



Lenawee Community Mental Health Authority

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Board Meeting Minutes

August 26, 2021

Present: J. Ackley; G. Adams; T. Kelly; J. Lapham; N. Smith (Tecumseh, MI); A. Palmer; D. Reed; H. Terrill (Addison, MI); N. Wilson

Absent: M. Jackson; E. Starlin; R. Tillotson

Staff: M. Austin; J. Bradley; T. Gerdeman; H. Owen; K. Szewczuk

Guests:

Public:

The August Board Meeting was held in the River Raisin Room of the Human Services Building. Board Members Smith and Terrill attended via phone due to quarantine restrictions.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:02 pm.

2. PREVIOUS MINUTES

MOTION BY J. LAPHAM to approve previous minutes dated July 29, 2021.

SUPPORTED BY N. WILSON. MOTION CARRIED.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

4. AWARDS & PRESENTATIONS

- Mary Austin, Integrated Health Nurse, was presented with her 5-year service award.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Personnel Committee

A. Palmer reported on this committee, which met on August 18.

- **MOTION BY T. KELLY** to approve a one-time performance pay of \$1500 for all full time staff, with a pro-rated amount approved for part-time or occasional staff, and a \$1000 financial incentive to all staff who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by October 8, 2021. **SUPPORTED BY J. ACKLEY. MOTION CARRIED.**

Vote

Yes: J. Ackley; G. Adams; T. Kelly; J. Lapham; A. Palmer; D. Reed; N. Smith; H. Terrill; N. Wilson

No:

Absent: M. Jackson; E. Starlin; R. Tillotson

- **MOTION BY N. SMITH** to approve for the current year, based on performance evaluation, to pay the \$2500 performance pay tax-deferred. For the upcoming year, October 2021-September 2022, an additional, one-time \$3000 COVID/retention performance pay. For the year October 2023-September 2024:
 1. \$139,207 x 2.5%
 2. \$10,000 to be invested in a tax-deferred account, with the option at the Board's discretion to pay an additional \$3,000 in a tax-deferred account, based on performance at September 30, 2024.

SUPPORTED BY D. REED. MOTION CARRIED.

Vote

Yes: J. Ackley; G. Adams; T. Kelly; J. Lapham; A. Palmer; D. Reed; N. Smith; H. Terrill; N. Wilson

No:

Absent: M. Jackson; E. Starlin; R. Tillotson

b. Operations & Budget Committee

N. SMITH reported on this committee, which met on August 18.

Data Reports

- In July there were 88 mental health inquiries. 17 were referred out and 69 intakes were scheduled. 2 refused at screening. 53 initial assessments were completed. 13 were found ineligible with 37 eligible and receiving services. 3 refused at intake. 54% Medicaid, 43% Healthy Michigan, 3% (2) General Fund.
- Substance use disorder inquiries in July totaled 38. 2 were youths (16 & 17). 1 was referred out with benefits, 2 did not return the call, and 4 refused or had no need (including the 17 year old). 31 were authorized and are receiving services. 6 Medicaid, 5 block grant and 20 Healthy Michigan.
- Inpatient Hospitalizations. There were 21 admitted to the hospital in July, 2 were children. 48% Medicaid, 52% Healthy Michigan, 0 General Fund. 33% had co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders and 48% were previously unknown to us. 7 reported the Family Medical Center as their primary care provider, 6 did not have a primary care physician. We were able to divert 3, 11 went in on petition, 2 were no shows for their follow up appointment.

Finance Report

In July we are 83% of the way through the year at 72% spent, 11% under budget. We saw a slight increase in autism services, and

community inpatient has realigned with the budget. We show being able to contribute \$181,000 to the fund balance, which is an increase of \$26,000 from June. Both wealth management accounts saw an increase, with the General fund account increasing overall for FY2021. **MOTION BY J. LAPHAM** to approve the finance report and additional vouchers totaling \$985,808.53. **SUPPORTED BY J. ACKLEY. MOTION CARRIED.**

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Kathryn continues to meet with the state twice a month. Recently, the state proposed two work groups to look at the ongoing staffing issues experienced by CMHs and providers. One group will look at working conditions, including the instability of the system, paperwork requirements, and COVID and other health and safety concerns. The second group will look at financial considerations, including supports for direct care workers (such as health care, child care, loan repayment, etc.) and unintended consequences of grants to other systems. The region will be represented at both of these work groups and Kathryn will participate in at least one of them.
- Representative Kahle rode along with one of our Case Managers to see two consumers, one who was doing well and one who is experiencing some challenges, and visited a group home with Holly. She expressed that she was struck by how much we do at CMH that can't be billed. Kathryn also met with her the following week and stressed that many of Representative Kahle's concerns with behavioral health system exist outside of the public system and are ultimately reflective more of the Medicaid Health Plans and commercial insurance. Kathryn offered to be part of a larger conversation about how to help people who might fall outside of the public behavioral health system. Chip Moore and Rod Pender attended Representative Kahle's golf outing with Bob Sheehan and Alan Bolter. Both Chip and Rod expressed interest in what they heard and reached out regarding what they might be able to do to advocate.
- The Region approved \$433,500 for provider stability in Lenawee. These funds must be used in relation to the labor shortage, including recruitment, retention, overtime, etc. The shortage has caused group home closings in other areas, but we haven't seen that in Lenawee yet. We have been providing additional supports to our group homes, including increased Case Manager contacts and providing PPE.
- Internally, we are doing what we can to recruit additional staff. We have received more applications and, ultimately, interviews, now that Case Managers are not required to hold a social work degree. We still have 15 to 16 open positions, but several have been filled.
- The Group Home tours are scheduled for Monday and Tuesday. Masks will be required for everyone going into the homes.
- The county's ARPA Funding Prioritization Survey has several questions about behavioral health. Kathryn had emailed Marty before the survey

was released, hoping to discuss this funding stream, but did not hear back. Lenawee County is expected to receive approximately \$16 million in ARPA funds.

- Senator Shirkey’s proposal is being reviewed in committee next week, but it’s not expected to be presented at a hearing until the fall. Several people have expressed to Kathryn their interest in testifying.

6. REPORT FROM BOARD CHAIR

- Planning for the eRace is going well. If Board Members are able to volunteer, please let Greg know. Nate will approach the Rotary Club about volunteers for the Kids’ Race. Registrations have picked up over the past month and have increased from approximately 50 to 250 online. There will be no day-of registration. The online registration allows for groups and we currently have 8 or 9 groups signed up. There is also one business that signed up as sponsoring their employees’ registration fees. Greg is going to five different service clubs over the coming weeks to discuss the Race, CMH, and mental health.

7. REPORT FROM REGIONAL BOARD

- The main discussion topic at the Regional Board was the provider stability payments. Overall, the Region is paying out approximately \$3.1 million.
- The Regional Board continues to meet via Zoom, as Washtenaw County’s state of emergency extends to the end of the year.

8. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

None

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY D. REED to adjourn the meeting. **SUPPORTED BY J. LAPHAM.**
MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 3:55 pm.

Secretary