

LENAWEE COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Minutes

March 3, 2010

Present: Ackley; Clites; Jackson; Keller; Martinez; Miley; Van Doren; Wilson
Absent: Bills; Smith; Welch; Zimmerman
Staff: Barrie; Berridge; Crosier; Dickson; Fronce; Keener; Kurtz; Lysaght;
Myers; Rawlings (Minutes); Reaume; Robb; Smith; Szewczuk;
Warren
Public: Feeney; Holden; Ostrander

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Ackley called the meeting to order at 4:15pm

POSITIONING THE COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM FOR THE FUTURE - DISCUSSION

Pat Barrie, Executive Director - WCHO, gave an overview of the current economic climate, the uncertainties we face going forward, the Governors budget proposal, and possibilities for short term appropriations and funding issues we could be facing particularly as we enter a season of mid-year elections and a lame duck Michigan legislature.

There is a growing population who cannot receive Medicaid however poor they are, as we see this number rising there is a reduction in General Fund dollars to help. Barrie believes that this situation is not something you can cut

your way out of, this would simply be engaging in self liquidation of the CMH system. Our efforts would be better directed towards looking at various waivers in order to federalize existing funds and to pursue the 1115 waiver.

Eric Kurtz discussed the Disease Management pilot which targets special needs populations and allows management and coordination of health care on an administrative basis. This pilot would also rely on relationships formed with community partners. It may be possible to take the pilot to all four partners. This would be an opportunity to help the Medicaid HMO population and act as a gap-filler.

Barrie discussed the benefits of integrating behavioral health and primary care, linking with the county health plan and partnering with Medicaid HMOs in the community. Existing good relationships could be built upon and expanded while still maintaining local control and budget authority. Jackson asked about being able to pull down enough money to cover the cost of such an approach. Barrie noted that we currently have a 65% match rate, the poorer you are the match rate goes up, as it is based on per capita income. Also the 1115 waiver does not have to be state-wide; it could be done by region and would need bi-partisan support. The WCHO is actively working with the University of Michigan and a consultant in this process. It was noted that Lenawee is already employing elements of Short Term Strategy #1.

MOTION by Jackson to support short term strategies 2, 2a, 3, 3a & 4 of the document "Positioning the Community Mental Health System for the Future".
SUPPORTED by Van Doren. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Barrie noted that if there is no action by the Department by April or May, a back up paper will be prepared by the WCHO. Van Doren thanked those concerned for all of the work that has gone into preparing us to face the future, and for Pat and Eric coming to Lenawee to explain it to us. Jackson recognizes that employees have gone without raises for quite a few years, and that we are doing everything we can to survive for the sake of our consumers.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:20pm.

/klr

Board Minutes
March 3, 2010
3

Scott Clites, Secretary

Date