

Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health Authority Board

Board Meeting

July 9, 2015

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, Bonnie Cornelius, Alan Fischer, Roger Frye, Judy Jones, Albert LaFleche, Marie LaLonde, Terry Larson, Gary Nowak, Pat Przeslawski

Absent: Eric Lawson (excused), Judy Hutchins (excused)

Staff & Guests: Dayna Barbeau, Carolyn Bruning, LeeAnn Bushey, Lynne Fredlund, Deb Hemgesberg, Cheryl Jaworowski, Ed LaFramboise, Cathy Meske, Nena Sork

III. Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes

2. Contracts

a. Clubhouse Lease Renewal

b. Dewar Home Lease Renewal

Moved by Roger Frye, supported Linda Canfield, 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. Educational Session – Olmstead Act/Residential Placement

Ed LaFramboise provided an introduction to the Olmstead Act and the intent of the Act. He noted Northeast has worked diligently to assure placements of those we serve are in the community if at all possible. Deb Hemgesberg and Nena Sork were introduced noting they participate in the Olmstead Committee at the Regional Entity level.

Deb Hemgesberg provided a brief summary of the Supreme Court decision related to community placements. She reported those individuals placed in their community and allowed to make their own decisions as to what time they wish to go to bed, where they want to live, what they want to eat, etc. have much better outcomes.

Nena Sork reports she is the Chair for the Olmstead Committee at NMRE. She captures the data of those placed outside the northern 21 counties noting Entity-wide there are approximately 150 individuals placed outside their communities for various reasons. NeMCMHA currently has 16 individuals placed outside the region, and of those 16 many have moved due to their choice to be closer to family. In addition, some individuals placed outside their community have been there many years and consider their current location as their community. There are approximately six or seven individuals this agency is actively pursuing a transfer back to their community.

Nena reports some individuals may be placed due to specialized needs, especially for those with any aggressive behaviors. In those cases, facilities having 24-hour awake staffing are needed and these services are just not available locally. Most of the residential options in the local community are small family-run foster care homes.

Nena provided a cost comparison with current costs with placement versus providing direct care services for those same individuals one-on-one noting those could range over \$1M. She also notes those individuals with Criminal Sexual Conduct charges are also mandated to have 24-hour awake care.

Judy Hutchins arrived at 3:20 p.m.

Deb Hemgesberg reports the residential settings must be integrated settings in order to use federal waiver dollars. These changes can be problematic as all the homes we directly operate are segregated settings by definition as all residents within the home are those with a developmental disability. These settings will need to assure choice is provided to residents as far as food choice, access choice, etc. and choice is documented. Ms. Hemgesberg noted this Agency must be compliant by 2019. Consumer choice as to which staff provide their services can be an issue in our group homes due to union contracts. Ed LaFramboise provided data related to the numbers we have transitioned to independent settings versus group home settings. This is a clear indication of the community focus we have on the individuals served. He notes the Mental Health Code focuses on using the least restrictive environment and sometimes a parent or guardian might not be comfortable with those services and want to have something more restrictive.

Nena Sork reported the Olmstead Committee meets monthly and really focuses on and trains staff to assure the individuals served are encouraged to provide input into their services.

Nena Sork suggested consideration be made for long range planning as to how to develop these needed services so individuals can remain in their community when placements are needed rather than having to be placed downstate. The demand is low in our region which complicates the development of those resources; however, we need to figure out a way to address the Olmstead Act requirements. This might require an RFP be issued to determine if there would be a private entity willing to develop the services.

Ed LaFramboise reported along with residential placements, the day program activities in segregated settings are also affected by this Act. Many of the community mental health boards still pay for services in sheltered workshops. He notes we still utilize NEMROC but only to provide community-based services.

Gary Nowak requested a moment of silence to acknowledge the passing of Pat Przeslawski's mother.

VI. July Monitoring Reports

1. Budgeting 01-004

Cheryl Jaworowski reviewed the Statement of Revenue and Expenses for months ending April 30, 2015 and May 31, 2015. She noted both months are similar and reviewed the May report. She reported, at this point in the fiscal year, we have a net income of \$139,113. She reports the MIChild fund is in a deficit position and notes the June revenues have made it whole.

Ed LaFramboise and Cheryl Jaworowski noted the Per Member per Month (PMPM) is very close at this point. Cheryl reports this makes developing the budget for next fiscal year much easier.

2. Asset Protection 01-007

Board members received this monitoring with their packet addressing Asset Protection. There were no questions related to the report.

3. Community Resources 01-010

Board members received this monitoring with their packet addressing Community Resources. There were no questions related to the report.

Moved by Marie LaLonde, supported by Alan Fischer, to accept the July monitoring reports as presented. Motion carried.

VII. Board Policy Review and Self Evaluation

1. Community Resources 01-010

The policy was reviewed and no changes were recommended.

2. Public Hearing 02-010

Board members reviewed the policy and recommended no changes. Ed LaFramboise reported a public hearing was held earlier this year when the annual assessment report was compiled. He notes this was probably our most well attended public hearing in quite some time.

VIII. Linkage Reports

1. Northern Michigan Regional Entity (NMRE) Update

a. Regional Board Meetings

i. June 24, 2015

Gary Nowak reported the meeting addressed appointments to the MACMHB Executive Board and Steering Committees. Issues associated with one Board making business difficult were discussed. Ed LaFramboise provided some basis of the strong feelings of that board and the lawsuits filed back many years ago which has caused them to be cautious in any of their transactions.

ii. May 27, 2015

The minutes of the May 27th meeting were included in the mailing.

2. MACMHB

a. Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs) Technical Consultation Service

Ed LaFramboise reported Michigan has chosen to apply for one of the 25 grants which will be awarded. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services has requested assistance from the MACMHB to submit this grant on behalf of Michigan. He notes this is very important to the future of Community Mental Health and the possibilities of becoming a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic.

Moved by Judy Hutchins, supported by Terry Larson to approve the Special Assessment of \$1,500 to the Michigan Association of Community Mental Health Boards as presented. Roll call: Ayes: Linda Canfield, Bonnie Cornelius, Alan Fischer, Roger Frye, Judy Hutchins, Judy Jones, Albert LaFleche, Marie LaLonde, Terry Larson, Gary Nowak, Pat Przeslawski; Nays: None; Absent: Eric Lawson. Motion carried.

Linda Canfield inquired as to who was writing the grant. The grant would be written and submitted by the Department with assistance from the MACMHB. Ed LaFramboise provided some background noting if the State is awarded one of the grant awards, there will need to be two pilot boards identified – one urban and one rural.

3. Consumer Advisory Council Update

The minutes of the Consumer Advisory Council were included in the mailing. Judy Hutchins notes she has heard some of the concerns at the Drop-In Center related to issues with conservators and payees which were also captured in the minutes of this meeting.

IX. Chair's Report

1. Planning for the CEO Evaluation

The last couple of years, Board members completed input forms to help Ed LaFramboise know what his strengths or weaknesses could be. This form will be sent out again this year.

2. Employee Recognition Luncheons

Board members were requested to make their reservations should they wish to attend.

X. Director's Report

Ed LaFramboise reported a small contingent of staff have met and visited with the Thunder Bay Community Health Services in Atlanta to assess a property for use in Atlanta for office space. The Department of Health and Human Services office in Atlanta will be closing. They are in need of office space as well. This would provide for a shared office at an extremely reasonable price. This will allow us to provide services in Atlanta in outpatient therapy, case management, autism services, etc.

He notes in Presque Isle County, the DHHS office will also close and a proposal was made to them for office space in our Rogers City office. After determining the cost of space, the State informed DHHS the cost was too expensive. Marie LaLonde noted the Millersburg School or the third floor of the county building might be options for the local DHHS office.

Ed LaFramboise reports the Clinical Services and Supports report is not available due to a staff illness.

Ed LaFramboise reports we are in discussions with a Nurse Practitioner, PhD and we are in the process of working to develop a contract for Dr. Helena Vassis. Clinical staff are meeting with her on July 29th. These services will be developed as telepsychiatry through AuSable Valley.

Cathy Meske provided information related to the Autism expansion. Autism Program success stories were shared noting we have one program graduate already who is three years old.

Ed LaFramboise reports General Funds dollars are given to the Agency in two streams. One stream, the State Purchase of Services dollars will be taken back by the State effective October 1, 2015. We will still be billed for 10% of costs associated with the County's share of state facility costs. He reported the issue associated with this is previously if the Agency did not need all these dollars to cover state facility billings, we could transfer these dollars to community services or carry forward dollars. This will no longer be available. The dollar amount on these funds is about \$250,000. Ed LaFramboise reports our General Fund budget is looking good still and we may again want to consider the transfer of some dollars to other agencies in need.

XI. Information and/or Comments from the Public

Pat Przeslawski inquired about some of the Agency's conference rooms dedicated for previous staff members. Ed LaFramboise reported one conference room in the south wing was named after Fran Mattson, long-term employee in the DD Division. Pat Przeslawski inquired as to whether anything was done as a memorial for Carol Meske. Ed LaFramboise reported he will have a discussion related to this. Cathy Meske reported while this would be a nice tribute, it is more important to be able to obtain reports Carol used to provide.

Cheryl Jaworowski informed Board members of a meeting held with the VFW in Harrisville in which we were notified the VFW Post is potentially disbanding. If this happens, the building will revert to the City of Harrisville which may involve a new lease with the City versus VFW.

Ed LaFramboise reported union negotiations have begun with the professional and paraprofessional union. He cautioned Board members not to engage in discussions between any staff or union representatives.

XII. Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health Authority Board will be held Thursday, August 13, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. in the Board Room at the Alpena Office.

1. Set August Agenda

The August agenda was reviewed.

2. Evaluation of Meeting

Pat Przeslawski and Roger Frye reported this was a good meeting.

XIII. Adjournment

Moved by Pat Przeslawski, supported by Albert LaFleche, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. This meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

[signed by Alan Fischer on 9/10/15]

Alan Fischer, Secretary

[signed by Gary Nowak on 8/13, 2015]

Gary Nowak, Chair

Diane Hayka
Recorder