

**SAGINAW COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY
REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 12, 2022, 2022 – 5:15 PM
ROOM 190/191**

PRESENT: Mike Cierzniewski, Andrea Schrems, Deb Nagel, Joan Williams, Lisa Coney, Jane Sills, Robert Woods, Tracey Raquepaw, Jill Armentrout

ABSENT: Cym Winiecke, Steve Fresorger, John Pugh

GUESTS: Ann Finta, Patti Colpean

STAFF: Sandra Lindsey, Jan Histed, Tim Ninemire, Jen Kreiner, Dr. Ali Ibrahim, Ryan Mulder

I. CALL TO ORDER

Tracey Raquepaw, Chair called the meeting to order at 5:17 p.m. A quorum was established, and verification of posting was determined.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public comment.

III. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

A. Board Meeting – November 14, 2022

Motion made by RW and supported by MC to approve the November 14, 2022, SCCMHA Board Meeting minutes. Motion carried.

IV. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Recipient Rights Committee – November 16, 2022

Robert Woods, Chair – Deb Nagel, Vice Chair

Reported by Deb Nagel.

Motion made by Deb Nagel and supported by Lisa Coney to receive and file this report as written. Motion carried.

B. Governance Committee – No Meeting

Mike Cierzniewski, Chair – Jane Sills, Vice Chair

C. Ends Committee – No Meeting

Jill Armentrout, Chair – Tracey Raquepaw, Vice Chair

D. Executive Limitations – November 21, 2022

Andrea Schrems, Chair – Robert Woods, Vice Chair

Reported by Andrea Schrems.

Motion made by Andrea Schrems and supported by Deb Nagel to receive and file this report as amended. Motion carried.

V. CEO REPORT

First Choice Holiday Gift Card Distribution – December 2, 2022

Once again, the generous staff of SCCMHA raised money this past year to support the First Choice Christmas Gift Card Distribution to consumers.

The distribution event this year was held at Community Ties North on December 2, 2022, from 1- 4:30 p.m. This annual event provides gift cards to consumers living in specialized residential group homes.

First Choice raised enough contributions this year to provide 355 consumers with \$50.00 gift cards to Meijer's. About half of the consumers were able to attend the event at CTS to receive their gift card in person and enjoy the Christmas cookies that always accompany the event. The rest of the identified consumers will be getting their gift cards by the end of this week.

SCCMHA Staff Holiday Event & 8 Dimensions of Wellness Theme – Dec 9, 2022

SCCMHA staff members were all invited to attend our Holiday Gathering last Friday afternoon at the Albert and Woods Center, for a late boxed lunch and to participate in fun activities organized around our training theme of the 8 Dimensions of Wellness. The event was well attended (178 staff attended) and provided an opportunity to socialize across all departments. We have not been able to gather in this way since before the onset of the pandemic. It was also an opportunity to thank the staff for all their efforts of the last two plus years to continue providing service to consumers and families or administrative functions and supports to SCCMHA over the timeframe of the COVID-19 Pandemic, particularly over this period of workforce shortages.

MDHHS Meeting on Youth from Regional Child Caring Institutions Presenting at the Covenant Emergency Department on November 17, 2022

Sandy and Kristie Wolbert met virtually with senior leaders at MDHHS across three divisions; Behavioral Health/MI Kids Now/ Licensing and CCI Contract Oversight of CCI for both local Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare placements in mid- November. The virtual meeting held on November 17, 2022, was to express our serious concerns for the care and supervision of youth placed at these facilities and the volume of youth being transported by staff from these facilities to the Covenant Emergency Care Center. See the meeting prequel and notes for next steps included in the "Information Section" of the packet. Our goal and the meeting purpose, was request MDHHS assistance to problem solve for the mental health needs of these youth at the facilities and reduce the presentation of youth at the Covenant ECC that do not need to come to the hospital.

Diversity Equity and Inclusion Staff Training and Communication

The DEI Team at SCCMHA continues to work on the implementation of our Three- year DEI Plan. Presently we have been holding multiple DEI 101 trainings for staff and leadership with Paul Elam, PhD., our DEI consultant. Multiple training sessions were held in person in November and December and will continue in January. In February, a new training for directors, supervisors and subject matter leads will commence specific to learning and developing competencies to facilitate DEI conversations with staff groups.

The final edits have been made to the SCCMHA Organizational Climate Assessment Report and the document with appendices, will be posted to the SCCMHA website yet this month. A comprehensive communication for staff from the CEO and DEI Team, with and update on DEI progress is planned for issuance to the agency staff in January.

Senate Bills 597 & 598 Dead and the End of the 2022 MI Legislative Session

As of last Wednesday, December 7, 2022, when the last day of the Michigan FY 2022 Legislative Session concluded, Senate Bills 597 & 598 failed for lack of support. These bills that amended both the Michigan Mental Health Code and Social Welfare Act would have eliminated the regional PIHPs and moved funding for the public mental health and substance abuse system to private insurance companies.

The Medicaid Health Plans marketed their effort through these bills to relegate our public system to merely “fee for service providers” under contract to multiple insurance agencies operating in every county in the state and doing nothing to address service delivery improvements or service expansion to consumers, families, and communities.

These bills would have stripped us of our public governmental authorities as networks of specialty care and our role as the public behavioral health safety-net which the system has performed for this state over the last forty plus years.

Our thanks to our trade association the Community Mental Health Association of MI for leading us to this outcome with outstanding public education and legislative lobbying against these bills.

As you may be aware, both houses of the MI Legislature are now under the leadership of Democrats and although there will still be system changes coming, we are hopeful that they will include PIHPs and CMHSPs as stakeholders and on the ground experts, to inform any changes in system authority, architecture, and quality improvement efforts. This change in legislative leadership really is a fresh start to planning for system improvements. Please review the report from CMHA in the “Information Section” of the Board packet titled; Value of CMHA to Its Members: Accomplishments in 2021 & 2022.

Christmas and New Year Holidays

The programs and service locations of SCCMHA, with the exception of Crisis Intervention Services and Mobile Response and Stabilization Services, will be closed on the following dates due to national holiday celebrations and union contracts:

Friday, December 23 and Monday, December 26, for the Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Holidays.

Friday, December 30, and January 2, for the New Year’s Eve and New Year’s Day holidays.

Wishing the Members of the SCCMHA Board of Directors a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

CMHA Winter Conference – February 7-8 in Kalamazoo – Interest in attending?

The Radisson, is currently remodeling several floors affecting the number of overnight rooms that are available for our conference attendees. CMHA has secured 2 additional hotels located directly across from the Radisson within 1 block walking distance. We are aware that some board members and attendees will need to be on-site at the Radisson, therefore we’ll be allowing advanced hotel reservations for those you feel will require onsite overnights. *Please be mindful of other attendees when reserving the total number of rooms needed. On Tuesday, December 13th, I will be sending reservation information*

out to CEOs and Executive Assistants. On Thursday, December 15th, I will be opening reservations up for anyone who would like to make reservations.

Motion made by Deb Nagel and supported by Andrea Schrems to receive & file this report as written. Motion carried.

VI. BOARD ACTION

A. Approval of 2023 Board & Committee Meeting Schedule

Motion made by Robert Woods and supported by Mike Cierzniewski to approve 2023 Board & Committee Meeting Schedule. Motion carried

VII. BOARD INFORMATION

A. CMHA Weekly Update – November 2022 links:

<https://cmham.org/resources/weekly-update/>

B. SCCMHA CAC Minutes <https://www.sccmha.org/news-information/board-agendas-minutes.html>

C. Value of CMHA to its members: Accomplishments in 2021 and 2022

D. Post Meeting with MDHHS Next Steps, Saginaw CMH Need for Assistance for CCI Youth Presenting at ED

E. SCCMHA Staff Holiday Gathering: 8 Components of Wellness

VIII. MEDIA / PUBLICATIONS

A. Press Release: MDHHS enhances work with providers to meet behavioral health needs of children in foster care, juvenile justice systems – 11/30/22

IX. OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Sandy noted that Lisa Coney was elected as a new Saginaw County Board of Commissioner and congratulated her.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Robert Woods supported by Deb Nagel to adjourn this meeting at 5:52 pm. Motion carried.

**Minutes prepared by:
Ryan Mulder
Executive Assistant to CEO**