

WEST MICHIGAN COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

May 21, 2019

1. Call to Order: The West Michigan Community Mental Health Board of Directors met for its regular meeting in the Boardroom at the H.E. Madden Center, located in Ludington, at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21, 2019. Chairperson Jim Prince presided.
2. Roll Call: The following members were present: Mary Alway, Pat Bettin, Ron Bacon, Dr. Jennifer Branning, Todd Dancz, Zachary Leslie, Dawn Martin, Jim Prince, Andy Sebolt, Kay Seng, Barb Stenger, and Larry VanSickle. Absent: None. A quorum was present. CMH staff members present were: Lisa Williams, Michele Condit, Faith Nekola, Bethany Sherfinski, and Kimberly Goodrich.
3. Introductions: There were none.
4. Delegations, Communications and Expressions from the Community: There were none.
5. Approval of Agenda: Mr. Bacon made the motion, seconded by Mr. Sebolt, that the West Michigan Community Mental Health Board of Directors approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried.
6. 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.
7. Consent Agenda: Mr. Bacon made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Seng, to approve the item on the consent agenda:
 - 7.1 Minutes from the 4/16/19 WMCMH Board of Directors Meeting. The motion carried.
8. Governance Committee: Mrs. Bettin provided a second reading of the minor proposed revisions to the WMCMH Board Bylaws. Mr. VanSickle made the motion, seconded by Mr. Bacon, to approve the revisions to the WM Board Bylaws as presented. The motion carried.
9. Executive Committee Meeting Report: Mr. Prince stated that the Executive Committee minutes are attached for review and items will be covered under other agenda items. There were no action items.
10. Finance Committee Report: Mr. VanSickle reported that the Finance Committee met and reviewed a recommendation to approve two contracts over \$20,000. Mrs. Sherfinski stated that the contracts are for supportive services for consumers who are living in specialized residential homes. Mr. VanSickle made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Bettin, to approve the contracts over \$20,000 as presented. The motion carried.

11. Behavioral Health Services Report: Mrs. Nekola provided information on May is Mental Health Awareness Month and what WMCMH staff are doing internally to promote this amongst the staff to help take care of each other. A group of our staff who work on the team for adults with mental illness came up with a set of activities to offer to staff at each site to help with self-care and wellness during the lunch hour. These are the same types of things we promote with the people we serve to help manage their thoughts and emotions. There is a bulletin board in each of our three counties so that staff can write things that help them with their mental wellness.
12. Administrative/Operations Report: Ms. Sherfinski reviewed the financial services report through the period ending March 31, 2019, six months of the fiscal year. Things continue to look good, with no significant changes from the prior month. We are working on the process of a more detailed projection to look at what's trending and where we'll be in a few months.

Ms. Sherfinski reviewed the quarterly Cash and Investments Report as of 3/31/19. We continue to see a slight increase in interest rates.

Mrs. Sherfinski also reviewed two new policy proposals and two policies with proposed changes. The first new policy is regarding charge accounts, which was recommended by our auditors. This would be for charge accounts with a store where certain staff would be authorized to charge. The second new policy covers remote work for employees. Like other businesses, we are experiencing a need more and more to have the ability to work outside of the office. It goes beyond seeing consumers outside of the office, but would cover paperwork time, working off site, in Lansing, etc. It was explained that there are more detailed procedures behind the policy to cover the day to day operation of the policy statement.

Ms. Sherfinski also reviewed two proposed policy changes. The first recommendation for change was on our employee referral process and removing the dollar amount that an employee would receive for a successful referral. That gives us the leeway to offer a different amount if needed. The second policy change recommendation was to the employee moral policy. We are no longer able to use local funds to cover some morale related events as we have done in the past. We are proposing that we would only use an employee funded account to cover those type of things. Mr. Sebolt made the motion, seconded by Mr. Bacon, to approve the new policies as presented. The motion carried. Mr. Bacon made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Seng, to approve the revised policies as presented. Dr. Branning suggested using the word "may" in the policy statement. Mr. Bacon made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bacon, to approve the amended policy statement. The motion carried.

13. Service Enhancement Report: Ms. Condit reported on some work that staff are doing with other agencies in the community relative to the Census. Census 2020 is coming up soon, so the community is working together on a plan to count the hard to reach populations in the census 2020 count. It's important because the distribution of some federal funds is tied directly to the numbers in the census. WM staff are participating in this work.
14. Lakeshore Regional Entity Update: Dr. Williams provided an update on the region. The LRE was issued a letter from MDHHS (the 3rd in the last few years) which basically describes the deficiencies in the region and issues notice that if the LRE doesn't respond

satisfactorily in 30 days, they will terminate the contract at the end of the fiscal year. The letter implies that the CMHs would be reassigned to a different PIHP. The regional response has been quite strong. Much of the problem in the region appears to be from systemic underfunding in the behavioral health system. Beacon, the managed care organization that LRE is contracting with to perform some managed care functions, the CEO and CMH CEOs have been working on a response to the State. Dr. Williams reviewed the presentation that Beacon and the LRE used during its meeting with legislators, showing the decrease in funding that the LRE experienced over the last few years. It also shows that the number of Medicaid eligible people has gone up. The presentation highlights that there are 9 out of 10 PIHPs in the state that are or will be experiencing an issue with their ISFs, so this issue is not unique to the LRE. The regional group also met with Senator MacGregor and Representative Whiteford (Chairs of house and senate MDHHS appropriations committees, respectively), MDHHS, and held a separate additional meeting with all the local legislators. The LRE is drafting a letter sharing all of this and but states that unless the State change its rates, there is nothing that we can cut to meet the funding that was given. Dr. Williams indicated that the legislators have significant concerns with the funding methodology and rate setting process and are addressing those concerns with MDHHS. The data for an underfunding of the system, and our region in particular, is pretty compelling. She will provide a copy of the letter when it is complete.

Dawn Martin left the meeting at 6:29 pm.

15. 298 Pilot Update: Dr. Williams reported that Saginaw CMH's Board passed a resolution to remove Saginaw from the 298 pilot. The biggest part of their decision is related to a loan with a bank for cash flow. In addition, the mock rates that the State developed and the distribution of the rates for the pilot are extremely detrimental to Saginaw. The remaining CMHs (WM, HealthWest and Genesee) are staying with the pilot and pressing forward at this time. The Medicaid Health Plans are also continuing to participate. We proposed a staggered or phased implementation on the pilot, which may or may not allow Saginaw to stay in. It would also help us with a successful implementation. Sen. McGregor was in favor of that idea; however, the State seemed pretty opposed in our initial dialogs with them. The MHPs appear to be in favor of it and they will all be meeting again to discuss the implications of it. More to come.
16. Director's Report: Dr. Williams provided an update on the organizational priorities. We received our first incentive payment due to receiving Meaningful Use certification. We are hoping to implement our changes to the assessment process on June 1st. Lots of CCBHC activities continue to be rolling out. We are evaluating how far we will expand beyond physical health screening and assessment into primary care services, and that project was added to the list this month.

Dr. Williams reminded board members of the 3rd annual Walk a Mile event that will be held tomorrow at CMH and the Mason County Courthouse. We have consumers who will be speaking, as well as the Director of NAMI who will be the keynote speaker. Board members are encouraged to attend if possible.

The Board Association's Spring Conference will be held in June in Novi. Please let Ms. Goodrich know if you have an interest in attending.

17. Upcoming Committee Meetings:
 - LRE Board Meeting – Thursday, June 20th at 1:00 at Network180
 - Executive Committee – June meeting to be rescheduled
18. WMCMH Board Member Comments, Questions, Clarifications and Critique of Meeting:
There was none.
19. Delegations, Communications and Expressions from the Community: There were none.
20. Executive Session: There was none.
21. Adjournment: Mr. Bacon made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Bettin, that the West Michigan Community Mental Health Board of Directors adjourn its meeting. The meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Kimberly Goodrich
Recording Secretary

James Prince
Chairperson