

**Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health Authority Board
Board Meeting – July 11, 2024**

I. Call to Order

Chair Eric Lawson called the meeting to order in the Board Room at 3:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum

Present: Les Buza, Bonnie Cornelius, Lynnette Grzeskowiak, Charlotte Helman, Judy Jones, Eric Lawson, Gary Nowak, Lloyd Peltier, Terry Small

Absent: Bob Adrian (Excused), Dana Labar (Excused), Kara Bauer LeMonds (Excused)

Staff & Guests: Carolyn Bruning, Mary Crittenden, Erin Fletcher, Brooke Paczkowski, Nena Sork, Brenda Stanton, Jen Walburn

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance as a group.

IV. Appointment of Evaluator

Terry Small was appointed as evaluator of the meeting.

V. Acknowledgement of Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were acknowledged.

VI. Information and/or Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

VII. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Les Buza, supported by Gary Nowak, to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2024, Board meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

VIII. July Monitoring Reports

1. Budgeting 01-004

Brenda Stanton reported on the budget with 66.67% of the year elapsed. She reviewed line items with a minimum 5% variance of the budgeted amount. Budget adjustments will be made at the end of the month and presented to the Board at the August meeting. The NMRE incentive revenue received was higher than budgeted. The budget currently shows the General Funds carry forward amount being used to cover part of the budget overage, but there is still a negative variance in the change in net position at \$89,350.

2. Asset Protection 01-007

The vehicle fleet was just updated to 65 as of yesterday.

Moved by Lynnette Grzeskowiak, supported by Charlotte Helman, to approve the July Monitoring Reports.

Motion carried.

IX. Board Policy Review

1. Community Resources 01-010

Nena feels the new DFA position with DHHS is a good example of an innovative relationship with a community partner.

2. Public Hearings 02-010

Proposed revisions to the policy were the removal of specifics regarding the Annual Submission Hearing, which is no longer a requirement from the State.

Moved by Gary Nowak, supported by Lloyd Peltier, to approve the revisions to the Public Hearings Policy.
Motion carried.

X. Linkage Reports

1. NMRE Board Meeting – June 26

Eric thinks MDHHS may be starting to hear CMHSPs and the CMHA when they bring up relevant issues. He is pleased with the NMRE and their advocacy efforts. Northern Lakes continues to see positive movement. Nena reported there was finally a meeting with MDHHS regarding the local match drawdown. They agreed the payments to the State should stop, but it will be too late for the changes to come this fiscal year. Nena joined the CMHA's objection to the proposed Waskul settlement. The Board was in consensus that a letter should be sent.

XI. Operations Report

Mary Crittenden reported on operations for the month of June. The Access department had 49 routine requests for services. Outpatient Counseling served 80 individuals, 14 children and 66 adults. This number should be trending upwards as two new clinicians have completed onboarding and a third will be starting in August. The total unduplicated individuals served in June was 1,047.

XII. Board Chair's Report

1. Preparing for Executive Director Evaluation

Eric asked that Board members review monitoring reports prior to the next meeting, as Nena's performance evaluation is based on those reports.

2. Strategic Plan Review and Revisions

Conflict-Free Access and Planning (CFAP) will be added as a force in the environment impacting behavioral health in the payors/payment reform category. All current goals will be kept for FY25. Nena reported the Agency is receiving Naloxone vending machines for all offices, which will be free to the public. The Sub-Ends for Services to Children will be revised to 80% of home-based services being provided in a home or community setting. The Sub-Ends for Services to Adults with Mental Illness and Persons with I/DD will be revised to IPS employment services successfully closing 15 individuals with an SPMI diagnosis. The Sub-Ends for Services to Adults with Co-Occurring Disorders will be revised to 25% of eligible individuals served being enrolled in BHH and 98% of individuals enrolled in BHH having a baseline A1C.

Moved by Gary Nowak, supported by Terry Small, to approve the revisions to the FY25 Strategic Plan.
Motion carried.

XIII. Executive Director's Report

Nena reported she attended all her usual meetings and committees for the month. The staff recognition luncheon will be held on Tuesday, July 23, at the Apex and Board members are welcome to attend. The following day, annual all staff training will be held at the Apex, and all offices will be closing at noon. The move from Blue Horizons to Greenhaven will be on Monday, July 15. The Agency has received the license, and all renovations are complete. Nena reported the HR Cloud applicant tracking system was launched this week, and it will speed up the hiring process and improve employee onboarding. The Engagement Committee met with Rehmann to kick off the annual staff survey, which will go live on July 28. Nena was happy to report that at the close of the NMRE survey, the Agency surpassed its goal of 175 completed surveys with a total of 238. The NMRE also surpassed their goal by 11 surveys. Nena informed the Board that today is Larry Patterson's last official day at the Agency. She may miss the August meeting, as her daughter is due to have her first grandchild in mid-August. Rehmann's IT assessment will happen on July 16.

XIV. Information and/or Comments from the Public

None were presented.

XV. Information and/or Comments for the Good of the Organization

None were presented.

XVI. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the NeMCMHA Board is scheduled for Thursday, August 8 at 3:00 p.m.

1. August Agenda Items

The proposed August agenda items were reviewed.

XVII. Meeting Evaluation

Terry said they put in a lot of work on the Strategic Plan. He is very concerned about staffing and the financials around recruiting. Nena reported that since COVID, there have been at least 60 - 70 openings every month, but for the second month in a row, that number is in the 50s.

XVIII. Adjournment

Moved by Gary Nowak, supported by Terry Small, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. This meeting adjourned at 4:38 p.m.

[signed by Bonnie Cornelius August 8, 2024]
Bonnie Cornelius, Secretary

Rebekah Duhaime
Recorder

[signed by Lloyd Peltier August 8, 2024]
Lloyd Peltier, Vice Chair