

**MINUTES**  
**RECIPIENT RIGHTS COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**SAGINAW COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY**  
**MARCH 15, 2023 – 5:15 PM**  
**ROOM 190/191**

**PRESENT:** Lisa Coney, Joan Williams, Deb Nagel, Cym Winiecke, Lisa Sawyer, Robert Woods

**ABSENT:** Tracey Raquepaw, Jill Armentrout

**STAFF:** Sandra Lindsey, Tim Ninemire, Kentera Patterson, Isabelle Reinbold & Ryan Mulder

**GUESTS:** Tony Navarre

**I. OPENING PROCEDURE**

Robert Woods, Chair called the meeting to order at 5:20 p.m. A quorum was established, and verification of posting was determined.

**II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Tony Navarre gave public comment on his recommendations regarding succession planning for Officer of Recipient Rights position (customary 3 minutes plus additional 1 minute extension). His timeline and handouts were provided to members of the committee.

**Motion was made by Deb Nagel and supported by Joan Williams to receive & file public comment and included handouts. Motion carried.**

**III. FY 2023 ORR COMMITTEE TRACKING FORM**

Tim Ninemire, Director of Customer Service/Recipient Rights reviewed the RR Advisory Requirements Tracking Form and informed that training on Policies 02.02.11, 02.02.14, 02.02.16, 02.02.17 & 02.02.18 will be completed by the end of tonight's meeting and Review of funding of the office of recipient rights at May 17 meeting.

**Motion was made by Deb Nagel and supported by Lisa Coney to receive & file FY 2023 ORR Committee Tracking Form. Motion carried.**

**IV. RECIPIENT RIGHTS OFFICER COVERAGE & TRANSITION**

Sandra Lindsey noted that Tim Ninemire is not retiring until October 2023. However, because Tim is responsible for such a wide functional span of control, she, Tim and Fred Stahl, HR Director, determined that the opportunity of succession planning prompted a reorganization of Tim's current departments. At this same time the Compliance Officer position had been vacant for many months and the JD was rewritten and reposted a couple of times. Finally, then there were applicants for the Compliance Officer position. The best candidate for the Compliance Officer was Kentera Patterson, who has been Supervising ORR and reporting to Tim and doing a wonderful job. Ultimately a decision was made to combine the Compliance Officer and Recipient Rights Office as a part of the reorganization under one job description. Once the decision was made to combine

the Compliance and ORR Function, the JD was rewritten and an offer in the form of a career ladder with conditions, was made to Kentera and she accepted the position. Sandy stated she stands by the decision to move Kentera to the position Compliance Officer and ORR Officer upon Tim's retirement in the fall.

Tim's other responsibilities, Customer Service and Security have also been moved to another new Director position and combined with Facilities and an internal candidate recently took the job, which was announced just last week.

The ORR Complaint filed against Sandy was based upon MI Mental Health Code Requirements that the ORR Committee needs to be consulted on the selection of the ORR Officer. She explained that she saw no rush to bring Kentera's name to the RR Committee as Tim is not retiring until October. She is attending the ORR Committee meeting this month to explain the sequence of events leading up to the complaint. Tim reminded the committee that this complaint could not be completed by SCCMHA and the January RR Committee meeting it was decided to have the complaint investigated by CMH for Central Michigan.

Sandy recommended without hesitation that Kentera Patterson serve as the new Recipient Rights Officer upon Tim's retirement and recommends no further action by the RR Committee until Jane Gilmore of CMH for Central MI, completes her investigation. (Sandy has her notes from complaint investigation interview with Ms. Gilmore if the committee would like to review her response which mirrors the report she gave at the meeting.)

Tim Ninemire, Director of Customer Service/Recipient Rights noted that the SCCMHA Recipient Rights Advisory Committee must be consulted (Michigan Mental Health Code 330.1755) with regarding changes to Recipient Rights Officer, which is completed tonight. The other item completed tonight is explaining to the ORR Committee they can recommend candidates for director of the ORR to the CEO (Michigan Mental Health Code 330.1757).

#### **V. TRAINING ON POLICIES**

Tim Ninemire, Director of Customer Service/Recipient Rights trained the committee on ORR Policies: 02.02.11, 02.02.14, 02.02.16, 02.02.17 & 02.02.18.

**Motion made by Deb Nagel and supported by Cym Winiecke to receive and file Training on Policies for 02.02.11, 02.02.14, 02.02.16, 02.02.17 & 02.02.18. Motion Carried.**

#### **VI. MISCELLANEOUS**

Sandy noted that there was a recent Detroit News article about a juvenile treatment facility, Pioneer Work and Learn Center in Vassar has temporarily closed because of an incident where a child was injured during an alternation. All juveniles were relocated to alternative facilities. The article is available at:

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<https://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/michigan/2023/03/09/state-vassar-juvenile-facility-closes-after-license-suspension/69991600007/>.

Recent complaints had been filed on the behalf of consumers being served in juvenile detention sites. This is likely due to staffing shortages, overworked and under supervised staff members caring for youth with very complex needs. Sandy indicated her concerns about this kind of outcome for youth served in these facilities to MDHHS officials last November, and regrettably was not surprised by these events.

**VII. NEXT MEETING – MAY 17, 2023 AT 5:15PM**

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**With no other business a motion was made by Lisa Coney with support from Deb Nagel to adjourn this meeting at 5:56 p.m. Motion carried.**