does on our behalf. It is a personal contribution that board members can choose to make or not to make.

15. Director’s Report: Dr. Williams reviewed the updated organizational priorities listing and shared highlights for the month.

Dr. Williams reported that the 298 Pilot RFI was submitted last week to the Department. If there are oral presentations required, those will be next Thursday and Friday in Lansing. We’ve also been doing some behind the scenes work meeting with legislators regarding the pilot. She and Julia Rupp met with Senator Shirkey (along with Senators Hansen and MacGregor) last week and the meeting was very positive. We should hear on the award of the pilots on March 9th. WMCMH shared our RFI with the LRE, the Board Association, the Medicaid Health Plans and all the directors in our region.

16. Upcoming Committee Meetings:

- Executive Committee – Tuesday, March 13th at noon in Ludington
- LRE Board Meeting – Thursday, March 15th at 1:00 at Network180
- Governance Committee – Date to be determined

17. WMCMH Board Member Comments, Questions, Clarifications and Critique of Meeting: There were none.

18. Delegations, Communications and Expressions from the Community: There were none.

19. Executive Session: There was none.

20. Adjournment: Mr. Sanders made the motion, seconded by Mr. Sebolt, that the West Michigan Community Mental Health Board of Directors adjourn its meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

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Kimberly Goodrich
Recording Secretary

James Prince
Chairperson