

**Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health Authority Board**

**Board Meeting**

**March 14, 2013**

**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: Virginia DeRosia, Alan Fischer, Roger Frye, Judy Hutchins, Marie LaLonde, Terry Larson, Tom Mullaney, Gary Nowak, Pat Przeslawski, Tom Young

Absent: Richard Anderson, Linda Canfield (excused)

Staff & Guests: Lisa Anderson, Carolyn Bruning, LeeAnn Bushey, Jacqueline Fitzgerald, Lynne Fredlund, Cheryl Jaworowski, Judy Jones, Ed LaFramboise, Cathy Meske, Megan Miller, Phil Pickard, Ashley Potrykus, Claire Potrykus, Patti St. John, Maureen Sweet, Peggy Yachasz

Gary Nowak introduced Judy Jones, new appointee to the Board by Alpena County beginning April 1, and introductions were made.

**III. Consent Agenda**

- 1. Approval of Minutes**
- 2. Resolution – Group Home Administrator/Licensee Designee**

**RESOLUTION**

At its regular meeting on March 14, 2013, the Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health Authority Board designates the following individuals as Administrator and Licensee Designee per Rule 400.14103 (1) (g).

Deb Hemgesberg is the Administrator and Cathy Meske is the Licensee Designee for the following licensed homes:

Avalon	License #AS600315166
Brege	License #AS710012893
Cambridge	License #AS040010156
Dewar	License #AS010010120
Harrisville	License #AS010010123
Millcreek	License #AS010010124
Pine Park	License #AS600012181
Princeton	License #AS040095845
Thunder Bay	License #AM600009171
Walnut	License #AS040313092

**CERTIFICATE**

The undersigned certifies that:

1. I am the duly elected Secretary \_\_\_\_\_, and

2. The foregoing is a true and exact copy of the excerpts of minutes of a regular Board meeting of the Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health Authority Board held on March 14, 2013.

Dated: March 14, 2013

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Alan Fischer, Secretary

***Moved by Marie LaLonde, supported by Virginia DeRosia, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.*** Motion Carried.

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

There was no information or comments presented.

**V. NOAA Maritime Museum – Volunteer of the Year Award [Ashley & Family]**

Ed LaFramboise introduced a celebrity visitor “Ashley Potrykus,” recognized as Volunteer of the Year at the NOAA Maritime Museum. Ashley was accompanied by Megan Miller and her mother, Claire Potrykus. Ashley informed Board members of her role at the museum. Ashley prepares the artifacts by cleaning them up for display. This amounts to various stages of cleaning from using wire brushes, toothbrushes and dental picks. There is much debris – dirt, sand, rust, and algae. The process is slow because they must take care not to break the object. This job requires much patience and teamwork. Megan reports Chuck Weisen also works as a volunteer and he is very knowledgeable of the various artifacts and can tell what boats the artifacts are from. Patti St. John reports Ashley’s first role was cleaning up at the museum and has earned their trust to work in the artifact department.

Gary Nowak applauded the family for the role they play in this successful opportunity.

**VI. Board Member Recognition**

Gary Nowak recognized Board members for their years of service. There was no one Board member reaching a significant milestone this year; however, a total of 116 years of service was recognized.

Meeting recessed at 3:15 p.m. for refreshments.

Meeting resumed at 3:25 p.m.

**VII. Educational Session – AFP Update**

Ed LaFramboise informed the Board the AFP has not been fully compiled and there is no final document for review available. He reports several staff members are active members of workgroups established to address the Application for Participation submission. The Olmstead Consent Decree focuses on getting consumers out of institutions and getting consumers integrated into the community. . There are five areas that are being focused on for the submission: 1) Governance, 2) Administrative Functions, 3) Accreditation Status, 4) External Quality Review and 5) Public Policy Initiatives. Policies will be drafted to assure compliance in the requirements of the application. This submission is due to the Department by April 1. This will not allow all boards time to review the application prior to submission. It is anticipated to be completed by March 26. On March 28<sup>th</sup>, our three board members along with the other twelve Regional Entity Board members will meet in Gaylord to review the final product. Dave Schneider from Northern Affiliation and Karl Kovacs from Northern Lakes CMH are coordinating the completion project.

Ed LaFramboise distributed the timeframes for completion of various items and tasks outlined in the AFP.

Ed LaFramboise reported there is one correction to the by-laws by changing the "M" of Members to a "m" of members. There is a difference in definitions so the attorney has recommended this be changed. The by-laws are targeted to be submitted to the County Clerks on April 5<sup>th</sup>. At that point, the Northern Regional Entity becomes an official entity.

The Northern Regional Entity Board will then need to identify the Chief Executive Officer by July 1; however, the members are requesting this be done by June 1 to allow for time to meet other deadlines.

Mr. LaFramboise reported the five directors have been meeting to develop the operational agreement, which is an agreement in how Northeast will operate as a member of the Regional Entity. He reported this group met Tuesday until 6 p.m. reviewing and identifying the operational wants and needs of the member boards.

Tom Mullaney inquired as to how this new entity will be funded. Ed LaFramboise reported this will be funded through Medicaid by some still unknown formula. The Medicaid dollars will cease to flow through the current PIHPs and begin flowing to the new entity. He noted the current PIHPs will remain in existence until December 31, 2013. This will mean there will be a three-month contract with the current PIHP and a nine-month contract with the new PIHP. The risk funds will transfer either in full or partial depending on the stake each of the members boards have in their current PIHPs.

#### **VIII. Nominations Committee Report**

Pat Przeslawski reported the Nominations Committee met in February and proposes to keep the current officers for the next Board year due to the turmoil with all the new requirements that will need to be addressed in this transition of PIHPs. Those officers are: Chair – Gary Nowak, Vice Chair – Pat Przeslawski, and Secretary – Alan Fischer.

#### **IX. March Monitoring Reports**

##### **1. Treatment of Consumer 01-002**

Ed LaFramboise reported Peggy Yachasz chairs the Customer Satisfaction Committee. This is the third year that people who have a developmental disability receiving SIP, Employment or Community supports have been surveyed. The survey focused on community support services, psychological services, nursing services, SIP/Response System services, supported employment services and support coordination services. The Survey brochure and survey responses from the consumers were included in the materials sent. Peggy reports the committee attempts to gather information on all services from psychologists, nursing, supports coordinators, and support workers. Overall, responses were very positive.

##### **2. Staff Treatment 01-003**

Ed LaFramboise reported staff leaving the employment of the Agency are requested to complete an Exit Survey. This information is from staff voluntarily leaving the employment at this Agency which provides an unbiased response and eliminate the pressure an employee might feel in completing this type of survey due to seeking a promotion or other reasons. The survey was divided in four sections – 1) The Job, 2) Your Supervisor, 3) Workplace Climate and Culture and 4) Wage and Benefit Package. Overall, responses were very positive.

##### **3. Budgeting 01-004**

Cheryl Jaworowski reviewed the Statement of Revenue for month ending January 31, 2012 with Board members noting there is still a deficit in General Funds. She reviewed the revenue deficits noting there will need to be a budget amendment to correct some line items such as Gentle Teaching due to loss of contract. Cheryl Jaworowski reported the insurance agency has

indicated there will be another net asset distribution this year and this should resolve the deficit in that line item. She reports this budget is an overall improvement since last month. She reports there will be about \$61,000 that will transfer to Medicaid from General Funds as a result of retroactive approvals for Medicaid and Medicaid spend-downs.

Judy Hutchins inquired about the Open Enrollment period for Adult Benefits Waiver beginning April 1. Cathy Meske and Cheryl Jaworowski reported staff are working with consumers to get their paperwork prepared for submission.

Tom Mullaney inquired about the Public Relations line item. Ed LaFramboise reported this is the line used for our Report to Community newsletters. It is anticipated to publish two newsletters this year, one in May and the other in September.

*Moved by Alan Fischer, supported by Tom Young, to accept the March monitoring reports as presented.* Motion carried.

**X. Board Policies Review and Self Evaluation**

**1. Budgeting 01-004**

There were no comments from Board members or recommendations for any revisions.

**2. Governance Commitment 02-001**

This policy was reviewed. There were no comments.

**3. Board Members Code of Conduct 02-008**

This policy was reviewed. There were no comments.

**IX. Linkage Reports**

**1. Affiliation Update**

Ed LaFramboise and Gary Nowak attended the Northern Affiliation Board meeting last Thursday. Ed notes the financial reports were reviewed and the Affiliation is in good shape. He notes the various departments provide reports and there were no significant items to report from this meeting. He also believes there will be a lapse in Medicaid dollars most likely this year again.

**2. Board Association**

**a. Spring Board Conference [April 30 & May 1]**

Conference agenda materials are not available as yet. Board members were requested to consider attendance as early bird registration will most likely be due prior to the April meeting date.

**b. Board Member Regional Forum [April 12 & 13]**

This forum will be held in Gaylord at Treetops on April 12 & 13. Board members were requested to let Diane Hayka know this evening if they will attend so reservations can be made.

**3. Clinical Services and Support Report**

Cathy Meske reviewed the report for month ending January 31, 2013. Cathy reviewed the community living support services for both DD and MI. She notes the key speaker earlier in this meeting utilizes this type of support service.

**4. Legislative Luncheon Update**

Gary Nowak expressed his appreciation of the knowledge that Senator Moolenaar had in the mental health system. Judy Hutchins notes she still believes the legislatures should support the Medicaid Expansion to allow for consumers to have at least some health services even if it might

only be for three years and then the state opts out of the expansion. Board members felt the atmosphere at this year's location was better than in previous years. This setting allowed for a cozier atmosphere for communication. Ed LaFramboise reported both legislators liked the timing of event.

**VIII. Chair's Report**

**1. May Strategic Planning Discussion**

The rotation for the Strategic Planning schedules this meeting in Presque Isle County for May. Gary Nowak will assist in locating a facility to host the meeting.

**2. CMH PAC - Reminder**

Next month will be the final call for the CMH PAC.

**IX. Director's Report**

**1. Regional Entity Update**

Ed LaFramboise reported three boards have approved the Bylaws and the remaining two boards will address them prior to the end of the month. The Directors have completed the first draft of an operations agreement along with an organizational chart. A meeting has been scheduled for March 28<sup>th</sup> for the Regional Board members to meet and review the AFP, Operations Agreement, and timelines for activating the Entity. It is anticipated the new board will then proceed with hiring the CEO for this Entity. This is expected to be completed by June 1.

**2. Building Search**

Ed LaFramboise reported the Agency is currently investigating options for office locations in both Alcona County and Montmorency County. Currently, the Alcona office is leased from the VFW and the building has some structural issues. Harrisville is being targeted as that is the location had has most of the consumers served for that county. Alan Fischer inquired about consideration of Lincoln as that is more centralized in the county. Ed reported it may be more centralized; however, the majority of consumers live in Harrisville. The Alcona Health Center has a satellite office in Harrisville. Their old building might accommodate the staffing; however, parking is not available. Other locations have been and continue to be investigated.

Ed LaFramboise also reported investigation is also being pursued in Montmorency County.

**3. Shiawassee Resolution / Northeast Resolution**

Ed LaFramboise provided the Board with information related to the adoption of this resolution originally drafted by Shiawassee County. The resolution addresses the Medicaid Expansion and has been adapted to address the four counties served by Northeast. Scott Gilman, Director at Shiawassee, gave permission for our Board to use this same resolution for our area.

**Resolution**

**Whereas**, the State of Michigan and the 83 County Governments have a statutory partnership to provide mental health services and improve the performance of local delivery systems of care for the mentally ill and the most disabled citizens of the State. The county governments may fulfill this obligation through the creation of a community mental health authority under state law.

**Whereas**, the Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health Authority (NeMCMHA) was created pursuant to MCL 330.1204b of the Michigan Mental Health Code, 1974 PA 258, MCL 330.1001 *et seq.* (the "Mental Health Code") by the Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency and Presque Isle County Board of Commissions to fulfill this obligation for the citizens of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency and Presque Isle counties.

**Whereas**, while the recent violent tragedies in our country has elicited unprecedented compassionate responses by some, this has been overshadowed by inaccurate media reports that have contained highly offensive and stigmatizing reference to persons with mental illnesses, aspersers and autism.

**Whereas**, one in five Americans have some form of mental illness and one in eighty eight children born are being diagnosed with autism.

**Whereas**, the use of terms such as "monster," "mental defects," "madmen" is not only based on grave misunderstanding of mental illness and is extremely hurtful to tens of millions of Americans who are working hard at their recovery; it does nothing to explain the loss of lives in Colorado, Arizona, and most recently in Connecticut and Michigan. Use of these terms also does nothing to prevent such horrors from occurring in the future and creates stigma and prevents those in need from seeking care.

**Whereas**, research has consistently found that people with severe mental illnesses are 2 ½ times more likely to be attacked or victims of crime than people in the general population.

**Whereas**, fear of stigma, being bullied, social isolation and being labeled as weak or unfit prevents individuals from seeking effective mental health treatment.

**Whereas**, more Vietnam War veterans have now died by suicide than died in the Vietnam War. Also more United States veterans have died in the past year from suicide than died on the battle front in Afghanistan.

**Whereas**, the rate of teen suicide continues to climb; one in six high school teens have considered suicide and one in twelve teens who have suffered in silence due to stigma associated with mental illness have attempted suicide at least once.

**Whereas**, there is no link between autism and violence and to make this suggestion is harmful and stigmatizing to the 1.5 million law abiding, non-violent wonderful citizens living with autism and contributing to our society.

**Whereas**, while provisions of the Affordable Care Act passed in 2010 include expanding Medicaid coverage to many uninsured citizens and mandate states to include adequate coverage for behavioral health conditions the current public mental health system is woefully underfunded. In Michigan high-quality effective mental health care is at times only available to those with the most severe conditions and can be difficult to access for many due to lack of insurance or lack of (general fund) resources to care for the uninsured.

**Whereas**, the current methodology used by the Michigan Department of Community Health to allocate funds to the Community Mental Health Boards uses "geographic factors" and other historical factors that result in inequitable distribution of the limited financial resources available.

**Whereas**, the Michigan Department of Community Health is forming new Prepaid Inpatient Health regions bringing together affiliations of Community Mental Health Boards and have committed to addressing this inequity by "bringing the bottom up" or raising the funding levels of counties that are funded at lower rates than other counties.

**Now, therefore be it resolved:**

That NeMCMHA supports the Governor's two year proposal to expand Medicaid to over 470,000 Michigan citizens without coverage or access to appropriate mental health services.

That NeMCMHA supports expanding equitable access to care for all citizens of our state by establishing equitable funding for all counties.

That NeMCMHA affirms that the Michigan county based public mental health system has the capacity to address the needs of the citizens of the state by providing high quality effective evidence based treatments if new resources are used:

- (1) to “bring the bottom up” in counties that are poorly funded;
- (2) to appropriately fund the treatment needs of the new expansion population in all counties;
- and
- (3) are governed by the citizens involved locally on public mental health boards.

That NeMCMHA supports Senator Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) and Senator Roy Blunt (R-MO) in their introduction of Senate Bill 264, the Excellence in Mental Health Act, that would support the nation’s community mental health and addictions system by establishing national standards and oversight for Federally Qualified Behavioral Health Centers.

That NeMCMHA will continue anti-stigma efforts to ensure that the citizens of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency and Presque Isle counties no longer suffer in silence and do not fear seeking treatment.

That NeMCMHA will continue to advocate for appropriate funding so when someone seeks help it is readily available and easily accessible.

**Be it Further Resolved**, that copies of this resolution be provided to the Alcona County Board of Commission, Alpena County Board of Commission, Montmorency County Board of Commission, Presque Isle County Board of Commission, Governor Rick Snyder, US Senator Debbie Stabenow, Congressman Dan Benishek, Senator John Moolenaar, Senator Howard Walker, Representative Peter Pettalia, Representative Greg MacMasters, MDCH Director Jim Haveman, MDCH Deputy Director Lynda Zeller, Michigan Association of Community Mental Health Boards, and all Michigan CMH Boards.

**This Resolution** was hereby adopted at its regularly scheduled meeting on March 14, 2013 by the Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health Authority Board of Directors.

***Moved by Judy Hutchins, supported by Marie LaLonde, to adopt the resolution as presented.*** Tom Mullaney suggested this also be submitted to the mayors of each city. Motion carried. A copy of this Resolution will also be sent to the County Clerks requesting a similar resolution be adopted.

#### **4. Endowment Fund – Grant Awards**

Ed LaFramboise reported the spendable portion of the foundation funds are used to award grants for use to support employment of consumers and independent living. This is reported semi-annually to the Board. During the past six month, there were no grants awarded. It was noted there are some applications under consideration at this point.

#### **5. QI Council Update**

The minutes for the QI Council included in the mailing and Board members had no questions.

**6. CARF Update**

There is no final report on the CARF accreditation survey. Only three of the four reviewers were able to make it to the area. The final piece will occur April 10 – 12. The exit conference from the initial phase was fairly positive. There were 11 recommendations addressed. The reviewers noted they were not able to determine exemplary programs as CARF's requirements had changed. They did speak very highly of our Supported Independence Program.

Gary Nowak reported in his discussion with the CARF Surveyor, the surveyor indicated he was not familiar with any Boards accredited in Board Governance. Ed LaFramboise noted the surveyor noted he was not qualified to be a reviewer in Board Governance and suggested staff to contact agencies already accredited for that program to gather best practices for board governance for evaluation of the Board and evaluation of individual board members.

Lynne Fredlund reported she had received a call from the CARF headquarters during the review indicating the current accreditation would be extended to June 2013 and further year's accreditation would also begin around that time to avoid any future weather issues.

**7. Autism Benefit**

Ed LaFramboise informed Board members of the anticipation the Autism Benefits will be implemented April 1. It is expected children 18 months through 5 years would be eligible for assessment benefits. The ESD's of each of the counties have indicated this number could be 16 children for Northeast. Stephanie Davis has received training in the required assessment tools and is currently enrolled in a program that would provide the requirements for her to become certified as a Behavior Analyst. Additional staff will need to be hired and trained in Applied Behavior Analysis to meet the needs of the 16 children identified. Ed LaFramboise reported the Department has not provided any funding for the needed start up requirements in training, etc. When the waiver is approved, billing can be done on a fee-for-service basis for the assessments but not for any staff training.

**8. Bay View Center Contract Extension**

Ed LaFramboise reported he recommends an extension of the Bay View Center contract through the end of the fiscal year with a 30-day break clause.

*Moved by Roger Frye, supported by Tom Young, to approve the Bay View Center Contract Extension for 6 months, with a 30-day out.* Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Virginia DeRosia, Alan Fischer, Roger Frye, Marie LaLonde, Terry Larson, Tom Mullaney, Gary Nowak , Pat Przeslawski, Tom Young; Nays: None; Absent: Richard Anderson, Linda Canfield; Abstain: Judy Hutchins. Motion carried.

**X. Information and/or Comments from the Public**

Ed LaFramboise commends staff for all their work during the accreditation survey.

Jacqueline Fitzgerald provided Board members with a schedule of bottle drives.

Gary Nowak reported a thank you card was received from the Phil Richard's family. Phil Richards was one of the founding members of the Northeast Community Mental Health Services Foundation.

Tom Mullaney reported the County is currently reviewing options to relocate the county jail which would put the current facility on the market. It is possible Alpena Regional Medical Center may be interested. If they do not purchase the property, it might be available for this agency.

Jacqueline Fitzgerald provided the Board with information related to the fundraiser May 5. It will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall. "John Denver" of the north will be the featured entertainment.

**XI. Next Meeting – Thursday, April 11, 2013 at 3:00 p.m.**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health Authority Board will be held Thursday, April 11, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. Tom Mullaney reported the agenda has the wrong date for the next meeting.

**1. Set April Agenda**

The April Agenda items were reviewed. Alan Bolter will address Legislative Issues as the Educational Session in April. April is also the organizational meeting for the Board consisting of election of officers, setting meeting dates, and committee appointments.

**2. Meeting Evaluation**

Pat Przeslawski noted this was a superb meeting.

**XII. Adjournment**

*Moved by Marie LaLonde, supported by Pat Przeslawski, to adjourn the meeting.* Motion carried. This meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
[signed by Alan on 04/11/13]  
Alan Fischer, Secretary

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[signed by Gary on 04/11/13]  
Gary Nowak, Chair

Diane Hayka  
Recorder