

**SAGINAW COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY  
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 20, 2025 – 5:15 p.m.  
ROOM 190**

**PRESENT:** Mike Cierzniewski, Tracey Raquepaw, Susan McCauley, Maria Vela

**ABSENT:** John Pugh

**GUEST(S):**

**STAFF:** Sandra Lindsey, Ryan Mulder

**I. OPENING PROCEDURE**

Mike Cierzniewski, Chair called the meeting to order at 5:17 p.m. Verification of the public posting was acknowledged, and a quorum was established.

**II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation.

**III. TRAINING UPDATE**

A. BoardWorks 2.0 Training available on CMHA websites at: <https://cmham.org/education-events/boardworks/>. All Board members need to do is go to website, download eval, and return completed form to Ryan for training credit.

B. Civil Admission and Discharge Procedures for Adult Individuals with Mental Illness Video available on SCCMHA website / Board Training. Ryan reminded that this training is available for viewing on the SCCMHA website at: <https://www.sccmha.org/resources/working-together-to-make-the-mental-health-code-work/> All Board members need to do is view the video, complete the attached form on page 2 of tonight's packet and return to Ryan Mulder for one (1) hour Board training credit.

C. Board Relias Training  
Ryan noted that the SCCMHA Continuing Education Department has set up an SCCMHA Board Training account (**username: sccmhaboard / password: boardtraining**). <https://tinyurl.com/ms4wpysm> This could be helpful if Board members are not able to attend CMHAM Winter, Spring, Fall Conferences. We've identified fifteen (15) courses that we feel could be beneficial to Board members (see pages 14-17 in Governance packet for courses being offered). Ryan briefly walked the Governance Committee through the process, but directions are on pages 5 – 13 as well. This will be reported on at the next SCCMHA full Board meeting as well. If there are any questions, please contact Ryan ant 989-797-3501 or rmulder@sccmha.org.

**Motion made by Tracey Raquepaw with support from Maria Vela to Training Update presented. Motion carried.**

#### **IV. ANTICIPATED APPOINTMENTS IN MARCH 2025**

Sandy explained that we are working to put together the Board Member Reappointment Request package for the Saginaw County Board of Commissioners Chairman, Jack Tany. The process involves the creation of letters of request for reappointment from Board members who have terms expiring on March 31, 2025. Mike Cierzniewski, Susan McCauley, Cym Winiecke and Robert Woods are seeking reappointment. The Saginaw County Board of Commissioners will be taking up SCCMHA Board reappointments at their March 18, 2025, meeting.

**Motion made by Tracey Raquepaw and supported by Susan McCauley to receive and file the Anticipated Board Appointments in March 2025 Report. Motion carried.**

#### **V. BOARD ATTENDANCE LOG**

The Governance Committee reviewed the Attendance log and noted that there were a couple of areas of concern (John Pugh). Continue to watch as there has been improvement from the last Governance Committee review.

**Motion made by Tracey Raquepaw with support from Susan McCauley to receive and file Board Attendance Log as presented. Motion carried.**

#### **VI. BOARD TRAINING LOG**

Ryan was asked to give John a call and remind him of the training requirement (4-8 hours annually) and recommend he attend an upcoming Board Association Conference or virtual training.

**Motion made by Tracey Raquepaw with support from Susan McCauley to approve the Board Training Log as presented. Motion carried.**

#### **VII. OTHER ITEMS OF IMPORTANCE**

Sandy noted that she will be presenting at the next Saginaw County Human Services Committee on March 3. Work on a slide deck for the presentation is in process along with a folder of SCCMHA reference materials for each Human Services Committee member that will be distributed at the meeting.

Some of the recent Presidential Executive Orders have been problematic. One could have an impact on SCCMHA HUD Grants Subsidies in particular. Legal challenges have stopped the funding freeze from going into effect for now. This freeze would also have an impact on other organizations in Saginaw County with US grant funded projects.

Sandy continues to monitor any potential Federal Medicaid funding changes and reductions that she expects will be included in the Federal Budget Bill being prepared in the U.S. House of Representatives yet this month.

Saturday is the Ezekiel Project's Martin Luther King Jr. Prayer Breakfast at Horizons Conference Center. SCCMHA is a sponsor of this event and Sandy and Kristie Wolbert, Exec. Dir. of Clinical Services and Programs will be attending.

Sandy reminded the Committee that Paul Elam, our DEI consultant, will be virtually joining our next Board of Directors meeting on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Paul will be informing the board about the challenges to DEI work across the country facilitated and leveraged with threats of cuts connected to federal grants and other funding by President Trump and his Cabinet leadership.

MDHHS is beginning to investigate potentially reshuffling Medicaid responsibilities making Medicaid Health Plans responsible for psychiatric inpatient services for mild/moderate Medicaid beneficiaries. Waiting to see how this plays out though this is extremely early in the development process. Sandy was recently named to a work group of CMHSP leaders who will be meeting with MDHHS officials on this plan. This project has been named a "New Mental Health Framework".

Joe Sedlock, MSHN CEO, just recently sent a memo to MDHHS expressing his serious concerns for funding and exhausting the MDHS Internal Service Fund by 2025 year end without a significant mid-year Medicaid Rate increase. His letter and related CMHA materials on the underfunding of the system will be included in the March Board packet.

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion made by Tracey Raquepaw and supported by Susan McCauley to adjourn this meeting at 6:22 p.m. Motion carried.**