

## WEST MICHIGAN COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

September 17, 2024

1. Call to Order: The West Michigan Community Mental Health Board of Directors met for its regular meeting in person in the Conference Room of the Oceana County Services Building, located in Hart, at 5:32 p.m. on Tuesday, September 17, 2024. Vice Chairperson Ron Bacon presided.
2. Roll Call: The following members were present: Mary Always, Ron Bacon, Linda Baierl, Pat Bettin, Dr. Jennifer Branning, Todd Dancz, Jim Prince, Kay Seng, Lucinda Shafer, Robert Walker, and Clyde Welford. Absent: Larry VanSickle (excused). A quorum was present. CMH staff members present were: Lisa Williams, Michele Condit, Bethany Sherfinski, Ellen Plummer, and Kelly Hein.
3. Introductions: There were none.
4. Delegations, Communications and Expressions from the Community: There were none.
5. Approval of Agenda: Mr. Prince made the motion, seconded by Mr. Walker, that the West Michigan Community Mental Health Board of Directors approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried via roll.
6. Conflict of Interest Question: Mr. Bacon asked if any board member wished to declare a conflict of interest regarding any matter to be considered by the West Michigan Community Mental Health governing body. No such declarations were made.
7. Consent Agenda: Mr. Prince made the motion, seconded by Ms. Seng, to approve the item on the consent agenda:
  - 7.1 Minutes from the 8/20/24 WCMCMH Board of Directors Meeting. The motion carried.
8. Executive Committee Meeting Report: Mr. Bacon reported that the Executive Committee's report is available for review. There were no action items or questions from the board.
9. Finance Committee Report: Mr. Bacon reported that the Finance Committee met in August. The Committee was presented with a list of FY25 contracts over \$50,000 that Ms. Sherfinski reviewed with the committee. The majority of contracts were for Specialized Residential/Supported-Independent Placements that are projected expenditures for contracts that are over \$50,000 in preparation for the new Fiscal Year. The majority of the high-cost contracts are for residential services. Mr. Dancz made the motion, seconded by Ms. Shafer, to approve the list of contracts greater than \$50,000 as presented. The motion carried.

Mr. Bacon reported that the Committee reviewed the list of FY25 contracts between \$20,000 and \$49,999 for informational purposes.

Mr. Bacon reported that the Committee also reviewed the FY25 proposed budget. Ms. Sherfinski walked the board through the budget information and answered questions. Our FY 25 revenue is staying relatively consistent with the FY24 Budget Amendment. Our Local line for FY25 has decreased due to the FY23 quality bonus payment (QBP) for CCBHC received in FY24 as we do not see this payment being available to us at that same level in FY25 due to more CCBHCs meeting the QBP measures. On the expense side, staffing continues to be one of the agency's highest expense areas; there is an increase in salary & fringe related to positions being filled and rising health insurance costs. The expense related to salaries continues to increase to keep up with the market demand.

Ms. Sherfinski reviewed the Capital Equipment Budget, which includes a new furnace at one of our Gathering sites and vehicle replacements. Ms. Bettin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Dancz, to approve the FY24 budget as presented. The motion carried.

10. Healthcare Integration and Clinical Services Report: Ms. Plummer highlighted that the agency is working diligently on updating a new assessment tool called MichiCANS. MichiCANS is the new state required assessment tool for youth and for determining eligibility for service. This new tool will be used throughout the behavioral health and child welfare systems in the state of Michigan.

Ms. Plummer also completed Mr. Snyder's report. She talked about the health information sharing site called, VIPR, which is used to support Care Coordination between our clinical team members and external agency providers, including physical healthcare. This data provided in VIPR allow for coordination of all providers involved in a person's care in order to provide the best support and services for consumers in various ways.

11. Chief Financial Officer's Report: Ms. Sherfinski reviewed the financial report through the period ending July 31, 2024. There are no significant changes from last month. YTD we are roughly \$300,000 in the positive as we have now received the quality bonus payment. The difference in Expense is related to a timing issues regarding end of year purchasing more updated telehealth equipment. Ms. Sherfinski noted we are on target relative to where we expected to be with the amended budget.

Ms. Sherfinski shared a Medicaid Disenrollment Educational Infographic that CMHA put together. This document helps explain how the Medicaid disenrollment has affected the CMH's in the state and how that disenrollment impacts how we are paid and an ultimately the impact on our funding.

12. Chief Operations Officer's Report: Ms. Condit highlighted that the agency is hosting a local Walk of Hope and invited the WCMH Board to participate if they are available. The event is dedicated to raising awareness about suicide prevention, promoting mental health and wellbeing, and sharing valuable resources. The event is next Thursday September 26<sup>th</sup> at 2:30pm at our Ludington office. We will walk as a group to the Mason County Courthouse for a short program of local speakers.

Ms. Condit also highlighted three new employees who joined the NQC team. The first, Danielle Robel, will be the new Provider Network Specialist. Danielle has been with the agency for quite some time, most recently as our Payroll and Benefits Specialist. We also have two new Customer Engagement Representatives, Sara Reeds and Candy

Bryant, who will be working in our Hart office and bring a variety of experiences to the WMCMH Team.

13. Lakeshore Regional Entity Update: Mr. Bacon provided an update to the region. He noted they continue to work on the financial shortfalls with some of the members in the region.

Dr. Williams discussed the revised FY2024/2025 LRE & CMH contract. She noted that last week the legal review was finalized and sent to the CMH's to review with the understanding there is a 45-day contract extension. She requested permission from the WMCMH board members to sign the extension and stated we have two weeks to submit any additional feedback to the region on the revised FY24/25 contract.

Mr. Welford entered at 6:04pm.

Mr. Prince made the motion, seconded by Mr. Walker to authorize Dr. Williams to review and sign the amendment extending the FY23/24 LRE-CMHSP contract for 45 days. The motion carried.

14. CEO's Report: Dr. Williams highlighted the All-Staff Development Day, which was last week Friday, September 13 at West Shore Community College. She noted we had three speakers, one out of state, and two local who gave presentations related to connecting staff members work in the organization to their personal "why". She discussed that the feedback thus far was that it was an amazing day. This day was able to happen through a grant WMCMH received from MDHHS.

Dr. Williams shared that today was the 20<sup>th</sup> annual Walk a Mile in Lansing. Ms. Shafer participated in the event and she and Ms. Schummer brought buttons to share with the WMCMH Board. The button was designed by a WMCMH CAP member and selected from many entries to be one of four art pieces celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> year of the Walk A Mile event. The buttons represent raising the awareness of mental illness, suicide and reducing stigma

Dr. Williams updated there isn't anything new regarding the Public Policy and system redesign at this time. The representatives have moved back into session and the Legislative & Policy meeting is tomorrow, 9/18, where she hopes she will have more to share next month. It is projected to be relatively quiet because of the pending election.

Dr. Williams shared the CMHAM Annual Fall conference information. If any WMCMHS board members would like to attend to please let Kelly know as soon as possible.

15. Upcoming Committee Meetings:

- Executive Committee – Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at noon in Ludington
- LRE Board Meeting – Wednesday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 in Muskegon

16. WMCMH Board Member Comments, Questions, Clarifications and Critique of Meeting: Mr. Dancz shared his thoughts regarding the 20-minute appointment sessions with the doctors at WMCMH. He would like to request to extend the time from 20 minutes to 30 minutes.

Mr. Welford apologized for his tardiness.

Mr. Walker stated there are now grants surrounding sobriety courts in the local counties. He briefed on the sobriety treatment courts, particularly in Ottawa County. He would like the agency to keep an eye out for these grants and stressed the importance on these courts in aiding treatment. Dr. Williams discussed that WMCMH is working with a local Judge, Judge Middlebrook who is currently in the process of applying for a grant to set up a Sobriety Court in Oceana County. We have not been told that we have been awarded the grant at this time, but they have asked for clarification on items we submitted, and we anticipate Oceana County will receive that money.

Ms. Sherfinski noted we held a budget hearing today and there was no one who attended.

17. Delegations, Communications and Expressions from the Community: There were none.
18. Executive Session: There was none.
19. Adjournment: With no additional business, Ms. Shafer made the motion, seconded by Mr. Dancz, to adjourn the West Michigan Community Mental Health Board of Directors meeting. The meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

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Kelly Hein  
Recording Secretary

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Ron Bacon  
Vice Chairperson