

**NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
10:00AM – DECEMBER 22, 2021
GAYLORD BOARDROOM**

ATTENDEES:	Roger Frye, Ed Ginop, Randy Kamps, Terry Larson, Christian Marcus, Gary Nowak, Justin Reed, Richard Schmidt, Don Smeltzer, Joe Stone, Don Tanner
VIRTUAL ATTENDEES:	Gary Klacking (West Branch), Mary Marois (Traverse City), Karla Sherman (Petoskey)
ABSENT:	Jay O’Farrell
NMRE/CMHSP STAFF:	Joanie Blamer, Christine Gebhard, Eric Kurtz, Diane Pelts, Brandon Rhue, Sara Sircely, Nena Sork, Deanna Yockey, Carol Balousek, Lisa Hartley
PUBLIC:	Chip Cieslinski, Jackie Guzman, Sue Winter

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Let the record show Jay O’Farrell was excused from 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 declared.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Let the record show MDHHS-PIHP Contract Amendment No.4 was added to the Agenda under “New Business.”

MOTION BY GARY NOWAK TO APPROVE THE NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA FOR DECEMBER 22, 2021 AS AMENDED; SUPPORT BY JOE STONE. MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES

Let the record show that the November 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 NOVEMBER 24, 2021 MEETING OF THE NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS; SUPPORT BY GARY NOWAK. MOTION CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 1) The minutes from the December 2, 2021 PIHP CEO meeting.
- 2) The Michigan Psychiatric Care Improvement Project (MPCIP) December 2021 Update.
- 3) MDHHS Behavioral Health Fee Schedule Provider Reporting Requirements.
- 4) A memorandum from Jeffery Wierich at MDHHS dated December 2, 2021 regarding the premium pay increase for direct care workers.
- 5) Email correspondence from Bob Sheehan at CMHAM regarding Mr. Johnston's comments in a Gongwer article on HB 5165.
- 6) 9&10 News article by Kevin Hodge dated December 13, 2021 titled, "McLaren Begins Work on New Behavioral Health Center in Cheboygan."
- 7) December 2, 2021 updated list of groups in Opposition to Senate Bills 597 and 598 provided by CMHAM.
- 8) Email correspondence from CMHAM linking to an Online Petition Opposing Senate Bills 597 and 598.
- 9) Email correspondence from CMHAM linking to a story by Craig Mauger in the Detroit News dated December 13, 2021 titled, "Michigan Senate Leader's Nonprofit Got Nearly \$1 Million From Secret Donors."
- 10) Draft minutes of the December 8, 2021 NMRE Regional Finance Committee meeting.

Mr. Kurtz drew the Board's attention to Mr. Johnston's comments regarding HB 5165 which would align state assistance for mental health services with federal ability to pay scales.

Mr. Kurtz also noted the article announcing McLaren's 16-bed psychiatric facility in Cheboygan; he acknowledged Ms. Gebhard's advocacy efforts to get this accomplished.

The Detroit News article regarding large donations made to Senator Shirkey's 501(c)(3) was discussed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

CEOs Report

The NMRE CEO Monthly Report for December 2021 was included in the materials for the meeting on this date. Mr. Kurtz noted the meeting December 6th Northern Michigan Counties Caucus; the topic will be discussed further under "New Business."

Financial Report

Let the record show that there was no report for October 2021 due to year-end closeout. Mr. Kamps asked whether there is anything that the Board should be made aware of so that there are no surprises in the next report. Ms. Yockey responded that revenue appear to be in line with what was anticipated. The November 2021 Financial Report will be presented in January.

Operations Committee

The minutes from December 20, 2021 were distributed during the meeting on this date.

NMRE SUD Oversight Board Report

Ms. Sircely announced that the meeting scheduled for January 10th will be canceled due to a lack of Agenda items. The next meeting will be March 7, 2022.

NEW BUSINESS

Update on Northern Michigan Counties Meeting

It was reported that Mr. Kurtz, Mr. Tanner, Mr. Schmidt, and Mr. Johnston attended the December 6th meeting. The “pitfalls” of the Shirkey bills (SB 597 & 598) were discussed. Problems within the current system were identified as being created by the State, and not the PIHP/CMHSP structure. The public/private partnerships that are currently being explored were highlighted. Mr. Kurtz noted progress that Sen. VanderWall repeated the words “rural exception.”

Mr. Kamps referred to the December 2nd PIHP CEO meeting notes; legitimate questions are met with ambiguous responses. He questioned to what extent Elizabeth Hertel is tuned in.

PIHP Contract Amendment #4

A “change request” to the PIHP Contract was received from the State Purchasing Department on December 20th. Copies of the Amendment summary were available to Board Members. Mr. Kurtz reviewed the proposed changes.

- New Contract Administrator, Nathaniel Oliver, was added.
- Change in dollar amount to cover the DCW increase back to October 1, 2021.
- The reduction of the local match drawdown was recognized.
- Performance Bonus Incentive Payment (PBIP) requirements for FY22 were added.
- Various Contract Attachment and policies were updated.
- The words “where applicable” were added under the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic section for those PIHPs that are participating in the CCBHC.

MOTION BY JOE STONE TO AUTHORIZE THE NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE TO SIGN AMENDMENT NUMBER FOUR (NO.4) TO ITS CONTRACT WITH THE STATE OF MICHIGAN; SUPPORT BY RANDY KAMPS. MOTION CARRIED.

OLD BUSINESS

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

Mr. Kurtz reported that CMHAM (Bob Sheehan and Alan Bolter) is in contact with Elizabeth Hertel, though he cannot speak to the specific content of the discussions.

Differing opinions regarding the Standard Cost Allocation continue to be disputed. The joint CFI/PIHP Contract Negotiation teams requested the legal opinion from MDHHS supporting the Standard Cost Allocation (SCA); to date, all that has been received is an email from Jackie Sproat supporting the Department’s position (which defines the CMHSPs as vendors of the PIHP). Bob Sheehan sent communication to the Department on December 21st that the CMHSP/PIHP system intends to stop all activity related to the Standard Cost Allocation development until the topic is properly discussed and resolved.

CMHAM Special Assessment

Legal opinions obtained from Feldesman, Tucker, Liefer, and Fidell and Cohl, Stoker, and Toskey were included in the materials for the meeting on this date. Mr. Tanner explained that, although the NMRE Board voted to send an amount on behalf of the NMRE and the five Member CMHSPs in November, the CWN Board voted to not participate (or have the NMRE participate on its behalf). A revised ask from CMHAM is anticipated.

Open Meetings Act

An opinion from Cohl, Stoker, & Toskey, PC was included in the materials for the meeting on this date. Effective January 1, 2022, “the only legal basis for a member of a public body to participate in a meeting via telephonic or video conferencing as a member of the public body (i.e., to vote, to be counted toward a quorum, or to deliberate toward a decision), is if that member is absent due to military duty. This amendment to the OMA eliminates the previously permissive practice of a public body allowing its members to participate and vote remotely if a physical quorum was present. (A public meeting could still have a partial “hybrid” remote component at the public body’s option to allow members of the public and/or staff to attend and participate remotely if they can be heard by all persons attending the meeting. However, during such a hybrid meeting, board members *must* be present to be counted as part of the quorum, to vote, and to otherwise participate in a meeting as a member of the public body.)”

It was noted that the NMRE Bylaws conflict with this directive. Mr. Kurtz offered to reach out to Steve Burnham for further guidance.

PRESENTATION

Recovery Services

Sara Sircely, NMRE Managing Director of Substance Use Disorder Services, was in attendance to present on the NMRE’s Recovery Services Plan.

Recovery Begins with Treatment

- ***Holistic Care***
 - Increase the number of Health Homes (OHH/BHH)
 - All clients will begin to receive Holistic Care Plans
 - Full array of services
 - Medications to treat Opioid Use Disorder
 - Evidence-Based Practices
 - Transportation
 - Family Services
 - Housing

- ***Recovery Coach Services***
 - Use of H0038 for State-trained Coaches (Medicaid, Healthy Michigan, Block Grant)
 - Use of T1012 for use of CCAR Trained Coaches (Block Grant)

- ***Supports for Individuals***
 - Recovery Community organizations
 - Group Meetings (AA, NA, SMART Recovery, Celebrate Recovery, Wellbriety, LifeRing, Women for Sobriety, etc.)
 - Treatment doesn’t end when traditional services end

- **Support for Families**
 - Families Against Narcotics
 - Al-Anon
- **Support for Community Change**
 - Increase availability of Narcan
 - Increase knowledge of how to access care
 - Identify ways everyone can help prevent problem use

Various funding opportunities (Medicaid, Healthy Michigan, Block Grant, liquor tax, SOR II, ARP grants) were reviewed.

Mr. Kamps requested more specifics regarding each activity area with achievable timelines by June 2022.

COMMENTS

Board

Mr. Tanner asked attendees think about what's important over the holidays.

Mr. Smeltzer shared that he voted against the CMHAM Special Assessment during the Centra Wellness Board meeting despite voting for it during the November NMRE Board meeting.

Mr. Smeltzer related substance use recovery to an environmental concern.

Mr. Marcus apologized for being late.

Mr. Kamps thanked the Board for allowing open, honest discussion; he acknowledged that "we have an opportunity to move the needle" in terms of mental health and substance use disorder advocacy.

Staff/CMHSP CEOs

It was noted that the IRS Mileage Rate for 2022 is increasing to \$0.585 per mile.

MEETING DATES

The next meeting of the NMRE Board of Directors was scheduled for 10:00AM on January 26, 2022.

ADJOURN

Let the record show that Mr. Tanner adjourned the meeting at 11:45AM.