

**NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
10:00AM – JULY 28, 2021
GAYLORD BOARDROOM**

ATTENDEES:	Roger Frye, Ed Ginop, Randy Kamps, Gary Klacking, Terry Larson, Christian Marcus, Gary Nowak, Jay O’Farrell, Richard Schmidt, Don Smeltzer, Joe Stone, Don Tanner
VIRTUAL ATTENDEES:	Mary Marois, Karla Sherman (Petoskey), Nina Zamora (Traverse City)
NMRE/CMHSP STAFF:	Joanie Blamer, Eugene Branigan, Chip Johnston, Sandy Kintz, Eric Kurtz, Pamela Polom, Sara Sircely, Deanna Yockey, Carol Balousek, Lisa Hartley
PUBLIC:	Susan Pulaski, Kara Steinke, Sharon Vreeland, Sue Winter

CALL TO ORDER

Let the record show that Chairman Tanner called the meeting to order at 10:00AM.

ROLL CALL

Let the record show that all NMRE Board Members were in attendance either virtually or in person.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Let the record show that the Pledge of Allegiance was recited as a group.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Let the record show that no Conflicts of Interest to any of the meeting agenda items were expressed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Let the record show that Chairman Tanner called for any additions or corrections to the meeting Agenda. Mr. Kurtz announced the addition of SUD Prevention and Treatment Contract recommendations under “New Business.”

MOTION BY GARY NOWAK TO APPROVE THE NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA FOR JULY 28, 2021 AS AMENDED; SUPPORT BY JOE STONE. MOTION APPROVED BY CONSENSUS.

APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES

Let the record show that the June minutes of the NMRE Governing Board were included in the materials for the meeting on this date.

MOTION BY ROGER FRYE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 23, 2021 MEETING OF THE NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS; SUPPORT BY GARY NOWAK. MOTION APPROVED BY CONSENSUS.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 1) The minutes from the July 8, 2021 PIHP CEO meeting.
- 2) A summary of Key Discussion and Decisions from the July 15, 2021 Directors Forum,

- 3) Email correspondence from Joanie Blamer, Northern Lakes Community Mental Health Association's Interim CEO announcing the retirement of CEO Karl Kovacs.
- 4) Email correspondence from MDHHS on behalf of Milliman regarding the PIHP TIN Expenditure Survey.
- 5) CMHAM Infographic "Within our Reach: Concrete Approaches to Building a World Class Public Mental Health System in Michigan."
- 6) BHDDA Strategic Integration Efforts July 2021 update.
- 7) PowerPoint slides "Business Process Overview" regarding Michigan Crisis Access Line (MiCAL) implementation.
- 8) Michigan Psychiatric Care Improvement Project (MPCIP) July 2021 Update.
- 9) A letter from Debra Gagliardi JD, Director of the Bureau of Professional Licensing, Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) introducing the Michigan Care Access Referral Exchange (MiCARE) open bed registry.
- 10) An article from the Detroit Free Press dated July 3, 2021 by Robin Erb and Carter Barret titled, "A child mental health fix takes early action, more help. Here are 7 ideas."
- 11) Email correspondence from Bob Sheehan of CMHAM responding to a series of articles written by Robin Erb CMHA's expression of concern over inaccurate and sensationalizing headline of recent Lansing State Journal article on children's mental health.
- 12) The draft minutes from the July 15, 2021 NMRE Regional Finance Committee meeting.

Mr. Kurtz drew attention to the announcement Northern Lakes CEO Karl Kovacs's retirement and dates of the celebrations in the region. Mr. Kurtz next made note of the BHDDA Strategic Integration Efforts, highlighting the Behavioral and Opioid Health Homes. Mr. Kurtz summarized several correspondence items related to the Michigan Crisis and Access Line (MiCAL); he stated that this topic will be discussed further under the Operations Committee report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Let the record show that no announcements were made during the meeting on this date.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Let the record show that the members of the public attending the meeting virtually were recognized.

REPORTS

Executive Committee Report

Let the record show that no meetings of the NMRE Executive Committee have occurred since the June Board Meeting.

CEOs Report

The NMRE CEO Monthly Report for July 2021 was included in the materials for the meeting on this date. Mr. Kurtz discussed Rep. Damoose's summit on behavioral health that occurred on June 24th in Sault St. Marie. Rep. Whiteford was in attendance and presented her issues, outlines, and initiatives; she indicated support for moving the mild and moderate population to the PIHP/CMHSP system and expanding inpatient services. Mr. Stone asked whether Rep. Whiteford indicated that she would be revising HB 4925 to address the rural (northern) areas of Michigan. Mr. Kurtz responded that nothing definite was said. Ms. Gebhard added that a meeting with Rep. Whiteford and other stakeholders is being planned for August.

Mr. Marcus drew attention to the July 8th PIHP CEO meeting minutes, "MCBAP Development Plans – Barriers." Numerous issues were reported with the Michigan Certification Board for Addiction Professionals (MCBAP) certification process. Workforce shortages and test passing rates (62%) were discussed.

May 2021 Financial Report

- Traditional Medicaid showed \$134,089,953 in revenue, and \$111,149,121 in expenses, resulting in a net surplus of \$21,940,832. Medicaid ISF was reported as \$7,738,320 based on the unaudited final FSR. Medicaid Savings was reported as \$4,515,675.
- Healthy Michigan Plan showed \$20,658,701 in revenue, and \$15,532,608 in expenses, resulting in a net surplus of \$5,126,093. HMP ISF was reported as \$7,058,552 based on the unaudited Final FSR. HMP savings was reported as \$0.
- Net Position* showed net surplus Medicaid and HMP of \$27,066,924. Medicaid carry forward was reported as \$4,515,675. The total Medicaid and HMP Current Year Surplus was reported as \$26,966,599. Medicaid and HMP combined ISF based on unaudited Final FSR was reported as a \$14,796,872; the total Medicaid and HMP net surplus, including carry forward and ISF was reported as \$41,763,471.
- Health Home showed \$295,570 in revenue, and \$246,099 in expenses, resulting in a net surplus of \$49,471.
- SUD showed all funding source revenue of \$13,641,313, and \$11,336,631 in expenses, resulting in a net surplus of \$2,304,682. Total PA2 funds were reported as \$6,093,829.

Ms. Yockey noted that the first of three PA2 payments for FY21 was received.

MOTION BY JOE STONE TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR MAY 2021; SUPPORT BY ROGER FRYE. ROLL CALL VOTE.

“Yea” Votes: R. Frye, E. Ginop, R. Kamps, G. Klacking, T. Larson, C. Marcus, M. Marois, G. Nowak, J. O’Farrell, R. Schmidt, K. Sherman, D. Smeltzer, J. Stone, D. Tanner, N. Zamora

“Nay” Votes: Nil

MOTION CARRIED.

Operations Committee

The minutes from July 20, 2021 were included in the meeting materials in draft form. A large portion of the meeting was devoted to meeting with MDHHS to discuss the Michigan Crisis and Access Line (MiCAL) implementation. Region 2 has been targeted as an early adopter because it currently has limited National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 988 capacity. How this will interact with current crisis/emergency systems remains unknown. The goal would be for MiCAL to work with the CMHSP/PIHP system (including ProtoCall). Mr. Johnston noted that the law (PA 12 of 2020) simply states that “The department shall establish and make available to the public a mental health telephone access line known as the Michigan crisis and access line;” it does not mandate the interplay with CMHSPs/PIHPs.

NMRE SUD Oversight Board Report

The minutes from the July 12, 2021 Substance Use Disorder Oversight Board meeting were included in the meeting materials in draft form.

NEW BUSINESS

PA2 Requests

Ms. Sircely reported that the NMRE Substance Use Disorder Oversight Board approved liquor tax requests for FY22 totaling \$1,155,065 on July 12, 2021. Mr. Stone asked whether the counties have any say in how the funds are spent. Ms. Sircely replied that she doesn’t inform the counties of the requests prior to them going before the SUD Oversight Board for approval. She does inform CMH Directors and relevant SUD Board representatives. Mr. Stone suggested including the

pertinent County Clerks as well. Mr. Marcus drew attention to the two liquor tax requests that passed but received two “nay” votes; he requested an explanation. As one who voted “nay,” Mr. Schmidt explained that it was not because he didn’t support the projects (Wellness Response Team, Project ASSERT), but he objected to the percentages given in the budgets for fringes benefits (67.2%, 59.7%) and administrative costs (10%, 10%). Mr. Kurtz explained that Catholic Human Services does not offer its staff high salaries, but does compensate by offering a full benefit package, which accounts for the high percentages given.

In the future, Mr. Kurtz offered to put the budget portions of liquor tax requests on the nmre.org website for review.

MOTION BY GARY NOWAK TO APPROVE THE LIQUOR TAX REQUESTS RECOMMENDED BY THE NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER OVERSIGHT BOARD ON JULY 12, 2021 FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF ONE MILLION ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-FIVE THOUSAND SIXTY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$1,155,065.00) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022; SECOND BY RANDY KAMPS. ROLL CALL VOTE.

“Yea” Votes: J. Stone, M. Marois, G. Klacking, K. Sherman, R. Kamps, E. Ginop, G. Nowak, D. Smeltzer, J. O’Farrell, N. Zamora, R. Frye, C. Marcus, T. Larson, D. Tanner

“Nay” Votes: R. Schmidt

MOTION CARRIED.

PA2 Fund Balance Limits

“NMRE PA2 Reserves based on FY20 Receipts” document was included in the materials for the meeting on this date. A reserve balance of two years’ receipts per county was proposed (approximately \$3M total). Mr. Marcus asked whether there had been any past practices of counties loaning or sharing liquor tax funds. Clarification was made that liquor tax funds may be used only for substance abuse prevention and treatment programs in the county from which the proceeds originated. Mr. Kurtz noted that, historically, liquor tax dollars were used to serve uninsured individuals after block grant funding had depleted; since Healthy Michigan was instituted, much of those services are covered by Medicaid.

Ms. Yockey clarified that liquor tax payments are received three times per year in April, June, and December. All funding sources are explored prior to requesting the use of liquor tax funds.

Mr. Kurtz suggested allowing the NMRE SUD Oversight Board representative of the county from which liquor tax dollars are requested to have veto power over the request/motion.

MOTION BY RANDY KAMPS TO RECOMMEND THAT A BALANCE OF ONE YEAR’S RECEIPTS BE MAINTAINED FOR EACH COUNTY’S LIQUOR TAX FUNDS; SECOND BY JAY O’FARRELL. MOTION APPROVED BY CONSENSUS.

FY22 Requests for Proposals

- Prevention
The NMRE Provider panel was open for the counties of Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Crawford, Emmet, Otsego and Roscommon for prevention services. The NMRE SUD Oversight Board recommended the following Contracts be issued.

County	Provider
Antrim	Health Department of Northwest Michigan

Charlevoix	Health Department of Northwest Michigan
Cheboygan	Catholic Human Services
Crawford	Catholic Human Services
Emmet	Health Department of Northwest Michigan
Otsego	Catholic Human Services
Roscommon	Catholic Human Services

MOTION BY JOE STONE TO APPROVE PREVENTION CONTRACT AWARDS TO CATHOLIC HUMAN SERVICES FOR THE COUNTIES OF CHEBOYGAN, CRAWFORD, OTSEGO, AND ROSCOMMON AND THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT OF NORTHWEST MICHIGAN FOR THE COUNTIES OF ANTRIM, CHARLEVOIX, AND EMMET; SUPPORT BY ROGER FRYE.

- Treatment
The NMRE issued an RFP for SUD treatment services providers in May 2021. The NMRE SUD Oversight Board recommended the following Contracts be issued.

Provider Name	City	Proposed Services
Ten Sixteen Recovery Network	Clare	Outpatient (co-existing and peer recovery)
Ten Sixteen Recovery Network	Gladwin	Outpatient (co-existing and peer recovery)
Centra Wellness Network	Manistee	Outpatient MAT (suboxone, subutex, buprenorphine, naloxone)
Centra Wellness Network	Benzonia	Outpatient MAT (suboxone, subutex, buprenorphine, naloxone)
Sacred Heart	St. Ignace	Outpatient MAT (Methadone)

MOTION BY RANDY KAMPS TO APPROVE TREATMENT CONTRACT AWARDS FOR THE PROPOSED SERVICES TO TEN SIXTEEN RECOVERY NETWORK IN THE CITIES OF CLARE AND GLADWIN, CENTRA WELLNESS NETWORK IN THE CITIES OF MANISTEE AND BENZONIA, AND SACRED HEART IN THE CITY OF ST. IGNACE; SUPPORT BY ED GINOP.

OLD BUSINESS

Let the record show that there was no “Old Business” on the Agenda for the meeting on this date.

PRESENTATION

Senate and House Bills – Northern Rebuttal and Caucus

Mr. Kurtz provided an update on the Senate and House bills to redesign Michigan’s current behavioral health system. A meeting is scheduled later on this date with the Northern Caucus of the Michigan House of Representatives and representatives of Regions 1 and 2 PIHPs and CMHSPs. In response to the proposals, the northern regions propose the following:

- A rural exemption for PIHP Regions 1 (NorthCare Network) and 2 (Northern Michigan Regional Entity) allowing for tailored solutions to meet local geographic and demographic needs.
- Move the mild/moderate behavioral health benefit to the PIHP/CMHSPs under its current capitation structure.
- Allow CMHSP savings to become local county funds (under their respective PIHP agreements) to be directed into services.
- Continue expansion of the Behavioral Health Home, Opioid Health Home, and Certified Community Behavioral Health Center models.
- Focus evidence-based solutions on data-informed problems without deconstructing a working system.

Ms. Gebhard referenced the report “Access to Behavioral Health Care in Michigan” by Altarum, dated July 2019.

Mr. Kurtz added that MDHHS, through the Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Administration, should take a stronger role in the rate setting process.

COMMENTS

Board

- Based on discussions that occurred during the meeting on this date, Mr. Frye, as Chair of the NMRE SUD Oversight Board, stated that he will request an explanation for any “nay” votes cast for liquor tax requests.
- Mr. Stone reminded the Board that the CMHAM Fall Conference is taking place October 25th-26th in Traverse City with a reception on the evening of October 24th.
- Mr. Tanner discussed an article titled “Rough Saline, Dry Land” and the salt industry’s impact on the treatment of mental illness.

Staff/CMHSP CEOs

Mr. Johnston expressed that he will be making a request to the Centra Wellness Network Board to pull out of the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) project in favor of serving the intended population through an expansion of the Behavioral Health Home.

MEETING DATES

The next meeting of the NMRE Board of Directors was scheduled for 10:00AM on August 25, 2021.

ADJOURN

Let the record show that Mr. Tanner adjourned the meeting at 12:09PM.