

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2025 – 7:00 PM
TBHS TRAINING CENTER
129 EAST BURNSIDE STREET, CARO, MI 48723
IF UNABLE TO ATTEND CALL: 989.673.6191 / 1.800.462.6814

The regular meeting of the Tuscola Behavioral Health System's Board of Directors was called to order by Chairperson Snider, February 27, 2025, at 7:00 pm, at the TBHS Training Center located at 129 East Burnside Street, Caro, MI.

BOARD ATTENDANCE:	Bardwell	Present	Helmbold	Present
	Bruno	Present	McNett	Present
	Fritz	Excused	Partridge	Present
	Griesing	Present	Ryan	Present
	Grimshaw	Present	Snider	Present
	Harrington	Present		

STAFF ATTENDANCE:	Majeske	Present	Canady	Present
	Dudewicz	Present	Mitchell	Present

ROLL CALL taken by Harrington.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: None.

DATE-NUMBER	BODY	ACTION
February 27, 2025 - - 1	McNett moved and Partridge supported to accept the minutes from the January 23, 2025 meeting as mailed.	Motion Carried

CONTRACT AGREEMENTS REVIEWED BY DUDEWICZ:

February 27, 2025 - - 2	Griesing moved and Partridge supported to accept the Contracts/Agreements as presented on the Contract List Sheet(s) dated February 27, 2025 and authorize the CEO to sign on behalf of the Board.	Motion Carried
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CONTRACT TERMINATIONS REVIEWED BY DUDEWICZ:

February 27, 2025 - - 3	Grimshaw moved and Harrington supported to approve the Contract Terminations as presented on the Contract Termination List dated February 27, 2025.	Motion Carried
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FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REVIEWED BY DUDEWICZ:

February 27, 2025 - - 4	Partridge moved and Griesing supported placing the Financial Statements on file.	Motion Carried
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CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT (CD) RENEWAL PRESENTED BY DUDEWICZ:

Current CD expires today and we have 10 days to renew or withdraw. Handout was provided in tonight's packet of current CD rates. Based on current rates, it is being recommended to transfer the CD to Northstar Bank for 18 months at 4.05%.

February 27, 2025 - - 5

Griesing moved and Grimshaw supported to open a new Certificate of Deposit account at a bank based on the highest interest rate available, with a term not to exceed 18 months.

Motion Carried

February 27, 2025 - - 6

Grimshaw moved and Griesing supported to approve Julie Majeske and Sheila Canady as authorized signers on the accounts and authorize the CEO to sign on behalf of the Board.

Motion Carried

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT BY MAJESKE (highlighted areas of written report):

- Medicaid/General Fund – Mid-State Health Network (MSHN) recently forwarded communication to MDHHS regarding FYE 24 Results of Operations and the FY25 Projected Financial Status, to alert MDHHS to “serious actual and projected deficits assuming revenue and healthcare operations continue on current projected trajectories.” MSHN has noted contributing factors resulting in the excess of expenses over PEPM revenue to include community living support services, psychiatric inpatient care, autism services, worsening acuity of existing beneficiaries, and region-wide workforce cost increases. A copy of that communication has been included in the Board packet. At this time, MSHN is scheduling individual meetings with CMHSPs within the MSHN region to discuss utilization, trends, revenue, any deficit/surplus and cost containment plans.
- Earned Sick Time Act – As noted last month, TBHS has been monitoring the status of the Earned Sick Time Act, which had an effective date of February 21, 2025. A revised version of HB 4002 was passed by the Senate and House just prior to the deadline, with the Governor signing the substitute bill on February 21, 2025. Operational changes for TBHS include the expansion of eligibility for paid sick leave for thirteen (13) additional staff members. Payroll has been updated to track the earnings and use of time granted under the Act. Current policies for sick time/PTO that cover all remaining staff surpass the compliance requirements of the Act. Also, with the delay of implementation of ESTA for small employers with less than 10 employees, changes for those in self-determination arrangements will not occur until the new October 1, 2025 start date.
- TBHS Workforce Update – Two positions have been filled since the January Board Meeting; a part-time Community and Residential Support Staff position and a full-time Peer Support Specialist position. TBHS continues to have ten (10) vacant positions at the present time. Recruitment efforts remain ongoing.
- Conflict-Free Access and Planning (CFAP) – MDHHS has now received approval from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for several waiver renewals, all of which include the CFAP requirement (the separation of the entity conducting service planning from the entity responsible for service delivery). As noted last month, an “Only Willing and Qualified Provider Designation” (OWQP) was included in the approved applications, which included criteria specific to rural counties and tribal providers. MDHHS has since indicated that OWQP designees must be located in a rural county as identified in § 422.116(c). Thus, only three (3)

counties in the MSHN region meet the established OWQP criteria - Arenac, Huron and Osceola. PIHPs and CMHSPs are still awaiting MDHHS to further define additional requirements and technical details, including an implementation timeline. The MDHHS communication identifying the Michigan counties that meet the rural and critical access criteria, in addition to an email from MSHN with language from the CMS Approved HCBS Waiver Application have been included in the Board packet.

- MLive Article, "A broken system. Mental health patient complaints go nowhere in Michigan." – Earlier this month, MLive featured an article regarding the Michigan Mental Health Recipient Rights System. The article by Gus Burns includes information shared by parents that have experienced difficulty accessing either community mental health or inpatient psychiatric services in Michigan. The article focuses on the role of the existing Recipient Rights structure and raises questions whether there is sufficient separation in responsibilities at the CMHSP and State levels to adequately protect individuals served and families. The article includes state-wide 2023 statistics on abuse and neglect reporting in the Recipient Rights System, noting 73% of complaints were found to be unsubstantiated and never investigated any further. TBHS Recipient Rights Officer, Victor Gomez, has provided TBHS-specific Recipient Rights abuse and neglect reporting from 2023 and 2024 for comparison purposes. In contrast to the article, the TBHS substantiation percentages provide a differing perspective, being significantly higher than the state-wide numbers reported in the article. This is suggestive of an objective and principled TBHS investigation process. Both the article and the TBHS-specific data have been included in the Board packet for review.
- TBHS will be participating in the upcoming Law Enforcement/First Responder Professional Development sessions hosted by the Tuscola County Human Service Collaborative Council (HSCC), where community service providers can share resources and an overview of the community services provided by their respective agencies. The sessions will be held on March 25, 2025 from 10:00am-1:00pm, and March 26, 2025 from 5:00pm to 8:00pm.
- Reminder - Alan Bolter, Associate Director of the Community Mental Health Association of Michigan (CMHA), is scheduled to attend the TBHS Board of Directors Meeting in March to provide updates on various topics and CMHA activities. As a reminder, specific topics of interest should be forwarded to Cindy Mitchell for coordination with CMHA.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Grimshaw reported that the Nominating Committee (Bardwell, Bruno, and Grimshaw) met prior to tonight's meeting and are recommending the current slate of officers for another year as follows: Chairperson, Karen Snider; Vice-Chairperson, Susan McNett; and Secretary, Marianne Harrington.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Griesing and Partridge shared information they received while attending the CMHA Winter Conference that was held in Kalamazoo, MI on February 4-5, 2025.

Compliance Update - Majeske distributed a copy of the Attorney General's press release dated February 26, 2025 regarding the former Director of the Peer Center being charged with embezzling from the Center. A Probable Cause Conference is scheduled for March 12, 2025, and Preliminary Examination on March 19, 2025. TBHS contract monitoring activities remain ongoing at this time.

Chairperson Snider appointed Bruno to the Contracts Committee to fill the vacancy left by Moore's resignation.

Chairperson Snider shared a letter of resignation from Board member Joann Helmbold effective immediately. Chairperson Snider shared that Helmbold will be missed.

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Grimshaw moved and Griesing supported to accept, with great regret, the resignation of Joann Helmbold effective immediately.

Motion Carried

BOARD'S SELF-ASSESSMENT: Chairperson Snider reviewed the outcome from the Board Self Assessments that were completed last month.

MARCH MEETING AGENDA ITEMS: Election of Officers and Alan Bolter, Associate Director of the Community Mental Health Association of Michigan (CMHA).

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: No public present.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday, March 27, 2025 - 7:00 pm at the TBHS Training Center, 129 East Burnside Street Caro, MI 48723.

ADJOURNMENT:

February 27, 2025 - - 8

Griesing moved and Harrington supported to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Motion Carried

Cindy Mitchell
Recorder

Karen Snider
Chairperson

Marianne Harrington
Secretary