

Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health Authority Board

Board Meeting

January 12, 2017

I. Call to Order

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

II. Seating of Board Members

Steve Dean, Alpena County, has been appointed to fill the remainder of Linda Canfield's term and then will begin a three-year term as of April 1, 2017. Mr. Dean provided a brief history and background.

III. Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum

Present: Lester Buza, Bonnie Cornelius, Steve Dean, Alan Fischer, Roger Frye, Judy Hutchins, Judy Jones, Albert LaFleche, Terry Larson, Eric Lawson, Gary Nowak, Pat Przeslawski

Absent:

Staff & Guests: Dennis Bannon, LeeAnn Bushey, Carolyn Bruning, Lynne Fredlund, Larry LaCross, Madeleine McConnell, Cathy Meske, Matt Muszynski, Nena Sork

IV. Pledge of Allegiance

Attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance as a group.

V. Appointment of Evaluator

Gary Nowak appointed Lester Buza as meeting evaluator.

VI. Information and/or Comments from the Public

There was no information or comments presented.

VII. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Roger Frye, supported by Eric Lawson, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

VIII. Educational Session – Medication Assisted Treatment

Cathy Meske introduced Madeleine McConnell, Catholic Human Services, to provide the educational session related to medication assisted treatment. Larry LaCross, Clinical Supervisor, and Matt Muszynski, Clinical Case Manager for the MAT program were also in attendance.

Ms. McConnell notes the Integrative Medication Assisted Treatment Program is operated by New Horizons Substance Use Recovery Network which is a partnership between Catholic Human Services, Alcona Health Center and Freedom Recovery Center. Madeleine reviewed the services provided by the program. She reports many of the services are provided at the Alcona Health Center (AHC) and AHC provides the nursing support services for this program. The individual served must have a primary care provider at the Alcona Health Center or establish with one prior to beginning this program. The individual must meet the criteria for a substance use disorder. The Freedom Recovery Center meets with individuals at least once a month. The individual is subject to random medication counts and drug screens to determine compliance with the program and assure medications are not be sold to others. Various medications are used to address withdrawal symptoms.

A summary of the medications used (Buprenorphine, Suboxone, Zubsolv and Vivitrol) and how the medication works was reviewed.

Currently, there are 81 active patients enrolled in the program. This program is federally sponsored. Madeleine provided different scenarios on treatment noting each person has a different length of recovery period.

Terry Larson reported judges have expressed concerns of individuals receiving this medication for treatment and their selling of the medication. Madeleine reported the medications are prescribed as 30-day prescriptions. If there are situations where this might be concern, they may do a weekly distribution. She reported there are random checks to verify drug counts during the treatment process so misuse of the medication is normally caught early on.

Madeleine reported alcohol abuse is also treated through medication assistance. She reports there is an injection effective to treat the cravings for alcohol. This medication is non-addictive and not habit forming. Vivitrol is the preferred medication for this type of treatment.

Madeleine reported for those individuals who are discharged from the program due to compliance, referral may be made to an inpatient setting or through Catholic Human Services. Participation in the program requires the individual to be vested in recovery processes.

The program is a covered benefit under most insurance plans. If an individual does not have insurance, there is an individual at Alcona Health Center to assist the individual in qualifying for Medicaid. The doctor's visits are covered under the grant and the medications would be charged to the individual's insurance policy.

Pat Przeslawski noted she has heard the phrase "relapse is part of recovery" many times. Madeleine provided explanation of the challenges involved in recovery.

IX. January Monitoring Reports

1. Budgeting 01-004

This monitoring report was presented to the Board at their December meeting for the month ending October 31, 2016. The November financial reports are not yet available.

2. Emergency Executive Succession 01-006

This monitoring report remains unchanged from the August revision presented after the new Director was in place.

Moved by Judy Hutchins, supported by Albert LaFleche, to accept the January monitoring reports as presented. Motion carried.

X. Board Policies Review

1. Emergency Executive Succession 01-006

Board members reviewed the policy and recommended no revisions.

2. Chief Executive Role 03-001

Board members reviewed the policy and recommended no revisions.

XI. Linkage Reports

1. MACMHB

a. Winter Conference (Feb 7 & 8 – Radisson Hotel Kalamazoo)

Judy Hutchins, Judy Jones, Alan Fischer, Roger Frye, and Steve Dean expressed interest in attending the conference. Diane Hayka will make necessary arrangements

noting hotel accommodations were not secured in advance due to non-attendance in the previous fiscal year.

b. Funding of Michigan’s Mental Health System

Included in the Board mailing was a flyer entitled “How we are Funded.” Cathy Meske noted this is a good depiction of how the funding flows for the community mental health system in Michigan.

2. Northern Michigan Regional Entity

a. Board Meeting Update – December 28, 2016

Gary Nowak reported Dave Schneider has resigned his position to take a position at the State of Michigan in early March. Cathy provided some input to Dave’s new position. Gary Nowak reported a committee of the whole will be meeting to work on his replacement. Board members of the NMRE all expressed their concern of the knowledge that will be lost.

b. Board Meeting Update – November 23, 2016

The minutes of the November 23, 2016 meeting were included in the mailing.

XII. Chair’s Report

1. By-Law Review

Gary Nowak reviewed the proposed revisions to the by-laws. A grammatical correction was made to the new language. *Moved by Eric Lawson, supported by Judy Hutchins, to approve the revisions to the By-laws as corrected.* Motion carried.

Eric Lawson reported at many Boards operate in different methods. He notes some areas of “Robert’s Rules” are not always followed as written. Gary Nowak reported the Carver model is also followed in a revised format. This may be worth looking at further to assure what is written is what is practiced.

Pat Przeslawski reported CARF has always given the Board great reviews in the model of governance used.

XIII. Director’s Report

Section 298 Update

Cathy Meske reported the Section 298 process has been completed and compiled. The facilitator group will now review the comments. She reports she did respond to this survey. She noted she only responded to the comments of the advocates. She reported 81.8% of the respondents believe the behavioral health service provision should remain within the community mental health organization. The responses will be compiled and the State has offered to develop models to enhance the provision of behavioral health services.

Cathy Meske reports she was approached by AuSable Valley to partner with them along with District Health #2 and #4 working with Saginaw Valley State University to provide clinical nurse practitioner services through a telehealth arrangement. A piece of equipment would need to be purchased. This equipment reportedly has a camera and aids in interviewing and diagnosis of the individual served. This equipment can be transported to a person’s home or other office. This collaboration would be through a grant application. The timeline for this application would be the concept paper is due by February 3, and the notification of award will be in March.

Home and Community Based transition

Cathy Meske reported some providers still do not have access to the provider survey for the Phase II of this transition process. There is an established protocol for readiness and compliance for the transition. A compliance tool has been developed to assist in this process.

Healthy Michigan

618,000 Michiganders have been provided the opportunity to have insurance through the Healthy Michigan initiative. Cathy Meske reports there is a forum scheduled next week in Washington DC. An individual receiving services through the Healthy Michigan Plan has volunteered to testify on how the availability of this coverage has helped him. He is waiting to hear if he has been accepted.

Up North Learning Collaborative

Cathy Meske reports Northeast is partnering with the DHSS staff from Alcona, Alpena and Montmorency to provide trauma assessments for children in foster care or who have been referred to Child and Protective Services. The children will initially be assessed by the DHSS using the "Children's Trauma Assessment Center (CTAC) Trauma Screening Checklist: Identifying Children at Risk" and if the screening scores are high in several areas, the child will be referred to Northeast and will receive a more in depth trauma-focused assessment and treatment referral/services. DHSS has received funding to work with the Children's Trauma Assessment Center in the Up North Learning Collaborative, and have included Northeast and the School Success Program in this project. Cathy Meske reports it is expected this process will provide earlier assessment and treatment and will have a positive impact on children.

Terry Larson inquired as to whether Presque Isle can get involved in this group. Nena reported she did a presentation in Cheboygan and the Presque Isle workers and explained how the referral process would be should a child in Presque Isle need trauma services.

Merit Update

Cathy Meske reported a 10-year anniversary celebration for Merit was held in November and staff met Eric Grandstaff, Alexis Kaczynski's husband. He informed staff of the availability of Universal Service Funds (USF) to offset some connectivity fees in rural areas. We will be working with a consultant to file an application to receive some of the funds credited for our lines.

Michigan Health Endowment Fund

Cathy Meske reported she has received a contact from the Michigan Health Endowment Fund alerting us to the possibility of applying for the 2017 Behavioral Health grant through an RFP process.

QI Council

Lynne Fredlund reported the auditors are in the process of conducting a compliance audit and will be returning next Wednesday to start the financial audit.

A delegated function audit is being conducted by the NMRE.

XIV. Next Meeting – Thursday, February 9, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health Authority Board will be held Thursday, February 9, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.

1. Set February Agenda

The Agenda for February was reviewed. The nominations committee will meet just prior to the March meeting to determine their slate of officers for the 2017-2018 term.

2. Meeting Evaluation

Lester Buza reported the meeting was on time and the presentation was very informative. New member was introduced and will be a very good asset to the Board. Lester Buza reported the educational session and the director's report was very informational.

XV. Information and/or Comments from the Public

Judy Hutchins inquired as to whether there is any action around the state to expand services to provide co-occurring disorder residential treatment. She reported Rose Hill Center has just begun a program. Cathy Meske reported Hope Network and Sunrise Centre provide services but the detox must be completed.

Eric Lawson noted recently he had heard information related to co-occurring disorders. Cathy Meske reported this Agency, NMRE and Alcona Health all provide services for co-occurring disorders. There are not always services available for individuals as described.

The organizational structure and introduction of department heads would be a good educational session for the next meeting.

XVI. Adjournment

Moved by Pat Przeslawski, supported by Judy Jones, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. This meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

[signed by Alan Fischer on 2/09/17]
Alan Fischer, Secretary

[signed by Gary Nowak on 2/09/17]
Gary Nowak, Chair

Diane Hayka
Recorder