

**Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health Authority (NeMCMHA) Board
Board Meeting
May 11, 2023**

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: Robert Adrian, Bonnie Cornelius, Charlotte Helman, Judy Jones, Terry Larson, Eric Lawson, Gary Nowak, Pat Przeslawski, Terry Small

Absent: Les Buza (Excused), Lynnette Grzeskowiak (Excused), Lloyd Peltier

Staff & Guests: Lisa Anderson, Carolyn Bruning, Connie Cadarette, Heddy Coulston-Smith, Erin Fletcher, Lynne Fredlund, Cheryl Kobernik, Kingsli Kraft, Eric Kurtz, Brooke Paczkowski, Larry Patterson, Abbey Podbielski, Nena Sork, 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 for this 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

Pat Przeslawski stated a correction needed to be made to the Nomination Committee Report as she gave the report, not Bonnie Cornelius.

Moved by Terry Small, supported by Judy Jones, to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2023 Board meeting, as amended. Motion carried.

VIII. Environmental Scan – Eric Kurtz

Eric Kurtz, CEO of the NMRE, presented the 2023 Environmental Scan. Eric stated many CMH boards have had a high turnover rate this year, so he has been giving a more in-depth introduction to the NMRE. The NMRE is the Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan (PIHP) that directly contracts with the State as a managed care entity for the 21-county region. They receive State funding and contracts for behavioral health services. Eric covered funding sources, which include Medicaid for serious mental illness, serious emotional disturbance, substance use disorder, and intellectual/development disabilities (I/DD) in the amount of \$219,600,000.

The FY22 financial closeout shows the region doing very well. They are holding the maximum amount of savings at \$16 million. There has been a consistent overflow of funding for the past three years, but Eric does anticipate a drop-off in the next two to three years.

Behavioral Health Home (BHH) began in 2020 with five regional CMHSPs as Health Home Partners (HHP). It was then regionalized to all 21 counties. There are 75,152 potential enrollees and 566 actively enrolled, a percentage of 0.75%. Eric would like to see the percentage around 5%. NeMCMHA currently has 47 enrollees. Alcohol Health home (AHH) is being piloted by the NMRE and began in December 2022. It currently remains under the SUD block grant pending the Medicaid State Plan Amendment.

Medicaid redeterminations will start in June, and they don't yet know what the fiscal impact will be. Prior to the pandemic, Healthy Michigan averaged around 500,000 enrollees. During the pandemic that increased to more than 1.1 million. About 500,000 will lose coverage. The State and the actuaries will be looking at a rate adjustment, so it's not a complete drop off. Eric thinks spending should stay as is for a couple of years. Eric reported the KB lawsuit could escalate the State's intention for children. There will be increased

expectations on the CMHSPs to meet the demands of the lawsuit. Hawthorne Center has been temporarily closed, and there is a lack of pediatric inpatient settings across Michigan.

Eric provided a summary of the NMRE's FY23 regional environment and goals. They will continue, and advance, regional marketing and advocacy efforts regarding rural initiatives. The goal is to reframe policy and approach legislature to make sure they are seeking input from rural settings. The next goal is to maintain 100% performance on MDHHS performance incentives. A portion of the funding, which ends up being local funding, is based on how CMHSPs do on their performance indicators. When standards aren't met 100% their funding is reduced and given as a bonus to those who have met their performance indicators. Last year it was around an extra \$1 million.

The next goal is to increase partnerships and advocacy efforts with local healthcare providers. They want to expand crisis services on a regional basis, including crisis residential and crisis stabilization units. A new six-bed adult crisis residential opened in Gaylord, but it is getting a slow start due to funding. They also want to open a six-bed crisis residential unit for children.

Eric discussed the 21-county Substance Use Disorder Board, which is an advisory board to the NMRE. The board has 21 members, mostly county commissioners or their appointees. They manage the liquor tax funds and try to get them out on a timely basis.

Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) is on its way, and Eric is still trying to figure out the impact. The State wants an EVV when a direct support worker shows up at a home. They want the worker to put in their start time and log when they are done. The definition is for home health, which is not under the purview of CMHSPs. The State is currently being fined for this because they haven't done anything with it since 2019. There has been very little input sought from CMHSPs, and Eric wasn't able to present at the meeting due to a scheduling conflict.

IX. May Monitoring Reports

1. Treatment of Individuals Served 01-002

Pat stated they discussed making sure they have 50% plus one member for a quorum. They also reappointed all members. She reported Ruth Hewett stated the numbers were a little below were they had been. Ruth has two pending investigations, which are a long process.

2. Budgeting 01-004

Connie Cadarette reported on the Statement of Revenue and Expense and Change in Net Position for the month ending March 31, 2023. There is a large balancing process that came with standard cost allocation, and she is getting the hang of it. NeMCMHA will be starting to use the reserved funds from the NMRE, but the funds won't be received until the end of the fiscal year. Local funds will be received next month, and will no longer show as negative. Medicaid was overspent \$991,051 and Healthy Michigan was underspent \$320,705, which creates a total overspent amount of \$670,346. Redeterminations have not yet come through, and they will only be doing 1/12 to 3/12 at a time. General funds are still looking very strong.

Eric Lawson stated he asked Deanna Yockey about the extra funds from the NMRE at the NMRE Board meeting, and she confirmed it is good to be overspent at this time, up to \$2.3 million. The NMRE's internal savings fund is maxed out, so they will have to give any funds returned by the CMHSPs back to the State.

Larry Patterson reported on expenses. Line items with negative variances will continue to be monitored. Many variances are due to timing issues, but some will require a budget adjustment. Line 41, Food, has been negatively impacted due to problems with Bridge cards in the group homes. The Residential Manager is actively working to resolve this. With 50% of the year elapsed, expenses are at 50.5%.

Moved by Gary Nowak, supported by Terry Small, to approve the May Monitoring Reports.

Motion carried.

X. Board Policies Review & Self-Evaluation

1. Board Job Description 02-003

The Board reviewed the policy and self-evaluated. Terry Small stated they are doing what the policy says.

2. Board Core Values 02-014

Board members reviewed their core values. Pat stated the policy is right on target with how they describe themselves, and she feels they have respect for each other.

In response to a question on how the Agency is involved with the schools, Nena Sork reported she will be on a mental health panel at Alpena High School on May 16. While the school hires their own behavioral health service providers, The Sunset Project has contracted with the Agency to provide services in the schools. Nena stated the Agency's services should be provided in the home or community, and not by taking kids out of school. Partners in Prevention also provides trainings under contract with NeMCMHA.

Bob Adrian stated he is impressed with the NeMCMHA Board. After being on others, he feels the core values and the Board's role are well-established and they stay within their limits. By not getting involved in direct operations and relying on staff and management, the Board stays within its defined role.

XI. Linkage Reports

1. NMRE Board Meeting – April 26

Gary reported they discussed the SUD Board and how to correct many of the issues, and he thinks it will solve a lot of problems.

2. QI Council Update

The QI update was not yet available, and will be presented the following month.

XII. Operations Report

Erin Fletcher reported on Operations for April 2023. Doctors' Services saw 597 individuals, Home Based saw 27 children, and MI Children's Services saw 84 individuals. The total of unduplicated individuals served in April was 1,069. Erin stated there was a significant decrease in MI Adult Case Management due to staffing deficits, but they have already started to rebuild the team. The individuals served are having care alternated to other teams, including ACT and Physicians Services.

XIII. Chair's Report

1. Strategic Planning – Next Steps

Eric stated Ends will be discussed at the June meeting with Advisory Council. New Ends will be established at the July meeting.

2. CMHA Summer Conference

Bonnie and Eric will attend the conference and act as voting delegates.

3. Annual Report

Eric pointed the Board to the 2023 Annual Report which was just published.

4. PAC Match Update

Eric stated he researched the PAC and was glad to report the money goes to politicians in both parties, and is a good faith effort to lobby for the needs of the cause. Nena stated Alan Bolter, the Assistant Director of CMHA, will be attending the June Board meeting. Nena said Board members can make a contribution to the PAC at any time, and she will be making her matching contribution in June. Gary stated the PAC was instrumental in making sure the last senate bills did not pass.

XIV. Executive Director's Report

Nena reported on her activities over the last month. The week of April 16 she attended the NMRE OPS meeting and the NMRE and UP Rural Mental Health Group. The following week she attended the NMRE Board meeting via phone on her way to the CMHA Directors' Forum in Lansing. Nena stated it was the best attended Directors' Forum by MDHHS staff and they had a great dialogue. During the week of May 1, Nena

attended the second NAMI meeting in Alpena, and they are in the final stages of national approval. She also met with The Sunset Project and they are getting ready to do suicide prevention work in the schools. The next week Nena attended the NMORC Board meeting, the NMRE Finance Committee Meeting, and she and Connie met with MMRMA to finalize insurance for the rest of the year. Nena reported the Public Health Emergency officially ends today.

On May 20, the Agency will be hosting its first Mental Health Movement 5K Run-Walk. The committee's original goal was 100 participants, and as of now they have over 160 registrants. The Agency is hosting an autism training on May 12 that is free and open to the public. On May 31, NeMCMHA is hosting a blood drive at the First Presbyterian Church.

Nena provided an update on the specialized assessment tool. Kelli Dubie will be begin reassessing the 11 individuals who saw decreases in their rates and a mandatory training for case managers will be held to go over the updated tool. Nena reported that Board secretary, Rebekah Duhaime, is Employee of the Month.

Nena will be attending a training for Clubhouse in South Carolina for three days at the end of May.

XV. Information and/or Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

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

Terry Larson stated this is a great and fun board. The Board is committed to the reason they are here.

XVII. Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the NeMCMHA Board will on Thursday, June 8 at 3:00 p.m.

1. Set June Agenda

The proposed June agenda items were reviewed.

2. Schedule of NeMCMHA Board Meetings

The upcoming year of Board meeting dates was provided for Board members.

XVIII. Meeting Evaluation

Terry Small stated the meeting started on time and Eric Kurtz provided an excellent program. Reports from staff were very good and the majority of the Board participated. Bob and Terry Larson's comments regarding the Board made Board members feel good.

XIX. Adjournment

Moved by Bonnie Cornelius, supported by Pat Przeslawski, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. This meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

[signed by Bonnie Cornelius June 8, 2023]

Bonnie Cornelius, Secretary

Rebekah Duhaime
Recorder

[signed by Eric Lawson June 8, 2023]

Eric Lawson, Chair