

**Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health Authority Board
Board Meeting
December 12, 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: Linda Canfield, Virginia DeRosia, Roger Frye, Judy Hutchins, Judy Jones, Marie LaLonde, Terry Larson, Gary Nowak, Pat Przeslawski, Tom Young

Absent: Alan Fischer, Tom Mullaney

Staff & Guests: Dennis Bannon, Dayna Barbeau, Carolyn Bruning, LeeAnn Bushey, Lynne Fredlund, Cheryl Jaworowski, Ed LaFramboise, Cathy Meske

III. Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes

2. Contracts

- a. **Catholic Human Services – Wraparound Agreement**
- b. **FY13-14 Supportive Housing Program Grant – Homeless**
- c. **FY13-14 Supportive Housing Program Grant – Chronic Homeless**
- d. **Blue Horizons Management Agreement**

Moved by Terry Larson supported by Linda Canfield, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Roll call vote: Ayes: Linda Canfield, Virginia DeRosia, Roger Frye, Judy Hutchins, Judy Jones, Marie LaLonde, Terry Larson, Gary Nowak, Pat Przeslawski, Tom Young; Nays: None; Absent: Alan Fischer, Tom Mullaney. Motion carried.

IV. Information and/or Comments from the Public

Roger Frye requested a moment of silence to pay respect for the recent passing of the Director's mother.

V. Educational Session – Medical Services

Ed LaFramboise introduced Jeff Wirgau PA-C to Board members. Jeff reports a physician assistant practices medicine much as that of a medical doctor. Through schooling he has had the opportunity to work for various large hospitals. The physician assistant at the agency practices psychiatry. They can conduct the same services as the physician except for certifying individuals for hospitals or doing psychiatric evaluations. Dr. Rajasekhar and Dr. Arora do the administrative elements of the medical services and are the ones that provide certification and evaluations. He reports once evaluated, the physician assistant can take over the case and provide the services. He reports initially he was a nurse and then later went to the PA school. He reports in school the PAs are treated the same as a medical resident in training.

Jeff Wirgau reported mid-level providers can practice medicine under the supervision of a physician. This does not mean the doctor has to be in the building. The doctor has to be available should the PA have a case he would need some consultation with. Many insurance companies require there to be a co-signature on claims. Jeff reports a physician assistant can write controlled substance prescriptions but not Schedule 1 unless they work in an emergency room setting. The PA has a DEA license and takes the same type of pharmacology classes as physicians.

Pat Przeslawski inquired why someone would become a PA and earn less money than a medical doctor.

Tom Mullaney arrived at 3:10 p.m.

Jeff Wirgau reported the decision is an individual decision and the bottom line usually comes down to cost. Jeff reports he put himself through college, nursing school and PA school. The PA works in the field in which he works whereas a medical doctor needs to be specialized in many fields and is the top of the line in their specialty field.

Jeff reports a Nurse Practitioner must be a nurse first; a physician assistant can have a bachelor's degree in any field. The PA must have the basics and 2,000 hours of medical experience in areas such as a nursing home, EMT or similar field.

Roger Frye reported many physicians come out of medical school with debt of around \$500,000.

Jeff reports the decision to work in this field has to be a drive inside that wants to be part of treating patients and the love of medicine. Jeff reports at the agency, the PAs see most of the patients and they try to work in teams so the patients can get familiar with their provider.

Jeff provided the board with a glimpse of his service through the military and the time he spent in Afghanistan.

VI. December Monitoring Reports

1. Budgeting 01-004

Cheryl Jaworowski reported the Agency ended the year in the black. She reported the Medicaid contract was under spent by \$921,818. The General Funds was over spent by \$125,860. In addition the Adult Benefit Waiver funds were over spent by \$33,593 and this amount will be covered by our partner boards.

Cheryl Jaworowski reported one reason for the turnaround was a decrease in the self-funded health insurance line item. She congratulated staff involved in restructuring and monitoring services to reduce the shortage in the General Fund bucket. She noted the Agency has about 32 days of unrestricted operating funds on hand.

2. Grants or Contracts 01-011

The monitoring report related to Grants or Contracts was reviewed. Board members had no questions.

Moved by Tom Young, supported by Judy Hutchins, to accept the December monitoring reports as presented. Motion carried.

VII. Board Policy Review and Self Evaluation

1. Grants or Contracts 01-011

There were no comments or recommendations for this policy.

2. Board Member Recognition 02-011

There were no comments or recommendations for this policy.

3. Board Member Orientation 02-015

Ed LaFramboise reports this will policy will be tested as Albert LaFleche will be coming back on the Board in January and Judy Jones has not had a full orientation at this point either.

VIII. Linkage Reports

1. **MACMHB**

Ed LaFramboise reported Alan Bolter and Mike Vizona have been working very hard with the legislature regarding General Funds. The Michigan budget was established last year based on the presumption the Medicaid expansion would be implemented on January 1. As a result, there were no General Funds earmarked for the now first quarter of the calendar year, leaving January, February and March unfunded. Ed LaFramboise reported he met with Senator Moolenaar while in Lansing earlier this week and the senator was not hopeful in getting the supplemental funding through before January. The Department has indicated there will be a contract available. Ed reports the limited benefit offered to those individuals whose services are paid for with General Fund dollars will continue in the next calendar year as there is no promise of funding for March. In review, Alan and Mike feel the legislature has shorted the General Fund budget for mental health by \$16 million.

Ed LaFramboise reports part of what they didn't anticipate was that enrollment will not be immediate on April 1. Applications will need to be submitted and processing of those applications will take time.

He noted if the legislature adjourns today, Medicaid expansion goes into effect mid-March instead of April 1.

2. **Northern Michigan Regional Entity (NMRE)**

a. **NMRE Board Meeting – 11/20/13**

b. **NMRE Board Meeting – 10/16/13**

Ed LaFramboise reports the minutes for the October meeting were included in the mailing. Terry Larson and Roger Frye are on the SUD Committee and they did not meet in November. Ed reports Dave Schneider has been meeting with the Coordinating Agencies to discuss the transition plan which absorbs their operations to the Regional Entity effective October 1, 2014. Gary Nowak reports he is on the policy committee.

Ed LaFramboise reported Dave Schneider has been appointed to the State's rate work group, which is looking at the Medicaid rates for April through September. At this point, we know the rates based on the Milliman study and if annualized there would be a huge deficit for this board. Ed reports having Dave on this workgroup will work to our advantage as Dave is very aware of the unique circumstances to address the funding needs for our region.

Ed LaFramboise reports an early estimate under Medicaid Expansion will bring in about \$20 million additional revenue to the Entity. This will also mean there will be many more individuals that will need services.

Terry Larson reported he has a meeting next Wednesday for the NMRE SUD Committee.

3. **Northern Affiliation Update**

a. **Affiliation Board Meeting 12/04/13**

Ed LaFramboise reported the last Affiliation Board meeting was held last week. The Northern Affiliation will remain in some format for about a year as there are billings that will continue for up to one year. He reports there will be many close out issues to be resolved. The Department has issued some close-out instructions. Centra Wellness and Northern Lakes will be having a division of some of the assets of their affiliation effective January 1, 2014. The Northern Affiliation will be done in about a year.

Ed LaFramboise reported all affiliate staff provided Affiliation Board members with an evolution story of each of the departments in the Affiliation.

4. Clinical Services and Support Report

Ed LaFramboise reported the clinical services and support report is not available due to year end close out.

5. Consumer Advisory Council Update

The minutes for the latest Consumer Advisory Council meeting, held Monday, December 9th, were distributed. Gary Nowak reported, at this meeting, Les Buza thanked the Board for the purchase of the shower chairs in the group homes. This is so much nicer for the residents and greatly appreciated.

IX. Chair's Report

1. By-Law Review

The changes include updating the Mission statement to agree with the new Mission statement as developed in the Strategic Planning Session and also moved the appointment of the Nominations Committee from November to October to get an earlier start on the re-appointment process.

Moved by Pat Przeslawski, supported by Virginia DeRosia, to approve the revisions to the by-laws as presented. Motion carried.

X. Director's Report

1. Funding Update

Ed LaFramboise reported last month he briefly addressed the issues associated with the PMPM funding formula. He noted four of the five boards within the NMRE would receive reductions in the Medicaid funding with AuSable Valley gaining some Medicaid dollars. Ed LaFramboise reported there will be discussions at the Entity level about how the carry forward dollars and the risk reserves will be used to address the smoothing process for this funding. He reported there have been some preliminary discussions to allow for a three-year period to get to the budget levels based on the PMPM using the risk reserves and carry forward dollars. At this point, as mortality occurs, there could be a home closure and vacancies will be looked at before filling to assure the position is still a necessity. He reports for Northeast we would need to cut approximately \$800,000 each year over a three year period.

Tom Mullaney reported he met with Senator Moolenaar as well. He also met with various commissioners and other Senators in Grayling. Mr. Mullaney believes the legislators are all sitting back and believing everything will be fine come March 1, 2014.

Ed LaFramboise reports the benefit package for the Medicaid Expansion population has not been defined as yet. Tom Young inquired about the timing of the Medicaid Expansion applications. Not all individuals will apply for their Medicaid at the same time. Ed LaFramboise reports many of Northeast's staff have been trained to assist individuals in the application process and DHS has not enhanced their staff to address the anticipated influx of applicants. Alcona Health Center and Thunder Bay Community Health Center have navigators who can help individuals get through the healthcare.gov maze. Cathy Meske reported after January 1, applications for Medicaid Expansion can be submitted. This will be completed electronically and the applications will be sent to Battle Creek.

2. QI Council Update

The minutes were distributed and Board members had no questions.

3. Telepsychiatry

Yesterday a test was conducted via telepsychiatry and the session was successful. Dr. Krause was very pleased with the way staff accommodated him and the support received by the IT

Department. He reports the clarity of the transmission was very good. Cathy Meske reported there was a psychiatric evaluation conducted. The nurse sat in with the individual to assist during this process at this point.

4. Community Foundation Grant Award

In August, the Board approved the submission of a mini-grant for the Clubhouse to purchase a digital cash register. The Clubhouse was awarded a \$500 grant for purchase of this cash register.

XI. Information and/or Comments from the Public

This being Tom Young's last meeting, Pat Przeslawski announced she has enjoyed working with him and felt his contribution to this board was very positive.

Gary Nowak inquired about the status of the Hillman offices. Ed LaFramboise provided the update.

Ed LaFramboise reported the NMRE will be delivering a contract to Northeast Michigan CMH. The NMRE will most likely approve this temporary contract and this contract at their December 18th meeting and the contract will need to be in place by January 1.

Moved by Roger Frye, supported by Pat Przeslawski, to authorize the Director to execute the proposed agreement based on the NMRE approval of this contract. Motion carried.

Gary Nowak also thanked Tom Young for his service and wished him good luck in his future endeavors. He also thanked staff for the fine job the staff have done over the past year. He also provided holiday wishes to all.

XII. Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health Authority Board will be held Thursday, January 9, 2014 at 3:00 p.m.

A. Set January Agenda

Pat Przeslawski reported the educational session was really parallels a family accomplishment in that her daughter recently passed her EMT license working very hard to get there.

Ed LaFramboise reported Kris Toy, transitional employment specialist, has offered to present information to the Board for their January meeting related to transitional employment through Clubhouse.

XIII. Evaluation of Meeting

Pat Przeslawski enjoyed the educational session from the PA. Gary Nowak reported the Board members should be thanked as well for their support of programming for this agency.

XIV. Adjournment

Moved by Tom Mullaney, supported by Pat Przeslawski, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. This meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

[signed by Alan Fischer on 01/09/14]

Alan Fischer, Secretary

[signed by Gary Nowak on 01/09/14]

Gary Nowak, Chair

Diane Hayka
Recorder