

**Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health Authority
Board and Advisory Council Meeting – June 11, 2026**

I. Call to Order

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

II. Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum

Present: **[Board]** Bob Adrian, Bonnie Cornelius, Jennifer Graham, Lynnette Grzeskowiak, Charlotte Helman, Dana Labar, Eric Lawson, Lloyd Peltier, Anne Ryan, Terry Small.
 [Advisory Council] Kathleen Destromp, Janet Freeman, Heather Miller, Rebecca Stockford
Absent: Angela Lane, Kara Bauer LeMonds (Excused), Deanna Yates (Excused)
Staff & Guests: Alan Bolter, Connie Cadarette, Rebekah Duhaime, Erin Fletcher, Nancy Kearly, Jason Lepper, Jared Kendziorski, Nena Sork, Kara Steinke, Jen Walburn

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance as a group.

IV. Appointment of Evaluator

Jennifer Graham was appointed as evaluator of the meeting.

V. Acknowledgement of Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were acknowledged.

VI. Information and/or Comments from the Public

Lloyd Peltier shared that Janet Freeman is the Chair of the Advisory Council.

VII. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Charlotte Helman, supported by Lynnette Grzeskowiak, to approve the minutes of the May Board meeting. Motion carried.

VIII. Educational Session: CMHA Spring Updates with Alan Bolter

Alan Bolter is the new CEO of the CMHA, which he has been with since 2009. He reviewed the upcoming elections in Michigan, which will include Governor, U.S. Senate, U.S. House, Secretary of State, Attorney General, and the entire legislature (Senate and House).

Alan reported that the State Budget Office is projecting about \$1.2 billion less in FY27 as compared to FY26. Inflation and policy uncertainty remain major risks. Over the last month, the House Oversight Subcommittee on the Child Welfare System has held public hearings that were very one-sided. The public hearings included providers and individuals served who were critical of the public mental health system. Alan met with the Chair of the Subcommittee to provide information to refute some of the claims made during the hearings.

He briefly reviewed CMHA's opposition to the Mental Health Framework, as it would add obstacles and red tape for individuals served and providers. There is also a rumor that MDHHS will be issuing a new RFP in another attempt to privatize the public mental health system. While much of the conversation regarding the Mental Health Framework relies on the State's message that individuals aren't being evaluated in a timely matter, the actual problem is the lack of psychiatric beds to then move individuals to.

Alan discussed H.R.1 implementation, which is about work requirements for individuals on certain Medicaid plans. Estimates show that 200,000 Michiganders will lose their coverage. Medicaid redeterminations are also an ongoing issue, as they are now required to be done every six months instead of annually.

- IX. Consent Agenda**
1. HR Cloud
Moved by Bob Adrian, supported by Lynnette Grzeskowiak, to accept the June Consent Agenda. Roll Call: Ayes: Bob Adrian, Bonnie Cornelius, Jennifer Graham, Lynnette Grzeskowiak, Charlotte Helman, Dana Labar, Eric Lawson, Lloyd Peltier, Anne Ryan, Terry Small; Nays: None. Absent: Kara Bauer LeMonds. Motion carried.
- X. June Monitoring Reports**
1. Budgeting 01-004
Connie reviewed the Statement of Revenue and Expense and Change in Net Position for the month ending April 30, 2026, with 58.33% of the year elapsed. Medicaid is underspent by \$1.8 million and Healthy Michigan is overspent by \$100,622, for a total underspent amount of \$1.7 million. General Funds are underspent by \$28,208. Behavioral Health Home is underspent by \$76,443, which can be kept as local funds. The Agency currently has 42 days of cash.

Connie shared that the Agency's auditors, Straley, Lamp & Kraenzlein, were audited by the State, and they received a letter back commending them on their work being comprehensive and well-organized.
- XI. Strategic Plan & Ends Review**
Eric reviewed the FY26 Strategic Plan with the Board and Advisory Council. The Board would like verbiage added for clarity on the first goal regarding metabolic syndrome. The Ends Monitoring Report numbers were included in a handout for the Board, which they reviewed with the Strategic Plan. Nena will discuss the Ends with applicable supervisors, to see what numbers they would like to update. Suggested revisions will be brought to the Board at their July meeting.
- XII. Linkage Reports**
1. NMRE Board
Eric shared further information on H.R.1, which would require enrollees to participate in 80 hours of work, school, or volunteering over one month. Non-compliance would lead to a loss of Medicaid coverage. The new rules would greatly increase the workload at local MDHHS offices and add administrative burden.

2. CMHA Summer Conference
Bonnie greatly enjoyed the conference and hopes that those who haven't gone are able to adjust their schedules and attend.
- XIII. Operations Report**
Erin Fletcher reported on operations for the month of May. Older Adult Services (OAS) served 62 individuals, MI Adult served 71, and I/DD served 141. The total of unduplicated individuals served was 994.
- XIV. Board Chair's Report**
1. NeMCMHA Annual Report
The annual report will be available at the July Board meeting.

2. Continued Discussion of Meeting Evaluation Form/Format
After discussion with other directors and boards at the recent conference, Dana and Nena confirmed that the NeMCMHA Board is functioning and evaluating itself at a high level. Multiple Board members shared that this is the only Board they have been on that does a self-evaluation. Board members discussed options for improving the process, including rotating questions or decreasing the frequency of evaluations. The evaluation could be done during months with a lighter agenda and then Eric could present the results during his Board Chair's Report the following month. This discussion will be continued next month.

XV. Executive Director's Report

Nena reported on her activities for the last month, including chairing the CMHA Member Services Committee where they were planning for the conference. The Mental Health Movement had 205 participants this year, even in pouring rain. State Representative Cam Cavitt met with Nena at the Agency to discuss rural issues, and he was impressed with the SIP Monitoring Room after visiting it. Dr. Thibault also discussed the court order monitoring program with him. Nena and Kara Steinke attended the Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) meeting with Partners in Prevention. The Agency was nominated by Light of Hope Clubhouse for Employer of the Year, and Nena and Kara traveled to Lansing to accept the award from Representative Cavitt.

Nena discussed that Alcona County has the highest rate of suicide per capita for Michigan. The majority were men over the age of 60. There is a new senior center in Alcona, and she is working on how to support it. She is also on the NAMI Board, which was recently recognized as a state award winner.

XVI. Information and/or Comments from the Public

Nothing was presented.

XVII. Information and/or Comments for the Good of the Organization

Kathleen Destromp reported on the NMRE's Day of Education in May. The keynote speakers talked about Clubhouse and its benefits. Due to funding, the Day of Education will now only happen once per year. She is also helping to get the NMRE's Advisory Council back up and running.

XVIII. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the NeMCMHA Board is scheduled for Thursday, July 9, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. The next meeting of the NeMCMHA Advisory Council is scheduled for Monday, August 10, at 4:30 p.m.

1. Proposed July Agenda Items

The July agenda items were reviewed.

XIX. Meeting Evaluation

Jennifer felt Board members came prepared to govern, they were afforded opportunities to contribute, the provided materials were sufficient, and she was satisfied with what the Board accomplished. She felt the educational session was extremely informative and eye-opening. She shared that June is Men's Mental Health Month, and that she would be open to a discussion about how she could be a resource for those in Alcona who are suicidal.

XX. Adjournment

Moved by Jennifer Graham, supported by Lynnette Grzeskowiak, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

This meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

[Signed by Bonnie Cornelius on July 9, 2026]

Bonnie Cornelius, Secretary

[Signed by Eric Lawson on July 9, 2026]

Eric Lawson, Chair