

**NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
10:00AM – OCTOBER 27, 2021
GAYLORD BOARDROOM**

ATTENDEES:	Roger Frye, Ed Ginop, Randy Kamps, Terry Larson, Christian Marcus, Mary Marois, Gary Nowak, Jay O’Farrell, Richard Schmidt, Don Smeltzer, Joe Stone, Don Tanner
ABSENT:	Gary Klacking, Karla Sherman
NMRE/CMHSP STAFF:	Joanie Blamer, Eugene Branigan, Christine Gebhard, Chip Johnston, Eric Kurtz, Brian Martinus, Diane Pelts, Nena Sork, Deanna Yockey, Carol Balousek, Lisa Hartley
PUBLIC:	Chip Cieslinski, Jim Harrington

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 Gary Klacking and Karla Sherman were excused for the meeting on this date; all other Board Members were in attendance.

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; none were proposed.

MOTION BY GARY NOWAK TO APPROVE THE NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA FOR OCTOBER 27, 2021; SUPPORT BY JOE STONE. MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES

Let the record show that the September 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 SEPTEMBER 22, 2021 MEETING OF THE NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS; SUPPORT BY DON SMELTZER. MOTION CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 1) The minutes from the October 7, 2021 PIHP CEO meeting.
- 2) NMRE Regional Quarter 3 FY21 Performance Indicator report.

- 3) An article from the October 11, 2021 edition of Crain's Detroit by Sherry Welch titled, "Group-home beds go unused as agencies struggle to pay enough to lure workers."
- 4) MDHHS document titled, "Behavioral Health 1915(i) State Plan Benefit Frequently Asked Questions."
- 5) Michigan Psychiatric Care Improvement Project (MPCIP) October 2021 update.
- 6) Michigan Integration Efforts October 2021 update.
- 7) A letter to Senator Shirkey and Members of the Senate Government Operations Committee opposing Senate Bills 597 and 598 from Michigan Association of Counties, Michigan Sheriffs Association, Michigan Judges Association, American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan, and Michigan Association for Family Court Administration.
- 8) Document titled, "The Impact of Community Mental Health (CMH) on Michigan's Jails" from Wayne State University School of Social Work Center for Behavioral Health and Justice.
- 9) Document titled, "SB 597 & 598 The Wrong Step at the Wrong Time Dangerous, Costly, and Bad for Michigan" from numerous advocacy organizations that oppose the bills.
- 10) Document titled, "Medicaid Reform: Myth vs. Fact" from the Michigan Association of Health Plans.
- 11) Document titled, Medicaid Reform: What Opponents of SB 597 & 598 Say and What they Really Mean are Two Different Things" from the Michigan Association of Health Plans.
- 12) The draft minutes from the October 13, 2021 NMRE Regional Finance Committee meeting.

Mr. Kurtz drew attention to the performance indicator report; the percent of discharges from a psychiatric inpatient unit who were seen for follow-up care within seven days was just missed for the child population at 94.74%. Mr. Kurtz highlighted the Crain's Detroit article by Sherri Welch. The effects of changes to 1915(i) waiver enrollment model (effective October 1, 2022) were discussed; former b(3) services beneficiaries will need to be enrolled in the Waiver Services Application (WSA). The letter to Sen. Shirkey from various advocacy groups opposing SB 597 & 598 was reviewed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Let the record show that there were no announcements 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 September Board Meeting.

CEOs Report

The NMRE CEO Monthly Report for October 2021 was included in the materials for the meeting on this date. Mr. Marcus asked what can be done about funding issues and pay discrepancies. Mr. Kurtz responded that the FY22 budget included a (potentially permanent) \$2.35 increase for direct care workers. The Operations Committee has discussed a variety of staff recruitment and retention efforts. Mr. Stone added that the worker shortage was discussed during the Chairpersons' meeting at the CMHAM Fall Conference. Mr. Kamps noted the need to enhance the working conditions and job satisfaction rates within the system.

August 2021 Financial Report

- Traditional Medicaid showed \$187,025,444 in revenue, and \$161,484,230 in expenses, resulting in a net surplus of \$25,541,214. 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 \$28,929,794 in revenue, and \$23,511,665 in expenses, resulting in a net surplus of \$5,418,129. 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 \$30,959,343. Medicaid carry forward was reported as \$4,515,675. The total Medicaid and HMP Current Year Surplus was reported as \$29,128,018. Medicaid and HMP combined ISF was reported as \$14,796,872; the total Medicaid and HMP net surplus, including carry forward and ISF was reported as \$43,924,890.
- Health Home showed \$473,786 in revenue, and \$418,739 in expenses, resulting in a net surplus of \$55,047.
- SUD showed all funding source revenue of \$19,357,458, and \$17,454,194 in expenses, resulting in a net surplus of \$1,903,264. Total PA2 funds were reported as \$6,339,469.

The estimated DCW lapse was reported as \$6,347,000 (pending final numbers from Milliman). Ms. Yockey clarified that \$10M of the surplus may be carried forward into FY22. Mr. Kamps asked whether any of the surplus can be used for infrastructure. Ms. Yockey responded that for FY21, no. Benefit stabilization efforts for FY22 continue to be discussed by the Operations Committee. An additional PA2 payment is anticipated for FY21. Mr. Marcus inquired about the Health Home surplus. Mr. Kurtz responded that it has to do with the funding model (more of a fee-for-services model that has to be reconciled). It was noted that approximately 700 individuals are enrolled in the Opioid Health Home to date; NMRE is on track to meet its goal of 1,000 enrolled. Mr. Kurtz added that \$1M in ARP funds has been made available for each PIHIP for targeted substance use disorder treatment, prevention, and recovery projects.

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

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

“Nay” Votes: Nil

MOTION CARRIED.

Operations Committee

The minutes from October 19, 2021 were included in the materials for the meeting on this date in draft form. The Operations Committee continues to discuss surplus funding and how it might be used to build crisis residential capacity in the region. Up to three facilities are being explored with a set number of beds allocated to NMRE clients of all populations. Mr. Marcus cautioned against building a facility/program and then not being able to keep it staffed. Mr. Kurtz responded that it’s a “fine line.” Mr. Kamps noted the possibility of shifting current staff. Ms. Gebhard spoke about the need for the center(s) to be sustainable. Ms. Pelts spoke about the framework of the Oscoda home.

NMRE SUD Oversight Board Report

Let the record show that the next meeting of the NMRE Substance Use Disorder Oversight Board is scheduled for 10:00AM on November 8, 2021.

NEW BUSINESS

Engagement Letter with Feldsman, Tucker, Liefer, Fidell, LLP

Per request of the Operations Committee, Mr. Kurtz contacted Adam Falcone to review the PIHP/CMHSP Contract (Network Provider vs. Subcontractor) in light of the Standard Cost Allocation (SCA) and the PIHP's Medical Loss Ratio (MLR) calculations.

MOTION BY JOE STONE TO APPROVE THAT THE NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY ENGAGE WITH FELDSMAN, TUCKER, LEIFER, FIDELL, LLP FOR A LEGAL OPINION IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$7,500.00); SUPPORT BY GARY NOWAK. ROLL CALL VOTE.

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

“Nay” Votes: Nil

MOTION CARRIED.

NMRE ICSS Plan of Correction

A letter dated October 14th from Kendra Binkley was included in the materials for the meeting on this date for informational purposes. MDHHS and BHDDA found Northeast Michigan CMHA had only one contact for the Intensive Crisis Stabilization Services (mobile crisis) in FY20 resulting in “contract noncompliance.” A Plan of Correction is due to MDHHS by November 24, 2021. It was noted that Northeast Michigan has a schedule and a team in place; it is simply underutilized. Mr. Kurtz spoke with other PIHPs that had similar findings. Mr. Kurtz recognized that the issue is likely related to the KB lawsuit.

CMHAM Fall Conference Debrief

Mr. Stone commented that 400 individuals were in attendance with another 100 virtual. Ms. Pelts suggested that names not be required on evaluation forms to encourage honesty under the cloak of anonymity. Mr. Frye expressed disappointment that there were no handouts of the presentations. Mr. Kamps commented that he found Raymie Postema’s session on mediation very informative. The 2022 Winter Conference is scheduled for February 8th–9th in Kalamazoo.

OLD BUSINESS

Senate Bills 597 & 598/House Bills 4925-4929 – The Latest

The NMRE’s response to SB 597 & 597 drafted by Mr. Kurtz and the Lambert PR firm and Robert Sheehan’s commentary in Crain’s Detroit titled, “Build on Michigan’s proven public mental health system” were distributed on this date. The NMRE’s response will be sent to the NMRE’s 21 county judges, prosecutors, Boards of Commissioners, sheriffs, administrators, and legislators. Mr. Stone voiced approval of the response.

PRESENTATION

Veteran Navigator Update

NMRE Veteran Navigator, Brian Martinus, was in attendance to provide an update on his activities during the coronavirus pandemic. As part of the Michigan National Guard’s 46th Military

Police Command, Col. Martinus was deployed March 22, 2020 as part of the federal COVID-19 response. The 46th Military Police Command is one of three units in the US that respond to chemical, Biological, Radiological or Nuclear attacks or disasters within the United States. Under the COVID-19 pandemic, the 46th Military Police Command was deployed as a federal task force working in the central US. Hospital support was delivered by 4,500 military medical personnel to 14 states, 51 cities, and 71 hospitals. Vaccine support was delivered by 5,100+ military medical support personnel to 25 states, 42 cities, 48 vaccination sites with over 4.8 million vaccinations administered. Col. Martinus was in charge of behavioral health and religious support.

COMMENTS

Board

Mr. Kamps requested an update on the Public Relations Project and SUD Recovery Initiative during the November and/or December meetings.

Mr. Kamps expressed that a Northern Lakes Board Member has a child with I/DD; she asked why, as a natural support, she can't get paid (mileage reimbursement) for driving her son to a day program. Mr. Kamps did some investigating, and it was determined that it came down to one of the rules that distinguishes urban areas from rural. He asked how this (and other rules) can be changed for a rural environment. Mr. Kamps suggested compiling a list and working with the Northern Alliance and/or others. Mr. Tanner stressed the need for a rural exemption.

Ms. Gebhard announced that McLaren's Certificate of Need application was approved for the inpatient beds in Cheboygan.

MEETING DATES

The next meeting of the NMRE Board of Directors was scheduled for 10:00AM on November 24, 2021.

ADJOURN

Let the record show that Mr. Tanner adjourned the meeting at 11:42AM.