



Lenawee Community Mental Health Authority

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Board Meeting Minutes

August 28, 2025

Present: A. Palmer; N. Wilson; J. Goetz; T. Kelly; J. Ackley; R. Tillotson; E. Starlin; N. Eaton-Gordon; N. Smith

Absent: D. Stimpson; H. Terrill;

Staff: K. Szewczuk; H. Owen; T. Good; N. Feller; B. Meads

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm by Amy Palmer, Board Chair.

2. **PREVIOUS MINUTES**

MOTION BY J. GOETZ to approve previous minutes dated July 31, 2025. **SUPPORTED BY N. EATON GORDON. MOTION CARRIED.**

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

4. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

b. **Operations & Budget Committee**

N. Smith reported on this committee which met on August 27, 2025.

1. **GF Contract**

Allocation for FY26 is \$1,397,326

MOTION BY N. SMITH to approve signing the GF Contract. **SUPPORT BY R. TILLOTSON. MOTION CARRIED.**

2. **236 Transfer**

Currently have excess in GF and Livingston is in deficit. There is enough GF to transfer \$400,000 to Livingston.

MOTION BY N. SMITH to approve the 236 Transfer **SUPPORT BY J. GOETZ. MOTION CARRIED.**

3. **Provider Stabilization Pass Through**

Region has Medicaid surplus to send to local providers. No Board action needed.

4. **CMHAM Special Assessment**

CMHAM is asking CMHs to consider a special assessment to pay for increased advocacy efforts, including litigation, lobbying and media efforts. We are able to contribute \$14,631.

MOTION BY N. EATON GORDON to approve the special assessment for the CMHAM increased advocacy funds. **SUPPORT BY N. WILSON. MOTION CARRIED.**

5. **New Furniture Quote**

We have very old furniture in need of replacement due to wear and tear – office desks and chairs for meeting rooms.

MOTION BY J. GOETZ to approve the furniture quote totaling \$45,148. **SUPPORT BY T. KELLY. MOTION CARRIED.**

6. **Data Report**

Kathryn reported that in July we had 87 mental health inquiries. 21 were referred out, 60 intakes were scheduled, 3 no needs identified, 3 did not return phone call. 53 initial assessments were completed with 8 found to be ineligible, 1 declined, 44 eligible and receiving services. 73% Medicaid, 18% Healthy Michigan, 9% (4) General Fund.

Substance use disorder inquiries in July totaled 54, 2 referred out – 1 had benefits available and 1 was not a Lenawee County resident, 3 had no needs identified, 2 declined. 47 were authorized. 22 Healthy Michigan, 22 Medicaid, 3 Block Grant.

Inpatient Hospitalizations – there were a total of 22 admitted to hospital in July. 73% Medicaid, 18% Healthy Michigan 9% General Fund. 45% had co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders. 68% were previously unknown to us. 7 reported the Family Medical Center as their primary health care provider, 6 with no primary healthcare provider. We were able to divert 4, 1 was authorized for partial hospitalization. 16 went in on petition. 2 no show for a follow up appointment- 1 we were unable to reach after multiple attempts, 1 rescheduled follow up appointment.

7. **Finance Report**

We are 75% through the fiscal year, at 66% spent, about 9% under budget. No outliers, trending similar to recent months. There will be a jump in Autism due to increase rates. At this time, we are showing being able to contribute around \$342,500 to the fund balance. Both investment accounts saw an increase.

MOTION BY N. EATON GORDON to approve the finance report and accounts payable report. **SUPPORTED BY N. SMITH. MOTION CARRIED.**

5. **AUTHORIZATION TO CHALLENGE MDHHS RFP**

Requesting authorization for LCMHA to participate in CMHAM efforts to stop MDHHS procurement, including litigation, if needed.

MOTION BY N WILSON to authorize LCMHA to participate in CMHAM efforts to stop MDHHS RFP, including litigation efforts if needed. **SUPPORTED BY N EATON GORDON. MOTION CARRIED.**

6. **REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

- MDHHS Director Elizabeth Hertel did a brief presentation to reiterate the intentions of the RFP, but is not able to provide details on how it will work.
- Lawsuits that will be submitted soon that may pause the procurement process.
- State House Budget was passed this week- it will still need to go through the Senate, where it will likely go through negotiations.
- One of our group home owners will be selling soon, we may see this with other owners.
- Overdose Awareness Day is on Sunday, there will be ribbons on the Old Courthouse Lawn.
- Town Hall to discuss Medicaid cuts and the RFP will be on Tuesday, September 16th from gam-11am at the Align Center. RSVPs are recommended due to limited space.

7. **REPORT FROM BOARD CHAIR**

Still looking for a new Board Member. The notice has been in the paper and is on the website. Judy Ackley agreed to join Operations and Budget Committee for the time being.

8. **REPORT FROM REGIONAL BOARD**

Continued discussions about the RFP - the proposed new Regional Board would have 15 members, and that CMHs will still need to do contracts for GF. James Colaianne discussed that CMHAM attorneys will be filing lawsuits in the next few days.

9. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Tim Kelly reported on The Bridging the Gap Committee.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:07 pm.

N. Smith
Secretary

Date