Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health Authority Board
Board Meeting – April 9, 2026

I. **Call to Order**
Chair Eric Lawson called the meeting to order in the Board Room at 3:01 p.m.

II. **Seating of Board Members**
Eric seated Bonnie Cornelius, Lynnette Grzeskowiak, and Lloyd Peltier for new three-year terms.

III. **Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum**

Present:	Bonnie Cornelius, Jennifer Graham, Lynnette Grzeskowiak, Charlotte Helman, Dana Labar, Eric Lawson, Kara Bauer LeMonds, Lloyd Peltier, Anne Ryan, Terry Small
Absent:	Bob Adrian
Staff & Guests:	Carolyn Bruning, Rebekah Duhaime, Erin Fletcher, John Galarza, Genny Grimshaw, Jared Kendziorski, Jason Lepper, Mikki Manion, Nena Sork, Kara Steinke, Jen Walburn

IV. **Pledge of Allegiance**
Attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance as a group.

V. **Appointment of Evaluator**
Lloyd was appointed as evaluator of the meeting.

VI. **Acknowledgement of Conflict of Interest**
No conflicts of interest were acknowledged.

VII. **Information and/or Comments from the Public**
Nothing was presented.

VIII. **Election of Officers**
Eric reviewed the Nominations Committee's recommendations that he remain as Chair, Lloyd Peltier as Vice Chair, and Bonnie Cornelius as Secretary, as well as their recommendation of Charlotte Helman as the Member At Large on the Executive Committee, which will take the place of the Past Chair role.

Eric asked three times for any additional nominations for Chair. None were voiced and nominations were closed.

Terry Small made a motion, supported by Dana Labar, to elect Eric Lawson as Chair of the NeMCMHA Board. Roll Call: Ayes: Bonnie Cornelius, Jennifer Graham, Lynnette Grzeskowiak, Charlotte Helman, Dana Labar, Eric Lawson, Kara Bauer LeMonds, Lloyd Peltier, Anne Ryan, Terry Small; Nays: None. Absent: Bob Adrian. Motion carried.

Eric asked three times for any additional nominations for Vice Chair. None were voiced and nominations were closed.

Dana Labar made a motion, supported by Lynnette Grzeskowiak, to elect Lloyd Peltier as Vice Chair of the NeMCMHA Board. Roll Call: Ayes: Bonnie Cornelius, Jennifer Graham, Lynnette Grzeskowiak, Charlotte Helman, Dana Labar, Eric Lawson, Kara Bauer LeMonds, Lloyd Peltier, Anne Ryan, Terry Small; Nays: None. Absent: Bob Adrian. Motion carried.

Eric asked three times for any additional nominations for Executive Committee Member At Large. None were voiced and nominations were closed.

Kara Bauer LeMonds made a motion, supported by Lynnette Grzeskowiak, to elect Charlotte Helman as Executive Committee Member At Large of the NeMCMHA Board Executive Committee. Roll Call: Ayes: Bonnie Cornelius, Jennifer Graham, Lynnette Grzeskowiak, Charlotte Helman, Dana Labar, Eric Lawson, Kara Bauer LeMonds, Lloyd Peltier, Anne Ryan, Terry Small; Nays: None. Absent: Bob Adrian. Motion carried.

Eric asked three times for any additional nominations for Secretary. None were voiced and nominations were closed.

Lynnette Grzeskowiak made a motion, supported by Lloyd Peltier, to elect Bonnie Cornelius as Secretary of the NeMCMHA Board. Roll Call: Ayes: Bonnie Cornelius, Jennifer Graham, Lynnette Grzeskowiak, Charlotte Helman, Dana Labar, Eric Lawson, Kara Bauer LeMonds, Lloyd Peltier, Anne Ryan, Terry Small; Nays: None. Absent: Bob Adrian. Motion carried.

IX. <u>Approval of Minutes</u>

Moved by Terry Small, supported by Lynnette Grzeskowiak, to approve the minutes of the March Board meeting. Motion carried.

X. <u>Audit Reports: Financial and Compliance</u>

Chelsea McConnell from Straley, Lamp & Kraenzlein PC presented the Board with their FY25 Financial and Compliance Audit reports. She reviewed the audited financial statements, required communications, compliance, internal control, and analytics. She was pleased to report that the Agency was issued an unmodified, or “clean,” opinion for both the financial and compliance audits. Chelsea provided a condensed Statement of Net Position, which showed that current assets have increased due to the aggregate increase in cash and decrease in accounts receivable. Liabilities were consistent with the prior fiscal year. There was a positive increase in net position. The current ratio is 1.96, indicating financial health. The number of days of expenses in an unrestricted net position is at 40, an increase from 31 days in FY24.

XI. <u>April Monitoring Reports</u>

1.Budgeting 01-004

Jared Kendziorski reviewed the Statement of Revenue and Expense and Change in Net Position for the month ending February 28, 2026, with 41.67% of the year elapsed. Jared detailed line items with negative variances and noted that expenses are trending positively as compared to revenue for the month. Medicaid and Healthy Michigan funds are underspent by $1.7 million and General Funds are underspent by $120,005 after the PA423 amount is charged to General Funds. Behavioral Health Home has a net positive amount of $57,428.

2. Communication and Counsel 01-009

Boad members reviewed the monitoring report and did not have any questions.

Moved by Lloyd Peltier, supported by Bonnie Cornelius, to accept the April Monitoring Reports. Motion carried.

XII. <u>Board Policies Review</u>

1. Financial Condition 01-005

The Board reviewed the policy and asked for clarification on bullet #1. This will be on the May agenda for review.

2. Communication and Counsel to the Board 01-009

The Board reviewed the policy and agreed that it looks good as-is.

3. Governing Style 02-002

Board members believe they are following the policy as written. Rebekah Duhaime will research whether any new Carver Policy Governance materials are available.

4. Cost of Governance 02-013
This policy is revised every year to reflect current budgeted dollar amounts.

Moved by Terry Small, supported by Lloyd Peltier, to approve the revisions to the Cost of Governance Policy. Motion carried.

XIII. Linkage Reports

1. NMRE Board
Dana reported that Chip Johnston, Executive Director of Centra Wellness Network, announced his upcoming retirement. Nena will be bringing him to Alpena to offer his Red Book training on the history of the CMH system. Eric reported that there is an issue with liquor tax funding, as the State is withholding some of the counties' payouts. While they may have the right to withhold the funds, they don't usually hold so much back.

2. Advisory Council
Anne Ryan reported it was a short meeting, and they didn't have a quorum. They reviewed the upcoming NMRE Day of Education, which Board members received a flyer for today. Their next meeting will be the combined meeting in June with the full Board.

XIV. Operations Report

Erin Fletcher reported on operations for the month of March. Crisis Services served 39 individuals, a jump from 28 in February. It's not uncommon to see the numbers increase this time of year, as spring can be difficult for individuals with mood disorders. Home-based services and outpatient counseling are both onboarding new clinicians. The total of unduplicated individuals served in March was 969.

XV. Board Chair's Report

1. Section 222 & Conflict of Interest Forms
Eric asked that Board members complete their forms and return them to Rebekah.

2. Establishment of Regular Meeting Date
The current meeting time of 3:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month will be kept.

3. Appointment of Standing Committees
Committee appointments for Recipient Rights and Advisory Council will remain the same. Charlotte was appointed to the Nominations Committee to ensure Montmorency County has representation.

4. CMHA Summer Conference
The conference will be on June 9 and 10, with voting on June 8.

XVI. Executive Director's Report

Nena reported that the power outage from the ice storm closed all offices on Monday, March 16. The main office was able to resume operations on Tuesday, but the Fletcher, Hillman, and Rogers City offices were without power for longer.

She reviewed her activities for the month, including meetings attended and internal work groups. Nena discussed the handout the Board received regarding a resolution to accept boilerplate language for the Rural and Frontier Caucus.

Bonnie Cornelius made a motion, supported by Lloyd Peltier, to adopt the Resolution to Protect Rural Access to Behavioral Health Services by adopting Proposed FY 2027 Boilerplate Language. Roll Call: Ayes: Bonnie Cornelius, Jennifer Graham, Lynnette Grzeskowiak, Charlotte Helman, Dana Labar, Eric Lawson, Kara Bauer LeMonds, Lloyd Peltier, Anne Ryan, Terry Small; Nays: None. Absent: Bob Adrian. Motion carried.

The Board received a flyer for the fourth annual Mental Health Movement 2K | 5K | 10K Run-Walk on Saturday, May 16.

XVII. <u>Information and/or Comments from the Public</u>

Kara Steinke recognized Training Coordinator, Genny Grimshaw, who will be retiring in May after 20 years with the Agency.

XVIII. <u>Information and/or Comments for the Good of the Organization</u>

Dana shared appreciation for all the hard work that went into the audit.

Kara shared that Partners in Prevention won a grant for sequential intercept mapping, which will be a cheat sheet for first responders regarding available services and protocols.

XIX. <u>Next Meeting</u>

The next meeting of the NeMCMHA Board is scheduled for Thursday, May 14, 2026, at 3:00 p.m.

1. May Agenda Items

The May agenda items were reviewed. Eric will not be in attendance and Lloyd will chair the meeting.

XX. <u>Meeting Evaluation</u>

Lloyd felt Board members came prepared to govern and they were afforded opportunities to contribute. He said this is one of the best boards he sits on. He was satisfied with what the Board accomplished and is proud of the work staff put into the audit. He encouraged Board members to attend the conference, as he always gets so much out of attending.

XXI. <u>Adjournment</u>

Moved by Lynnette Grzeskowiak, supported by Lloyd Peltier, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

This meeting adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

[Signed by Bonnie Cornelius on May 14, 2026]
Bonnie Cornelius, Secretary

[Signed by Lloyd Peltier on May 14, 2026]
Lloyd Peltier, Vice Chair