

## WEST MICHIGAN COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

January 21, 2020

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, January 21, 2020. Chairperson Prince presided.
2. Roll Call: The following members were present: Mary Alway, Pat Bettin, Ron Bacon, Dr. Jennifer Branning, Dawn Martin, Jim Prince, Andy Sebolt, Lucinda Shafer, Barb Stenger and Larry VanSickle. Excused: Todd Dancz and Kay Seng, both excused. A quorum was present. CMH staff members present were: Lisa Williams (via phone), 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 amended. 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. Mr. VanSickle stated that he sits on the Northwest Michigan Health Services Board so will abstain from voting on that contract.
7. Consent Agenda: Mr. VanSickle made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Bettin, to approve the item on the consent agenda:
  - 7.1 Minutes from the 12/17/19 WCMCMH Board of Directors Meeting. The motion carried.
8. Executive Committee Meeting Report: Mr. Prince stated that the report is attached if there were any questions. There were no action items.
9. Finance Committee Recommendation: Mr. VanSickle reported that the Finance Committee was given a short list of contracts over \$20,000 to review. Ms. Sherfinski stated that two of the contracts are for specialized residential contracts, one of our high cost areas. The other contract is for Northwest Michigan Health Services, which is related to having the FQHC at our 920 Diana Street location and providing primary care services. Mr. Prince made the motion, seconded by Mr. VanSickle, to approve the Lighthouse contract as presented. The motion carried. Mr. Bacon made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Always, to approve the Eden Prairie Residential Care Services contract as presented. Mr. Sebolt made the motion, seconded by Mr. Bacon to approve the Northwest Michigan Health Services, Inc. contract as presented. The motion carried.
10. Behavioral Health Services Report: Ms. Nekola reported this month on eating disorders. They are common and serious mental illnesses but treatable. They can also be

accompanied by a substance use disorder. There is no one cause for eating disorders. They are caused by a complex interaction of genetic, psychological, trauma and social factors. We treat with evidenced-based practices, including trauma focused cognitive behavioral therapy, individual and group therapy. Some of the treatments are the same as treatments for PTSD.

11. Administrative/Operations Report: Ms. Sherfinski reviewed the financial services report through the period ending November 30, 2019, two months of the new fiscal year. We are looking a little better than when we originally budgeted. Although our revenue is less than anticipated, our expenses are down a bit more than anticipated as well.
12. Service Enhancement Report: Ms. Condit reported that CARF will be here February 24-26 for our regular triennial audit. We invite this group in to evaluate our practices and for them to share their best practices with us. The Service Enhancement Team meets with teams across the organization to prepare for the review and assemble proofs. Ms. Condit explained some of the reasons that we feel that the CARF accreditation is important to WMCMH.
13. Lakeshore Regional Entity Update: Dr. Williams reported that we don't have a ton of new information from when we met last month. The meeting with the Department was canceled. They scheduled a conference call in early January to offer a past liabilities figure, which was markedly under the actual need of the region, and to let us know that there are some legal issues with the Department and Beacon sitting on the LRE board, a term that the Department had put into the proposed settlement agreement. Another meeting scheduled for last week was also canceled because the LRE wasn't ready to give them a counter figure to the past liabilities. Each CMH was asked, by the LRE's attorney, to go back to their board and to work with their finance officers on the recommended dollar amount to come to terms on a settlement agreement and the LRE would go forward and negotiate with the Department on the total number that the region needs. We agreed that WMCMH need the entire dollar amount that we are owed from FY 2019. When WM entered the region, it provided it's full 7.5% to help form the ISF. We have taken money from the ISF in very small amounts and we have also come to the rescue of our regional partners numerous times. We believe if we don't come to this settlement, we could come face similar situations as our partners. HW and Ottawa are also requesting the full amount owed; N180 has come in at a smaller amount by a small percentage. It was also determined that Allegan owes money to the LRE. Dr. Williams would like the board's approval on the dollar amount and that we are requesting the full amount. Mr. Sebolt made the motion, seconded by Mr. Bacon, to approve the language in the letter to the LRE regarding funding past liabilities. The motion carried.

Dr. Williams stated that we continue to work with Beacon, continuing to try to figure out what happens next. The department will likely come back with a counter offer and then we'll see where we are. It is a wait and see issue overall.

14. Director's Report: Dr. Williams reviewed the updated organizational priorities. Everything went well with our Meaningful Use (MU) certification audit. We will get our written report sometime in February but from the verbal report it seems we are on track. We received notification this week that we have been given a new advisor from the company we consult with. We continue to drive home the stragglng pieces of CCBHC and get all the reporting and planning ready for the end of the year and the next grant cycle. We received notification last week that there will be additional expansion dollars that we will have the ability to apply for. That grant application is due on March 10<sup>th</sup>. We are convening an internal group to write the next phase of the grant. The annual report

that we submitted to SAMHSA in December is attached to the document for board member review. We have come to agreement in terms with NMHSI for the onsite co-location of their facility in our Ludington office. They will be starting at the beginning of February. There will be a ribbon cutting at the end of February and press releases going out shortly to talk about their presence in our building and our collaboration. The Residential Review Committee continues to monitor residential placements and look at alternative placements, including moving folks to a lower level of care. The Inpatient Workgroup has recommendations moving forward. The initial work suggests our inpatient is trending down a bit, but we will watch so that the things we put in place are long term solutions. The Conflict Free Case Management workgroup has decided on the broad structure and staffing models are being worked on. More to come on that next month.

Dr. Williams reported that the Department put out its future oriented design and have been holding stakeholder forums around the state, talking to consumers, family members, advocates, etc., about their design and getting feedback. The message is that the Department is staying pretty much with what it has. We may have some ability to influence some changes to the models but by and large they are moving forward with an idea of Specialty Integrated Plans, so behavioral health and physical health will be shared. It appears that feelings are pretty divided outside of the Department. We have a lot of folks who don't want to see any change, folks who don't love the proposal but see it as an opportunity to address some problems in the system and then there are folks that want to go full out with the State's plan. We don't actually have enough details to react strongly at this point.

Dr. Williams stated that we have some board members whose terms are expiring at the end of March. Ms. Goodrich will reach out to those individuals and help craft a letter to the county administrators if interested in reapplying.

Dr. Williams stated that we have been talking internally about what we are going to do with our organizational structure with Ms. Nekola's departure, as well as CCBHC and CFCM requirements. Will start talking about those with staff next week and will bring forward to the board to look at next month.

Dr. Williams reported that we will be having a retirement celebration for Faith's departure. It will be held on Thursday, February 27th in the afternoon in the boardroom. Board members will receive an invitation and everyone is encouraged to drop in to wish Faith well.

15. Upcoming Committee Meetings:

- Executive Committee – Tuesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at noon in Ludington
- LRE Board Meeting – Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 at Ottawa CMH
- Programs and Services Committee – to be scheduled in February

16. WMCMH Board Member Comments, Questions, Clarifications and Critique of Meeting: Dr. Branning asked if Beth Hartrum was still working with CMH. Ms. Condit stated that Beth left early December to return to Spectrum Health. NMHSI has hired a nurse practitioner that will be on site providing screening and primary care services.

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

18. Executive Session: There was none.

19. 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 6:26 p.m.

---

Kimberly Goodrich  
Recording Secretary

---

James R. Prince  
Chairperson