

NEXT MEETING: MAY 28, 2026 – 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

**TUSCOLA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEMS
 REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

The regular meeting of the Tuscola Behavioral Health System's Board of Directors was called to order by Chairperson Snider, April 23, 2026 at 7:07 pm, at the TBHS Training Center located at 129 East Burnside Street, Caro, MI 48723.

BOARD ATTENDANCE:	Bardwell	Present	McNett	Present
	Bruno	Absent	Partridge	Present
	Fritz	Present	Ryan	Excused
	Griesing	Present	Sherman	Present
	Grimshaw	Present	Snider	Present
	Harrington	Present	Zissler	Present
STAFF ATTENDANCE:	Majeske	Present	Canady	Present
	Dudewicz	Present	Mitchell	Present

ROLL CALL taken by Harrington.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: No public.

GUESTS: Trevor Kapp from Roslund, Prestage & Company

FINANCIAL AUDIT REPORT:

Trevor Kapp, from Roslund, Prestage & Company presented the Independent Auditor's Report – Audit of the Financial Statements, and Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters for the year ending September 30, 2025. Members were invited to contact Mr. Kapp with any questions that may arise in the future. Mr. Kapp left the meeting following the presentation at 7:18 pm.

DATE-NUMBER	BODY	ACTION
AUDIT REPORT PRESENTED BY KAPP:		
April 23, 2026 - - 1	Partridge moved and Griesing supported to accept the Financial Audit as presented and to place on file.	Motion Carried

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

April 23, 2026 - - 2	Harrington moved and Fritz supported to accept the minutes from the March 26, 2026 meeting as mailed.	Motion Carried
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CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS/TERMINATIONS REVIEWED BY DUDEWICZ: No contracts were presented.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REVIEWED BY DUDEWICZ:

April 23, 2026 - - 3

Partridge moved and Grimshaw supported placing the Financial Statements on file.

Motion Carried

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

- Medicaid/GF – The Senate Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Subcommittee approved its FY27 budget recommendations, SB 857. The Community Mental Health Association of Michigan (CMHA) provided a brief analysis of the FY27 Senate MDHHS Budget Proposal, which has been included in the Board packet.
- TBHS Workforce Update – There were five (5) new hires since the March 2026 Board meeting; two (2) Supports Coordinator/Case Managers, two (2) Community and Residential Support Staff, and one (1) part-time Peer Support Specialist. There were also two (2) full-time staff who transitioned to part-time status, allowing the agency to retain organizational expertise. Currently, TBHS continues to have nine (9) full-time vacant positions.
- PIHP Procurement Process – A Court of Claims hearing was held on April 13, 2026 related to the State's motion to dismiss the procurement-related lawsuit, *Region 10 PIHP, Southwest Michigan Behavioral Health, Mid-State Health Network, St. Clair County CMHA, Integrated Services of Kalamazoo and Saginaw County CMHA vs. the State of Michigan, State of Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), and State of Michigan Department of Technology, Management, and Budget*.

Although the plaintiffs prevailed in questioning the legality of the previous Request for Proposal (RFP) design, the court was not inclined to keep case open given that MDHHS rescinded the RFP in question. Today, a final judgment was issued by Judge Yates, dismissing the case **without prejudice** based on mootness. The parties have until May 14, 2026 to appeal. A copy of the order has been made available via the Board packet.

Of note, legal counsel for MDHHS did confirm during the hearing that the State is working on reviewing and drafting a new RFP but offered no additional details. As such, it is anticipated that this case may result in an appeal to the Michigan Court of Appeals or in a new lawsuit being filed should there be any components of the new RFP that still contradict Michigan law.

- CMHA Action Alert - CMHA has issued an Action Alert related to the proposal MDHHS has been developing for the past several years, the Mental Health Framework (MHF). As shared by CMHA, "The proposed MHF clearly outlines a system which privatizes the management of a larger segment of Michigan's Medicaid behavioral health system. While the MHF is presented as a mechanism to improve coordination and access, the framework introduces significant risks to clinical integrity, beneficiary rights, continuity of care, due process protections, and fiscal sustainability." The link to the Action Alert is <https://cmham.org/advocacy/take-action-now>.

CMHA has proposed a voluntary special assessment to support CMHA's continued advocacy work, including media/public relations, legal and legislative advocacy. The Board agreed to continue the discussion of the voluntary special assessment contribution at the May meeting.

- Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) Accreditation – TBHS accepted the permanent accreditation date change as proposed by CARF, resulting in a new

agency accreditation expiration date of May 31, 2027. CARF has indicated that TBHS' re-accreditation survey will take place in March or April 2027.

- TBHS was highlighted in the Center for Behavioral Health and Justice's quarterly Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) Initiative Update under Promising Practice, which was then subsequently posted on social media by the Michigan Supreme Court. The article is as follows:

We want to highlight Tuscola Behavioral Health Systems (TBHS) for successfully convening their first cross-system community collaborative meeting in support of Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT). Recognizing that AOT implementation relies heavily on strong partnerships, Tuscola County brought together representatives from Probate Court, local law enforcement, the Jail Administrator, the County Emergency Coordinator, Community Mental Health (CMH), and secured future participation from their local Emergency Room.

The active participation and attendance from multiple systems reflect a growing system-wide investment in improving outcomes for individuals involved in the AOT process. This could not have been possible without the ongoing commitment and follow-through shown by TBHS.

Key takeaways from the discussion included identifying opportunities to strengthen communication across agencies, expanding mental health training opportunities for local law enforcement across Tuscola County's cities and villages, and ensuring consistent access to mental health services. These types of collaborative meetings are considered best practice in AOT implementation, supporting relationship building, improving cross-system communication, and fostering coordinated responses that better meet the needs of individuals on AOT orders. Great job, Tuscola!

A copy of the full article has been made available via the Board packet. Special acknowledgment to the dedicated TBHS staff whose hard work, expertise, and commitment made this initiative possible – Sheila Canady, Seth Geister and Shannon Diebel – as well as our community partners who have demonstrated ongoing dedication to enhancing cross-system communication and improving outcomes.

- TBHS participated in the Tuscola County Stepping Up site visit alongside Tuscola County jail staff, court personnel, and representatives from the Wayne State University Center for Behavioral Health and Justice. The visit promoted cross-system collaboration through information sharing, enabling partners to evaluate current practices, exchange perspectives, and identify strategies to better support justice-involved individuals with behavioral health needs.

The Stepping Up Initiative is a national effort focused on reducing the number of individuals with mental illness and co-occurring substance use disorders in county jails. Its goals include strengthening collaboration across criminal justice, behavioral health, and community-based systems, as well as supporting counties in developing and expanding services that divert individuals from incarceration and connect them to appropriate treatment and supports.

Participation in this site visit reflects ongoing commitment to advancing these goals locally. By bolstering partnerships and aligning resources, Tuscola County is better positioned to implement sustainable solutions that improve outcomes for individuals while reducing reliance on incarceration.

REVIEW OF THE BYLAWS:

The ByLaws were mailed to all Board Members prior to the meeting for review. The Board discussed the provision regarding attendance and the number of meetings a Board Member may miss before potential action is considered, as well as circumstances in which a Board Member should voluntarily resign if they are unable to consistently meet attendance expectations.

TBHS Bylaws state that a Board Member may miss three meetings within a calendar year before potential action may be taken. Clarification was provided regarding attendance status:

- Excused Absence: The member provides prior notice that they are unable to attend.
- Absent (Unexcused): The member does not provide prior notice of their inability to attend.

The Board discussed how excused absences should be considered when applying attendance expectations. Board Members agreed that additional discussion is needed regarding how these provisions and expectations should be applied. This topic will be placed on the May agenda for further review.

REVIEW OF THE MISSION & VISION STATEMENT:

The Mission and Vision Statements were distributed to members prior to the meeting for review. Community input received was considered, specifically use of the term "people." No revisions were recommended at this time. Final approval is scheduled for the May meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Partridge reported on the CMHA Legislation & Policy Committee meeting that was held on 4/15/2026.

Griesing reported on the CMHA Board of Directors meeting that was held on 4/10/2026.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Board Member Declaration, Confidentiality, & Disclosure Sheets were mailed to members prior to the meeting to complete and return to Mitchell.

CMHA Summer Conference will be held at the Grand Traverse Resort on June 9-10, 2026. Please let Mitchell know if you would like to attend prior to the established deadline.

BOARD'S SELF-EVALUATION: In compliance.

MAY MEETING AGENDA ITEMS: Communications & Counsel to the Board Committee meeting, Approval of ByLaws, Approval of Mission and Vision Statements, CMHA Special Assessment Contribution, and Board Member Attendance.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: No public.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, May 28, 2026 at 7:00 pm at the TBHS Training Center located at 129 East Burnside Street, Caro, MI.

ADJOURNMENT:

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Harrinton moved and Partridge supported to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Motion Carried



Cindy Mitchell
Recorder



Karen Snider
Chairperson



Marianne Harrington
Secretary