

**Newaygo County Mental Health**  
**Minutes of the Regular Meeting**  
**July 11, 2024**  
**10:05 a.m.**

**Call to Order/Welcome/Prayer**

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of Newaygo County Mental Health was called to order by Chair DeLaat at 10:05 a.m. on Thursday, July 11, 2024 in the Board Conference Room.

Member Kolk opened the meeting with prayer.

**Roll Call**

Members Present: Sarah Boluyt, Kathy Broome, Ken DeLaat, Catherine Kellerman, Bryan Kolk, Todd Koopmans, Wayne Mast, Michelle Petz, Tonya Prewitt, Lori Schultz and Helen Taube

Members Excused: Sue Twing

Others Present: Carol Mills, CEO; Denise Russo-Starback, Director of Clinical Services; Scott Woodside, Accountant and Shannon Woodside, recording secretary

Public: Chief Andres, Jennifer Beele and Tamara Kuhns

**Communications from the Public**

No communication from the public.

**Approval of Agenda**

**Motion** by Member Kolk, supported by Member Mast, to approve the agenda as presented. No discussion; motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Regular Minutes**

**Motion** by Member Kellerman, supported by Member Koopmans, to approve the minutes of the Regular Board meeting of June 13, 2024 as presented. No discussion; motion carried unanimously.

**Presentation**

Gabrielle Blackwell, Director of Empowerment Network shared the following with questions addressed.

- They are a resource center for people who live independently in the community or homeless.
- Help with networking with NCMH, COA, True North, Health Department. Services that will help them stay independently in their home.
- Help with food, contact with utility comp, paperwork, garden, cook, transportation

- Hygiene products, laundry, haircuts
- Outreach, socializing, crafts
- The store is doing great. Employs six interns
- Empowerment is 25 years old. They will be celebrating at their Halloween party October 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Great Lakes grant – they are in the top 10 for the area.

### **Directors Update**

Reviewed Director Mills written report with questions addressed. Board members have been invited to tour Laradel AFC home in Grant on August 8<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. This is the same day as the board meeting.

### *Waskul Settlement*

CMH's have been asked to join CMHA's objection to the proposed Waskul settlement. The full board agreed that Director Mills should submit the letter for objection.

### **Executive Committee**

Reviewed minutes from June 17, 2024 meeting.

### *Executive Director Evaluation*

**Motion** by Member Mast, supported by Member Broome, to approve the Executive Director's Evaluation. No discussion; motion carried unanimously.

### **Finance**

Check Register, Cash Statement, Budget to Actual, Medicaid Revenues and Paid Eligibles were reviewed with inquiries addressed by Scott Woodside, Accountant.

No meeting scheduled.

### **Policy Committee**

Reviewed minutes from June 27, 2024 meeting.

**Motion** by Member Mast, supported by Member Koopmans, to approve all policies and forms from June 27, 2024 meeting. Motion was modified to include additional language to policy 1.BOD.136. Discussion took place; motion carried unanimously.

### **Recipient Rights**

Next meeting is August 12, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

### **Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC)**

Next meeting is September 19, 2024 at 12:30 p.m. Lunch will be at 12:00 p.m.

### **Promotion & Education Committee**

Next meeting is July 30, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

### **Mid-State Health Network (MSHN)**

Member Delaat shared the following:

- Conflict Free and Access Planning
- Crisis house in Alma, Healthy Transitions

### **Community Mental Health Association (CMHA)**

Member Kellerman shared information on the following:

- Senate Bill 542 did not pass committee. This would open up portal to other overdose reversal products other than Narcan.
- Working on Open Meeting Acts to allow participation by remote vote
- Children's Issue meeting
- Enhanced behavioral work force
- School licensure to only have supervised hours and no testing. LARA is against this change.

### **Communications from the Public**

Ms. Kuhns spoke on behalf of her son with mental illness and their experience with CMH and the local authorities.

### **Adjournment**

**Motion** by Member Kolk, supported by Member Mast, to adjourn the meeting at 11:08 a.m.  
No discussion; motion carried unanimously.

  
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Ken DeLaat, Chair  
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Kathy Broome, Secretary