

WEST MICHIGAN COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

June 20, 2023

1. Call to Order: The West Michigan Community Mental Health Board of Directors met for its regular meeting in person in the classroom of the Oceana County Services Building, located in Hart, at 5:31 p.m. on Tuesday, June 21, 2022. Chairperson James Prince presided.
2. Roll Call: The following members were present: Mary Alway, Linda Baierl, Ron Bacon, Pat Bettin, Jim Prince, Kay Seng, Lucinda Shafer, and Larry VanSickle. Absent: Dr. Jennifer Branning (excused), Todd Dancz, and Dawn Martin. A quorum was present. CMH staff members present were: Lisa Williams, Michele Condit, Bethany Sherfinski, Josh Snyder, and Kelly Hein.
3. Introductions: There were none.
4. Delegations, Communications and Expressions from the Community: There were six community members from Oceana County and one from Mason County who spoke on the Pride flags that were placed in the WMCMH lawn. Those who expressed their concern were: Tim Beggs, Benona Township; Cindy Vout, Hart; Erin McGregor, Benona Township; Mike Morell, Silver Lake; Brian Broderick, Mears; Barbara Broderick, Mears; Charles Thompson, Branch Township. The concerns expressed centered around: display of the Pride flag instead of the American flag or a Veterans flag; the ideology behind the Pride flag making people in the community uncomfortable, the use of tax payer dollars to pay for Pride flags. Mr. Prince thanked the community for attending and sharing their concerns.
5. Approval of Agenda: Mr. Bacon made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Alway, that the West Michigan Community Mental Health Board of Directors approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried via roll.
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. VanSickle made the motion, seconded by Mr. Bacon, to approve the item on the consent agenda:
 - 7.1 Minutes from the 5/16/23 WMCMH Board of Directors Meeting. The motion carried.
8. Executive Committee Meeting Report: Mr. Prince reported that the Executive Committee's report is available for review. There were no action items or questions from the board.
9. Finance Committee Recommendation: Mr. VanSickle reported that the Committee met last week and discussed the list of contracts over \$50,000. Most of the high-cost contracts are for residential services in a different location. The last is for a dedicated

DHS worker available for WMCMH consumers. Mr. VanSickle made the motion, seconded by Mr. Bacon, to move the list of contracts to the full board for approval. The motion carried.

Mr. VanSickle reported that the Committee reviewed the list of contracts between \$20,000 and \$49,999 for information purposes.

Ms. Sherfinski reviewed the FY23 proposed budget amendment. Rate setting was just finalized in May at the State level, so we don't have updated projections from the region yet. This is our best guess for what we know. There is a variance in Medicaid because we pulled all the CCBHC dollars out and moved to the CCBHC Demonstration line. On the expense side, the clinical contractual services line is the biggest variance due to an increase in contracted psychiatrist services and a full year of the contracted telehealth therapist services. Ms. Sherfinski also reviewed the Capital Equipment Budget, which includes vehicle replacements & modifications and the new furnace/air conditioner replacement for the Ludington location. Mr. Bacon made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Bettin, to approve the FY23 budget as presented. The motion carried.

10. Healthcare Integration and Clinical Services Report: Mr. Snyder highlighted on Ms. Plummer's report that Utilization Management audit by LRE came back at 100% and what that audit shows is the LRE agrees with the clinical decision making taking place relative to inpatient admissions and inpatient stays and the documentation completed by the clinical teams at WMCMH.

Mr. Snyder highlighted the Strategic Goal of the treatment of our Mild to Moderate level of care services by noting there will be four "pathways" for this group of consumers offered with a variety of services offered in more flexible ways. The hope is to serve quicker, better, and more flexible.

11. Chief Financial Officer's Report: Ms. Sherfinski reviewed the financial services report through the period ending April 30, 2023. No significant changes from last month. She noted there was shifting in dollars from CCBHC revenue to align with the rate changes. The general fund revenue has not been offset quite yet and there is a higher-than-expected excess in funds. Revenue and expense are starting to catch up with each other so there is less in the excess year to date.
12. Chief Operations Officer's Report: Ms. Condit highlighted some of the enhancements in the CMH buildings; flooring is complete in our Hart, Ludington, and Baldwin buildings. Our WMCMH Consumer Advisory Panel and facilities team are working on a project to collect consumer-created artwork to hang in our boardrooms. She highlighted that there are a number of individuals served at our sites that are talented artists and that their artwork will be selected and displayed with the intention of promoting hope & recovery awareness in our community.
13. Lakeshore Regional Entity Update: Dr. Williams and Mr. Prince gave a brief description of what the LRE is, how it relates to WMCMHS, and their duties and responsibilities. Dr. Williams provided an update on past liabilities and the LRE Board motion. She noted that the CMH's owed for past liabilities were paid 80% of the amounts into an unrestricted account. The remaining 20% will be paid to an escrow restricted account with specified conditions and held in that account for no longer than 1 year. Mr. Bacon noted it was timely and took a lot of courage to get this done.

Dr. Williams also updated that Andy Seabolt has been appointed to the LRE board in place of Jane Verduin who is now employed at WMCMH in our finance department.

14. CMHAM Update: Ms. Shafer, Dr. Williams, and Ms. Plummer attended the recent CMHAM conference in Traverse City. They provided a brief update on their experience at the conference. Ms. Shafer shared that it focused on children's behavioral health services. Dr. Williams shared that CMHAM provided brought in the Director from NACBHDD who highlighted that the key focus in behavioral health from a national policy level in the coming years will be: crisis services, CCBHC, and integrated care overall.
15. CEO's Report: Dr. Williams provided an update on public policy, specifically on the expansion of CCBHC within the state. She shared that there are 19 new entities that are applying to enter the CCBHC Demonstration in October, including the remaining 3 CMHs in our region (NW180, On Point, & Ottawa).

Dr. Williams discussed the purpose and activities of WMCMH's DEI Committee. Its purpose is to educate our organizational team on issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion. She referenced the Pride flags on our three sites and explained that the main goal is to increase awareness within our organization and our community and to create a safe and comfortable space for all of our team members to work and all individuals in our community to seek services no matter their personal or cultural background. She listed several examples of other topics that this committee has provided educational opportunities on, including veteran's culture, tribal culture, African American History, and Women's History. Board members shared their perspectives and concerns relative to Pride month and DEI activities. Mr. Prince asked for potential consideration of board members to be included in the DEI Committee.

16. Upcoming Committee Meetings:

- Executive Committee – Tuesday, July 11th at noon in Ludington
- LRE Board Meeting – Thursday, July 21st at 1:00 in Muskegon

17. WMCMH Board Member Comments, Questions, Clarifications and Critique of Meeting: Mr. VanSickle expressed his concern over the DEI committee's decision on the Pride signs being placed on the CMH sites. He stated that he prefers signs that show that everyone is welcome rather than a Pride sign which is geared to one group of individuals. He believes this topic is too controversial and is being "shoved down our throats." Mary Alway expressed that by supporting such a small group of individuals we are excluding other groups and we should think more in the entire package and bigger picture. She believes we are no longer being supportive of our current policy, and we should reevaluate how we include everyone. Ms. Bettin noted she was previously employed by CMH and believes that the state often establishes requirements and priorities related to cultural competency and staff education and that those change over time. Dr. Williams explained that combination of factors drive what priorities are set by the state. Mr. Snyder noted that WMCMH goal is to provide the best care possible and to educate staff on all populations so anyone who comes to us receives the best care most appropriate to their personal needs. Dr. Williams noted that the DEI work is not intended to change beliefs, it is intended to create an understanding so that when a team member walks into a treatment session with a consumer with a different background, we do not assume they share the same values. Mr. Prince agreed with Mr.

VanSickle that these activities should have community consideration and we should be focusing on mental health needs. He stated that he takes the community comments very seriously and there will be discussions moving forward on how we make people feel welcome. Mr. Walker believes WMCMH went about this in the wrong way. He believes the intent is to not exclude anyone and by using the flags, we have now excluded others as the Pride flags focus on one group only.

18. Delegations, Communications and Expressions from the Community: One additional Oceana County community member, Sue Rice from Shelby, expressed concerns similar to those raised at the beginning of the meeting.
19. Executive Session: There was none.
20. Adjournment: With no additional business, Mr. Bacon made the motion, seconded by Ms. Shafer, to adjourn the West Michigan Community Mental Health Board of Directors meeting. The meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Kelly Hein
Recording Secretary

James R. Prince
Chairperson