

# Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health Authority Board

## Board Meeting

November 4, 2010

### I. Call to Order

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

### II. Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum

Present: Linda Canfield, Maggie Clay, Virginia DeRosia, Judy Hutchins, Marie LaLonde, Terry Larson, Gary Nowak, Pat Przeslawski, Tom Young

Absent: Richard Anderson, Alan Fischer, Tom Mullaney

Staff & Guests: Carolyn Bruning, Lee Ann Bushey, Ruth Hewett, Loretta Howard, Cheryl Jaworowski, Ed LaFramboise, Paul Rajasekhar MD, Tony White, Jeff Wirgau PA

### III. Approval of Minutes

Gary Nowak inquired of Board members if they would like to have the minutes become part of the Consent Agenda. Consensus was this would be appropriate.

***Moved by Virginia DeRosia, supported by Marie LaLonde, to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2010 meeting, as presented and future minutes become part of the Consent Agenda.*** Motion carried.

### IV. Information and/or Comments from the Public

There were no comments presented.

### V. Educational Session – Psychiatry/Medical Services

Tony White introduced Paul Rajasekhar MD, Medical Director of Northeast. Dr. Rajasekhar reported Jeff Wirgau, Physician Assistant, our newest recruit, joined the team in September. He previously interned at Northeast and was properly groomed by this Agency; he reported that Northeast has been grooming physician assistants through Western Michigan University internships. He noted that an agency such as Northeast can offer interns a broad exposure to public mental health services not found elsewhere. He noted Sherry Froelich, a Certified Nurse Practitioner, joined the agency in August. Russell Williams DO is currently on a one-year contract with the Agency. Rick DeMarr PA-C has been with the Agency now for a couple of years. Dr. Rajasekhar reported a full contingent of staff allows for timely appointments and consumers have indicated their satisfaction with the services. During the time he worked for Alpena Regional Medical Center, he helped plan and implement Birchwood Center. He provided Board members with a brief history of his time in Alpena beginning with his recruitment by this agency at the same time Dr.Carolynn Koppenol was also recruited. He provided Board members an overview of his recruitment to psychiatry in America during a physician shortage caused by the advent of Medicare. India was and is a good source of well trained English speaking physicians.

### VI. Consent Agenda

#### 1. Contract and Grants Approval

##### a. Evergreen Recycling

***Moved by Linda Canfield, supported by Judy Hutchins, to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented.*** Roll call vote: Ayes: Linda Canfield, Maggie Clay, Virginia DeRosia, Judy Hutchins, Marie LaLonde, Terry Larson, Gary Nowak, Patricia Przeslawski, Tom Young; Nays: None; Absent: Richard Anderson, Alan Fischer, Tom Mullaney

Motion carried.

**VII. November Monitoring Reports**

**1. Treatment of Consumers 01-002**

The Recipient Rights Committee materials were included in the mailing. Board members had no questions related to the material reviewed.

**2. Budgeting 01-004**

Due to year-end close outs, this monitoring report is not available for November.

**3. Financial Condition 01-005**

Due to year-end close outs, this monitoring report is not available for November. Tony White noted the Financial Audit begins November 18<sup>th</sup>. Gary Nowak reported the auditing firm has sent a letter to Board members. If Board members have any concerns, now is the time to submit them to the auditing firm.

**4. Ends 04-001**

Tony White reported the Ends for last year were a continuation of the previous year's Ends. He reported the Ends related to MI services are retrieved from a benchmarking report. He noted those areas highlighted in yellow are average or insufficient sample, those areas in green are favorable and those areas in red are unfavorable.

Jeff Wirgau PA was introduced to the Board.

Tony White reported the data from the benchmarking is old data as there is at least a six-month lag time. By the time the data is available for review, the time lapse hinders the opportunity for timely corrections to affect improvements.

Mr. White reviewed the Ends established for DD Services. Both paid employment and independent and supported independent living date showed an increase.

Alan Fischer arrived at 3:25 p.m.

Regarding financial Ends, Tony White noted that, as previous budget reports had outlined, the agency is well within budgeted amounts for both General Funds and Medicaid. He noted the area in which the agency is in deficit is local match due to falling interest rates.

In the community education End, a Report was published with a distribution of just over 35,000. Many positive comments have been received. He reported the goal will be to have two such reports published in the current fiscal year.

***Moved by Terry Larson, supported by Virginia DeRosia, to accept the November monitoring reports, as presented.*** Motion carried.

**VIII. Board Policy Review and Self Evaluation**

**1. Treatment of Consumers 01-002**

Board members reviewed the policy and no changes were recommended.

**2. Staff Treatment 01-003**

Board members reviewed the policy and no changes were recommended. Linda Canfield inquired as to whether staff approves of this policy.

Tom Mullaney arrived at 3:30 p.m.

Tony White reported a staff survey was conducted with a good response. He indicated some of the comments were personally identifiable so a summary will be compiled of the responses to assure confidentiality is maintained. This will be share with Management Team members.

## **IX. Linkage Reports**

### **1. Northern Affiliation**

Tony White reported he attended an Operations Committee meeting yesterday. Budget numbers are now known. He is hopeful a contract will be in place soon. There would be additional Medicaid included in this contract with the Northern Affiliation. The additional dollars will be for specific services only. He reported more details will be available by the December meeting and perhaps a contract as well.

### **2. MACMHB**

#### **a. Fall Conference Update**

Alan Fischer reported the conference focused on healthcare reform at the national level and the impact those changes will have. He attended one workshop "How are we going to get paid tomorrow..." and noted much of this was about the kinds of structures that will be created such as federally approved behavioral healthcare centers. Also addressed was the shortage of personnel in mental health and psychiatry and in primary care. He noted integration of primary and mental health service will need to occur. All of this will need to be in place by 2014. He noted there will be a new bureaucracy that will be needed to administer this new insurance system. The integrated model will need to have us focus on providing integrated, not disjointed, treatment of a person.

Tony White reported healthcare reform certainly was the focus of the conference. He reported the Agency has met with both Thunder Bay Community Health Center and Alcona Health Center regarding integrating services. Tony White stated another method would be to provide primary care services within our agency. He noted the studies done indicate those consumers with a mental illness have a life span of 25 years less than others. Integration is intended to address this issue to assure total treatment of a consumer.

Gary Nowak reported he attended the Chairperson's meeting. He noted the next conference may have a module on the Carver method of governance in boards.

#### **b. Healthcare Reform**

Tony White addressed the memo received recently from the Board Association to look at positioning for healthcare reform. He suggests this be a topic of discussion at the December meeting to give Board members an opportunity to think about this topic. He reported this most likely would require a consultant to hired by the Association and possibly assessment to the membership.

### **3. Consumer Advisory Council**

The minutes of the meeting were included in the mailing. Gary Nowak reported he invited Tim Gray to attend a future board meeting to give a presentation on what the Consumer Advisory Council does. The Consumer Advisory Council is having a strategic planning session on Monday to identify some goals. Judy Hutchins commended Gary Nowak on attending the Council meetings.

### **4. QI Council Update**

The minutes of the meeting were included in the mailing. Board members had no concerns regarding the content of the minutes.

## **X. Chair's Report**

### **A. Nominations Committee Appointments**

Gary Nowak appointed Linda Canfield, Virginia DeRosia, Maggie Clay, and Marie LaLonde to the Nominations Committee. He reported four board members terms expire next year. All members have indicated a willingness to continue.

## **XI. Director's Report**

### **1. Budget Update**

Tony White reported he hopes to have more on Medicaid funding for the Board at December's meeting. He reported the General Fund cut was less than anticipated. He noted Cheryl Jaworowski has participated in a "Learn and Share" session with the Department to address the methods that will need to be used to affect this cut. The directive is to assure the cuts are only of general funds even though most administrative costs are spread across virtually all funding sources.

### **2. Traveling Art Show II Update**

Tony White reported the Traveling Art Show is underway. It was hosted at the Alcona Library for a week and now is currently at the Alpena County Library. It will be at the Brush Creek Mill in Hillman and then in Rogers City at the Senior Citizens Center before leaving the area.

### **3. Hillman Office Re-Lease**

Tony White reported this topic is an addition to the agenda. It relates to the Hillman Office lease. The lease has been in effect since 1981. Cheryl Jaworowski reported in 2004, the Agency reduced the amount of space used in that office. At this point, we need to utilize that space again. He notes this is a month-to-month recommendation and this would aid us until we decide what we are doing in Hillman for office space. Mr. White noted a RFP will be issued for building space in Hillman. Ed LaFramboise reported some of the new space would be used by staff to access the agency's data systems, which due to confidentiality issues, is difficult from a home office.

***Moved by Terry Larson, supported by Linda Canfield, to enter into the lease amendment.*** Roll call vote: Ayes: Linda Canfield, Maggie Clay, Virginia DeRosia, Alan Fischer, Judy Hutchins, Marie LaLonde, Terry Larson, Tom Mullaney, Gary Nowak, Patricia Przeslawski, Tom Young; Nays: None; Absent: Richard Anderson

Motion carried.

## **XII. Information and/or Comments from the Public**

Marie LaLonde reported she attended a Department of Human Services Board meeting earlier today. With the retirement incentives, 22 of the 30 Directors are leaving. She reported Presque Isle, currently partnered with Alpena County, will be aligned with Cheboygan County. She noted 7 of the 14 workers in Alpena along with the office manager and Director are taking advantage of the retirement incentive and will be leaving.

Maggie Clay left the meeting 4:00 p.m.

Pat Przeslawski requested copy of the Report published by Northeast.

Judy Hutchins reported NAMI is now meeting in Alcona County. She also reported the lease has been signed for the drop-in center in Alpena.

## **XIII. Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health Authority Board will be held Thursday, December 9, 2010 at 3:00 p.m.

### **A. Set December Agenda**

Gary Nowak requested input from Board members for the December agenda.

### **B. Meeting Evaluation**

Tom Mullaney requested a pardon for being late due to budget meetings at Alpena County. There were no comments provided related to meeting content evaluation.

**XIV. Adjournment**

***Moved by Virginia DeRosia, supported by Marie LaLonde, to adjourn the meeting.*** Motion carried. This meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_{signed on 12-09-10}  
Virginia DeRosia, Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_{signed on 12-09-10}  
Gary Nowak, Chair

Diane Hayka  
Recorder