

**SAGINAW COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY  
REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 13, 2026 – 5:15 PM  
ROOM 190**

**PRESENT:** Tracey Raquepaw, Mike Cierzniewski, Cym Winiecke, Susan McCauley, Jill Armentrout, Joan Williams, Maria Vela, Jacob Kern

**VIRTUAL:**

**ABSENT:** Lisa Coney, Jaime Huffman, John Pugh

**GUESTS:** Clara Warnick,

**STAFF:** Sandra Lindsey, Jan Histed, Fred Stahl & Ryan Mulder

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Tracey Raquepaw, Chair called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. A quorum was established, and verification of posting was determined.

**II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**III. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES**

**A.** Board Meeting – March 9, 2026

**Motion made by Cym Winiecke and supported by Mike Cierzniewski to approve the March 9, 2026 SCCMHA Board Meeting minutes with edits. Motion carried.**

**IV. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A.** Governance Committee – No Meeting  
Mike Cierzniewski, Chair / Susan McCauley, Vice Chair  
Reported by Mike Cierzniewski

**B.** Recipient Rights Committee – March 18, 2026  
Deb Nagel, Chair / Lisa Sawyer, Vice Chair  
Reported by Tracey Raquepaw.

**Motion made by Cym Winiecke and supported by Mike Cierzniewski to receive and file this report as written. Motion carried.**

**C.** Ends Committee – March 23, 2026  
Jill Armentrout, Chair – Joan Williams, Vice Chair  
Reported by Joan Williams

**Motion made by Joan Williams and supported by Susan McCauley to receive and file this report as written. Motion carried.**

**D.** Executive Limitations – March 25, 2026  
Cym Winiecke, Chair – Tracey Raquepaw, Vice Chair  
Reported by Cym Winiecke

**Motion made by Cym Winiecke and supported by Mike Cierzniewski to receive and file this report as written. Motion carried.**

## V. CEO REPORT

### **CARF Survey Site Visit Update**

CARF International was here last week, April 8-10, 2026 for our three (3) year survey for accreditation. Surveyors took a close look at SCCMHA sites, vehicles, etc. Unfortunately, the surveyor with the expertise on the CCBHC CARF Standards was not able to make it to Saginaw for the visit and so they will be coming back for this section of the CARF Survey Visit later on in May (20th-22<sup>nd</sup>). Approximately 6-8 weeks after that, we will likely receive the final written report. Staff did a great job. Sandy read her email of thanks to SCCMHA staff for their efforts on the site visit as we did very well.

### **PIHP Litigation Update from Court of Claims Hearing Today**

Today at 1:00 pm, a hearing was held in Lansing at the Court of Claims concerning the PIHP RFP Litigation where SCCMHA was a plaintiff. Sandy did not attend the hearing in person but did watch it live on You Tube.

The State (MDHHS and MDTMB) had filed a motion to dismiss the case a "Moot" because they withdrew the RFP and made no awards to bidders, because Judge Yates decided in his ruling last January that the RFP held numerous Mental Health Code violations and resulting harm to CMHSPs that would result from the State moving forward with the plan represented by the RFP. Judge yates agreed that it was not illegal for the State to reduce the number of PIHPs from 10 down to 3 but that the MHC violations and resulting CMHSP harm required correction.

Neil Marchan of Miller Johnson, representing the CMHSP Plaintiffs (SCCMHA, St. Clair CMHSP and Kalamazoo CMHSP) and in partnership with the attorneys at Secrest, and Taft law firms representing their 3 requisite PIHPs (MSHN, SWBH, and Region 10) also filed briefs in response to the State request for case dismissal.

The hearing today was to hear from attorneys from both sides.

Judge Yates speaking from the bench today indicated that he was leaning toward dismissing the case, but that the State request to have the case dismissed as "moot with prejudice" was problematic under MI law and would require more research. He was candid in not wanting to prevent the Plaintiffs ability to appeal his ruling on dismissal of the case, which would occur if it was "with prejudice". The hearing arguments were really focused on interpretation of the MI Mootness Doctrine. Judge yates asked for additional legal briefs from both sides on their interpretation of the Mootness Doctrine exceptions.

- Also during this hearing, the AG attorney indicated that MDHHS was writing a new PIHP RFP for release sometime in May.
- Sandy felt like Judge was going to dismiss the case (not sure if it will be just dismissed with or without prejudice).
- Judge recommends that each side file a brief on the issue of dismissal with and without prejudice and then he would make his decision

Judge Yates promised a ruling in a week or less following his receipt of short briefs from both sides.

*Note: Following the SCCMHA Board meeting, Judge Yates did rule to dismiss the case without prejudice. All CMHSP and PIHP Plaintiffs and our attorneys are meeting on May 7, 2026, to decide if there are grounds for an appeal on the case dismissal or whether to wait to see what the new RFP reveals.*

**Motion made by Mike Cierzniewski and supported by Cym Winiecke to receive and file CEO report. Motion carried.**

**VI. BOARD ACTION**

- A.** Approval of Quality Improvement Program, FY 25 Report & FY 26 Plan

**Motion made by Joan Williams and supported by Susan McCauley to approve the Quality Improvement Program, FY 25 Report & FY 26 Plan. Motion carried.**

- B.** Approval of FY 2026 Provider Contracts and Fee Schedule

**Motion made by Cym Winiecke and supported by Mike Cierzniewski to approve the FY 2026 Provider Contracts and Fees Schedule. Motion carried**

- C.** Approval of FY 2026 Network Service Providers List by Service Category

**Motion made by Mike Cierzniewski and supported by Susan McCauley to approve the FY 2026 Provider Contracts and Fees Screens. Motion carried**

- D.** Approval of Amended CEO Contract

**Motion made by Mike Cierzniewski and supported by Cym Winiecke to approve the Amended CEO Contract. Motion carried**

- E.** Approval of CEO Succession Planning Duties Document

**Motion made by Mike Cierzniewski and supported by Jacob Kern to approve the CEO Succession Planning Duties Document and assigned duties to EL Committee. Motion carried**

**F. 2026 Annual CMH PAC Campaign**

CMHA is again asking boards to contribute to the CMH PAC Campaign. Sandy reported CMHAM is doing a wonderful job representing the CMH System and encourages the Board to consider make the equivalent of one Board meeting stipend (\$50). If interested in contributing, go to <https://cmham.org/public-policy/cmh-pac/>. If you would rather contribute by check (or cash) please give to Ryan and he'll submit to CMHA on your behalf. Goal is \$500 collective contribution from board members and/or staff.

**G. Report from Nominating Committee**

The Nominating Committee of Cym Winiecke and Mike Cierzniewski reported that: following:

- Current Officers Tracey Raquepaw – Chair, Cym Winiecke – Vice Chair & Joan Williams – Secretary all are interested in remaining as Officers.

Tracey Raquepaw, Chair temporarily yielded the leading of the meeting to Sandra Lindsey who reviewed with the group how the election would be conducted. It was noted that it is our custom to call three (3) times from the floor for nominations. Sandra Lindsey did call for nominations from floor three (3) separate times and no new names were offered.

**Motion by Cym Winiecke and supported by Mike Cierzniewski to cast a unanimous vote to elect Tracey Raquepaw as Board Chair. Motion carried.**

**Motion by Tracey Raquepaw and supported by Susan McCauley to cast a unanimous vote to elect Cym Winiecke Board Vice-Chair Joan Williams Secretary & . Motion carried.**

**VII. BOARD INFORMATION**

- A. CMHA Weekly Update – April 2025 links: <https://cmham.org/resources/weekly-update/>**
- B. SCCMHA CAC Minutes <https://www.sccmha.org/about/board-agendas-and-meetings.html>**
- C. April is Autism Acceptance, Counseling Awareness, Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month, World Autism Day [2<sup>nd</sup>] & World Health Day [7<sup>th</sup>]**
- D. Letter to L.Bradfield/L.McAfee/V.Mikolajski/D.Nagel/D.Peltier re: CAC Reappointment**
- E. Letter from J.Tany re: SCCMHA Board Reappointments – 03/18/26**

**VIII. MEDIA / PUBLICATIONS**

- A. County of Saginaw Newsletter – April 2025 <https://www.saginawcountymi.gov/news/>**
- B. SCCMHA Provider News – March 2026 <https://www.sccmha.org/userfiles/filemanager/enit5sa5mb1vrq7eb34c/>**
- C. National Alliance to End Homelessness press release 'Appeals Court Rejects Latest Trump-Vance Administration Attack on Funding for Solutions to Homelessness' – 04/01/26**
- D. Detroit News Op-Ed A.Bolter 'MDHHS mental health plan adds bureaucracy, not care' – 03/31/26**

**IX. OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST**

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by Mike Cierzniewski supported by Cym Winiecke to adjourn this meeting at 6:10 PM p.m. Motion carried.**

**Minutes prepared by:  
Ryan Mulder  
Manager of Office of CEO**