

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

November 21, 2024

1:00 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Ruth Pilon, Al Cambridge, Ty Wessell, Dean Smallegan, Penny Morris, Tony Lentych, Christal Frost Anderson, Dave Freedman, Greg McMorrow, Ben Townsend, Lynn Pope, Mary Marois, Tom Bratton

Absent: Eric Ostergren, Shawn Kryacs, Carol Blake

Others Present: Vickie McDonald, Brian Martinus, Joe Barkman, Erica Longstreet, Neil Rojas, Kevin Hartley, Brian Newcomb, Darryl Washington, Mark Crane, Kim Silbor, Mark Drager, Jan Pytlowany, Heather Pollington, Kasie Morse, Jennifer Calvin

Others Virtual: Jeremiah Williams, Ann Ketchum, Daniel Mauk, Dean Baldwin, Treasa Cooper, Kendal Sidnam, Terri Henderson, Heather Sleight, April Weinrick, Dave Simpson, Aimee Horton Johnson, Trey Johnson, Lori Stendel, Erin Barbus, Tiffany Fewins, Somer Quinlan, Kari Barker, Amanda Clements, Rob Palmer, Cindy Evans, Curtis Cummins, M.D., Lisa Jones, Jordan Byington, Carrie Hubbell, Melissa Bentgen, Michael Corby, Jessica Williams, Sophorn Klingelsmith, Alexandra Coon, Lisa Holmes, Erica Smith, Abby Schonfeld, Kellee Hoag, Jillian Smithingell, Trapper Merz, Rachael Harrell, Lisa Woodcox, 3 unknown attendees

Call to Order: 1:00 p.m.

Conflict of Interest: None.

Approval of Agenda:

MOTION:	Approve the agenda
RESULT:	ADOPTED. [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	T. Wessell
SECONDER :	D. Smallegan

MOTION: Approve the Consent Agenda

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: D. Freedman

SECONDER: D. Smallegan

Consent agenda included the October 26, 2024 minutes which were approved.

Public Comment: None

Celebrate Northern Lakes: The board recognized the front Cadillac office staff: Jan Pytlowany employed 23 years, Heather Pollington, 14 years, and Kasie Morse, 6 years. The front office staff, often overlooked, is the first point of contact in the office. The Cadillac front office staff are very knowledgeable and are highly recognized by their peers for doing an amazing job. The board greatly appreciates all you do and thanks you.

Report of Officers:

Recipient Rights Report: Brian Newcomb, Director of the Office of Recipient Rights, reported on the first month of the fiscal year. The number of complaints during this first month was 56. Lisa and Erica, while still holding a full case load, will cover Brian's duties while he is off for a few weeks for medical. Brian clarified the difference of Abuse/Neglect 1, 2 and 3 stating that level one's severity would result in severe injury or death and includes sexual acts. Level 2 includes non-serious physical harm with examples of a broken leg, cuts and bruises. Level 3 is typically seen through language with examples of threatening, degrading or criticizing people and includes sleeping on duty. The board recognized the five-year trend which shows a decrease in total cases. The data that Brian reports is tracked by the choice of our CMH as the state does not track or report the same data. It was also stated that services suited to condition may be affected by finances and amount of staffing. It was stated that contracts may be reviewed and terminated due to their own trends.

Interim Chief Executive Officer's Report: Brian highlighted the 17th annual Art of recovery celebration which is currently open at the Traverse City Public Library. Artwork is submitted by our consumers and others recovering or recovered in our six-county service area, with many pieces for sale. The NLCMH team does an excellent job with this event and is a great way to highlight strengths of some of our consumers. Recipients Rights committee is scheduled to meet December 5 in Cadillac, and the All-staff training is scheduled for December 11. This will close office services except for crisis. Brian also brought to the Boards attention an article published regarding a recent theft at Club Cadillac. The money embezzled was from fundraising done by the Clubhouse, not Medicaid dollars, and is currently under investigation by State Police. The Board suggested looking into checks and balance process to be added to clubhouses and drop-in centers to help prevent embezzlement. The Cadillac Clubhouse is a 501(c)3 with five NLCMH employees and is working on adding an internal controls process.

Chief Financial Officer's Report: Kevin Hartley presented a Preliminary Board Report through September 2024. His summary included balance sheet amounts rolled forward from Fiscal Year 2023. Fiscal Year 23 has not been closed nor audited, therefore these amounts should be considered preliminary and subject to adjustment. Medicaid Capitation, Healthy Michigan Capitation and General Fund Capitation all show overspend while salaries, wages and fringes are less than budgeted. Decline in Medicaid enrollment has had an impact on the budget. Money expected from the State of Michigan through the NMRE will also make an impact. Forensic audit schedule, settlement with NMRE, contracts and contract amendments

were also discussed. Cost analysis of consumers' services, utilization management and efficiencies are being researched to help with cost management. The report was included in the packet.

Committee Reports:

NMRE: Ruth Pilon gave an update from the NMRE. Foremost concern is about monies not returned to CMHs from the State. CMHA still contacting state legislators and are discussing the same issues. Several Board members attended a conference which focused on effective data collection.

RRAC: Tony Lentych stated that two weeks from today, December 5th, RRAC will be meeting in Cadillac.

Unfinished Business:

Governance Policy: A table of committee appointments was part of the board packet. Review and corrections will be made with removing at least one person from the Finance Committee, keeping one representative from each county. The finance committee and will meet from 11:00 to 12:00 before the next board meeting. Adjustments will also be made to the community engagement committee which is represented by only one county and personnel committee which consists of only two members. The Ad Hoc CEO Search Committee is to move forward as the two milestones — 1. Adding a new governance policy with appropriate bylaws is completed, and 2. Getting out from under the audit — is progressing. The board agrees that committee reports, including updates from the Ad Hoc CEO Search Committee should be added to the agenda going forward. Committee members were assigned to schedule initial meetings, preferably before the next board meeting. Due to recent elections, board members will change, thus changing committee membership.

Public Comment: None

Announcements/Board Member Reports/Board Association:

Ms. Frost Anderson mentioned the board receiving a letter on Tuesday the 19th, from Patricia Fuller regarding home health contract discrepancies. The board acknowledges receipt of the letter pointing out that she is from Mancelona and is not in our catchment area.

Mr. Bratton attended a program in Grand Traverse County at which the director introduced our new Crisis Center. This program opens in January, with a community walk through scheduled December 10. Tom suggests scheduling a private walk through and having them come and present to our board.

Ms. Morris suggested sending Stacy a card, and reported a Go Fund Me on her Facebook page.

Mr. Cambridge suggested the board visit our clubs and other programs to “see things in action.”

Mr. McMorrow referenced a letter from Monique Francis from CMHAS regarding policies, the length of time consumers are placed in inpatient settings and associated costs.

Ms. Marois mentioned a movie playing at the State Theatre titled Sugar Cane, next Tuesday at 7 PM. It is a documentary about the maltreatment of indigenous people in Canada. It will also be playing on Hulu starting December 6.

Next Meeting: December 19, 2024, 105 Hall Street, Traverse City

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 2:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Victoria McDonald, Administrative Specialist

Greg McMorrow, Chairperson

Lynn Pope, Secretary
