

WEST MICHIGAN COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

December 18, 2024

1. Call to Order: The West Michigan Community Mental Health Board of Directors met for its regular meeting in person in the Boardroom Room at the Harold E. Madden Center located in Ludington, at 5:32 p.m. on Wednesday, December 18, 2024. Chairperson Larry VanSickle presided.
2. Roll Call: The following members were present: Mary Alway, Ron Bacon, Linda Baierl, Pat Bettin, Dr. Jennifer Branning, Todd Dancz, Jim Prince, Kay Seng, Lucinda Shafer, Larry VanSickle, Robert Walker, and Clyde Welford. Mr. Dancz and Mr. Prince had previously requested an accommodation to participate in the Board meeting remotely under the open meetings act provisions. Those accommodations were approved by Chair VanSickle. Todd Dancz declared himself present in Scottville, MI. Jim Prince declared himself present in New Era, MI. A quorum was present. CMH staff members present were: Lisa Williams, Angie Kuhn, and Kelly Hein.
3. Introductions: There were none.
4. Delegations, Communications and Expressions from the Community: There were none.
5. Approval of Agenda: Dr. Branning made the motion, seconded by Ms. Bettin, that the West Michigan Community Mental Health Board of Directors approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried.
6. Conflict of Interest Question: Mr. VanSickle 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. Welford made the motion, seconded by Mr. Bacon, to approve the item on the consent agenda:
 - 7.1 Minutes from the 12/6/2024 WMCMH Search Committee Meeting. The motion carried.
 - 7.2 Minutes from the 12/9/2024 WMCMH Search Committee Meeting. The motion carried.
 - 7.3 Minutes from the second 12/9/2024 WMCMH Search Committee Meeting. The motion carried.
8. Pre-Interview Discussion: Ms. Kuhn reviewed the interview process. She suggested that the board have Chairperson VanSickle ask all 8 questions. She asked the committee to score the candidates with the document previously approved immediately after each candidate interviewed.

9. Interview of Candidates for CEO position at West Michigan Community Mental Health: Mr. VanSickle conducted the interviews with the WMCMH Board for the two candidates: Julia Rupp and Michele Condit.

Todd Dancz left the meeting at 7:02pm

9. Discussion, Consideration of Candidates, Decision Making: The WMCMH Board discussed the strengths and concerns specific to each of the candidates.
10. Formal Action on Selection of CEO: Dr. Branning made the motion, seconded by Ms. Bettin to offer the CEO position to Julia Rupp. Mr. VanSickle requested a roll call vote on the motion. Ms. Hein conducted a roll call vote. The vote was as follows:

Pat Bettin: Yes
Mary Alway: Yes
Lucinda Shafer: No
Linda Baierl: No
Ron Bacon: Yes
Robert Walker: Yes
Kay Seng: No
Clyde Welford: No
Dr. Jennifer Branning: Yes
James Prince: Yes
Chairperson VanSickle: Yes

The motion carried.

11. Successful Negotiation of a CEO Contract: The Board discussed authorizing Mr. VanSickle the authority to negotiate the contract with Ms. Rupp if she were to accept the position. Ms. Bettin made the motion, seconded by Dr. Jennifer Branning to offer negotiation authority to Chair VanSickle. The motion carried.
12. Adjournment: With no additional business, Mr. Bacon made the motion, seconded by Ms. Shafer, to adjourn the West Michigan Community Mental Health Board of Directors meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Kelly Hein
Recording Secretary

Larry VanSickle
Chairperson