



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2024**

The LifeWays Board of Directors met in regular session in the Board Room at the LifeWays Building, 25 Care Drive, Hillsdale, Michigan on Wednesday, January 17, 2024.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Bruce Caswell (Chair), John Clark (Vice Chair) via Zoom, Mark Wiley (Treasurer), Carl Rice, Jr. (Secretary), Melissa Callison, Christine Carlson, Jeffrey Peterson via Zoom, Earl Poleski, Kathleen Schmitt, Ray Snell

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Bradley Bohner, Edward Woods

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Maribeth Leonard (Chief Executive Officer), Kenneth Berger, Ruth Brown, Latrelle Burk, Karen Cascaddan, Shannan Clevenger, Tyler Crawford, Tenicia Hoaglin, Jon Johnston, David Lowe, Cassandra Watson

OTHERS PRESENT: Brad Benzing, Alan Bolter, Kelley Mapes

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bruce Caswell called the Board Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Invocation was presented by Earl Poleski followed by a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag by audience and Board members.

RECORDING OF ATTENDANCE

The presence of all attending this meeting was recorded (note: Board Members Clark and Peterson were noted as present; however, due to Open Meetings Act restrictions, they were ineligible to vote on action items).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

LW 23-24-010 - Approval of Agenda of the January 17, 2024, Regular Business Meeting

MOTION BY MELISSA CALLISON, SUPPORTED BY CHRISTINE CARLSON, FOR APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA OF THE JANUARY 17, 2024, REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING, AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

LW 23-24-011 - Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Business Meeting held on December 20, 2023

MOTION BY RAY SNELL, SUPPORTED BY KATHLEEN SCHMITT, FOR APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 20, 2023, AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

SPECIAL ORDER TOPIC – UPDATES ON STATE LEGISLATION AND THE COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION (CMHA) – ALAN BOLTER, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, CMHA

Mr. Bolter gave an overview of the current state of legislative affairs in Lansing.

Of interest was the budget projection for 2024. Mr. Bolter stated that the Consensus Revenue Estimating Conferences (CREC) are held every January and May; the most recent conference saw future revenue projections slightly higher than expected. Even so, the budget will be less this year due to the stoppage of federal funding. Additionally, inflation is expected to play a key role in the usage of budgetary funds. Nevertheless, all Community Mental Health Services Programs (CMHSPs) should expect to receive at least the same amounts as last year.

The Governor is expected to expand Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs), which are supported by some federal funding. There are currently 29 CCBHCs in the State of Michigan (22 CMHSPs and seven providers); there isn't a limit to CCBHC sites as qualifications depend on a standardized set of requirements. The current state administration sees the CCBHC as the way of the future as it serves everyone regardless of insurance. Funding issues are a concern, but it is felt that competition from managed care is not an issue.

Seven House of Representatives and six State Senate seats are expected to be affected by a redrawing of voting districts as the most recent voting district map has been declared unlawful. A draft of the new voting district map must be presented to the state courts by February 2. There has been an appeal against this action and there may be other holdups, such as how proposed redistricting affects other districts. The redistricting will affect voting for House representatives in 2024 and the Senate in 2026.

A state commission group has been tasked with distributing Opioid Settlement Funds, totaling \$800 million over the next eighteen years. Half of the funds will go to county, city and township governments. The other half will be held in a state designated fund. There have been no recommendations yet and it is unlikely that CMHSPs will receive any of the

funds.

Each CMHSP will be tasked with implementing their own Conflict-Free Access and Planning (CFA&P) for beneficiaries obtaining Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS). It is felt that this is something that can't be regulated at the state level.

Appreciation was expressed to Mr. Bolter for all of the hard work and advocacy done by the CMHA on behalf of the CMHSPs.

(A copy of the presentation can be found in the Supplemental Minutes portion of the Board Minutes Book.)

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

LW 23-24-012 - Approval of the Consent Agenda (January 17, 2024, Regular Business Meeting)

MOTION BY MELISSA CALLISON, SUPPORTED BY CARL RICE, JR., FOR APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA (JANUARY 17, 2024, REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING), AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

A. Facilities

[No action Items]

B. Program & Finance

- 1. Approval of Out-of-State Travel for Nikki Thomsen, Director of People & Culture, to Attend the WorkHuman Live 2024 Human Resources Conference in Austin, Texas on April 15-18, 2024, for an Estimated Amount of \$3,365.00 to Include Registration, Transportation, Lodging, and Meals**
- 2. Approval of Out-of-State Travel for Maribeth Leonard, Chief Executive Officer, to Attend the National Association of County Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Directors (NACBHDD) Annual Legislative and Policy Conference in Washington, DC on February 14-15, 2024, for an Estimated Amount of \$1,861.00 to Include Registration, Transportation, Lodging, and Meals**
- 3. Approval of Out-of-State Travel for Board Members ~~Melissa Callison~~, [retracted after Program & Finance Committee meeting], Carl Rice, Jr., and Edward Woods as well as LifeWays Staff Members Maribeth Leonard, Chief Executive Officer, Shannan Clevenger, Chief Operating Officer, Cassandra Watson, Executive Director of Clinical Services, Wade Stiff, Director of Crisis Services, and Jessica Tucelli, Director of**

Access Services, to Attend the National Council for Mental Wellbeing 2024 Annual Conference (NatCon24) in St. Louis, Missouri on April 15-17, 2024, for an Estimated Amount of \$23,762.84 to Include Registrations, Transportation, Lodging, and Meals

C. Quality Improvement and Credentialing

[No action items due to lack of a quorum; items were moved to this agenda's New Business section]

- LIFEWAYS BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Prior to his planned absence, Board Member Edward Woods submitted a written report on this topic, which is attached to these minutes for the Board's review.

- MID-STATE HEALTH NETWORK (MSHN) BOARD
- MSHN SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER OVERSIGHT POLICY BOARD
- NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR MENTAL WELLBEING BOARD

Prior to his planned absence, Board Member Edward Woods submitted a written report on this topic, which is attached to these minutes for the Board's review.

- COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY

CONTRACT AND FINANCIAL ISSUES

- MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (MDHHS) OFFICE OF RECIPIENT RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
- LIFEWAYS MENTAL HEALTH IN SCHOOLS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
- LIFEWAYS RECIPIENT RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
- LIFEWAYS SELF-DETERMINATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
- LIFEWAYS AD HOC NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Committee Chair Earl Poleski submitted the officer nominations, which were as follows:

Chair: Earl Poleski, Jackson County
Vice Chair: Mark Wiley, Hillsdale County
Treasurer: Carl Rice, Jr., Jackson County
Secretary: Kathleen Schmitt, Hillsdale County

NEW BUSINESS

LW 23-24-013 - Approval of 2024 Slate of Officers

MOTION BY RAY SNELL, SUPPORTED BY MELISSA CALLISON, THAT A UNANIMOUS BALLOT BE CAST FOR THE BOARD NOMINATING COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION FOR THE 2024 SLATE OF LIFEWAYS BOARD OFFICERS, AS FOLLOWS: KATHLEEN SCHMITT, SECRETARY; CARL RICE, JR., TREASURER; MARK WILEY, VICE CHAIR; AND EARL POLESKI, CHAIR, AS PRESENTED.

Chair Caswell called for any additional nominations from the floor.

There were no further nominations.

Discussion ensued and it was ultimately recommended that a clearer set of guidelines for the nominating committee process be created and implemented. This should include instructions on submitting others or oneself for various positions.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YAYS: MELISSA CALLISON, CHRISTINE CARLSON, BRUCE CASWELL, EARL POLESKI, CARL RICE, JR., KATHLEEN SCHMITT, RAY SNELL, MARK WILEY; ABSTAINED DUE TO VIRTUAL ATTENDANCE: JOHN CLARK, JEFFREY PETERSON; ABSENT: BRADLEY BOHNER, EDWARD WOODS; NAYS: NONE. MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

Positions are effective February 1, 2024.

LW 23-24-014 - Approval of the Quality Improvement and Credentialing Report

MOTION BY RAY SNELL, SUPPORTED BY CHRISTINE CARLSON, FOR APPROVAL OF THE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT AND CREDENTIALING REPORT, AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

LW 23-24-015 - Approval of Reviewed Policies: 03-01 Accounting; 03-02 Budget; 03-03 Expenses; 03-04 Billing and Claims; 03-05 Purchasing; 30-06 Board and Staff Expenses; 03-07 Rate Setting; 03-08 Financial Reports and Audits; 10-01 Provider Network Management; 10-03 Credentialing; 10-04 Provider Relations; 14-03 Intensive Crisis Stabilization Services (ICSS) for Children; 14-05 Crisis Line; 14-07 Pre-Admission Screening to Inpatient

MOTION BY RAY SNELL, SUPPORTED BY CHRISTINE CARLSON, FOR APPROVAL OF REVIEWED POLICIES: 03-01 ACCOUNTING; 03-02 BUDGET; 03-03 EXPENSES; 03-04 BILLING AND CLAIMS; 03-05 PURCHASING; 30-06 BOARD AND STAFF EXPENSES; 03-07 RATE SETTING; 03-08 FINANCIAL REPORTS AND AUDITS; 10-01 PROVIDER NETWORK MANAGEMENT; 10-03 CREDENTIALING; 10-04 PROVIDER RELATIONS; 14-03 INTENSIVE CRISIS STABILIZATION SERVICES (ICSS) FOR CHILDREN; 14-05 CRISIS LINE; 14-07 PRE-ADMISSION SCREENING TO INPATIENT, AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

LW 23-24-016 - Approval of Revised Policies: 10-02 Contract and Agreement Management; 11-01 Safety and Security; 11-02 Space Management; 13-02 Access Screening; 13-08 Central Michigan 2-1-1 Services; 14-01 23-Hour Crisis Living Room; 14-02 Mobile Crisis Team for Adults; 16-01 Targeted Case Management; 16-04 Incarceration Services; 16-06 Outpatient Substance Prevention Community Education

MOTION BY RAY SNELL, SUPPORTED BY MELISSA CALLISON, FOR APPROVAL OF REVISED POLICIES: 10-02 CONTRACT AND AGREEMENT MANAGEMENT; 11-01 SAFETY AND SECURITY; 11-02 SPACE MANAGEMENT; 13-02 ACCESS SCREENING; 13-08 CENTRAL MICHIGAN 2-1-1 SERVICES; 14-01 23-HOUR CRISIS LIVING ROOM; 14-02 MOBILE CRISIS TEAM FOR ADULTS; 16-01 TARGETED CASE MANAGEMENT; 16-04 INCARCERATION SERVICES; 16-06 OUTPATIENT SUBSTANCE PREVENTION COMMUNITY EDUCATION, AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

REPORTS

- CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO)

Ms. Leonard briefly highlighted the communications provided in the Board Folder and gave an overview of the CEO Report.

Ms. Leonard then presented Chair Caswell with a departing gift as he steps down from his role as Chair effective February 1. Ms. Leonard expressed her appreciation for Chair Caswell's expertise and guidance during the last two years.

(Copies of the Board Folder contents and the CEO Report can be found in the Supplemental Minutes portion of the Board Minutes Book.)

- BOARD CHAIR

Thank you to Ms. Leonard for your professionalism. If there is anything I can do to help you in the future, please let me know.

- **MEMBER COMMENTS**

Board members were invited to give general remarks. Of note:

- Many board members thanked Chair Caswell for his service of the last two years, especially for the insight provided on the state legislative process.
- The new slate of officers was congratulated and wished the best of luck in their new or continued roles.
- Jackson County has approved the placing of a 9/10 of a mil on the August ballot for new jail construction, which will also provide extended mental health services to those incarcerated.
- It was noted that one can submit project ideas for funding to the Opioid Committee through the Hillsdale County website.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Caswell adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Carl Rice, Jr., Secretary

January 2024 Report to the Board

Submitted by Ed Woods

National Council

The National Council Board has developed a detailed set of metrics related to the strategic plan. The metrics have been developed so that staff can have KPI's and goals without impeding creativity and rapid crisis response.

Some regions have states that dominate organization elections, so the board is working on a more regional nominating process.

Three of the strategic goals: to continue effective public policy; impact member's workforce and leadership development; increase delivery of education products and services.

The Senate Finance Committee held a markup for the Better Mental Health Care, Lower-Cost Drugs, and Extenders Act. This bill contained several National Council legislative priorities, including provisions of the Improving Access to Mental Health Act, which would ensure clinical social workers can provide their full range of services to Medicare beneficiaries.

The Senate Finance Committee also voted to include an amendment which would add a definition for CCBHCs within the Medicaid program, including the nine essential CCBC services, based on provisions within the Ensuring Excellence in Mental Health Act (S.2993). To become law, the bill still requires approval by the full Senate and House before going to the President's desk for his signature. President and CEO Chuck Ingoglia issued a statement in support of the CCBHC Medicaid definition being added:

- The National Council issued thank you letters to the offices of Senators Stabenow, Wyden, Crapo and Cornyn for their leadership and ability to include the CCBHC Medicaid definition in the Better Mental Health Care, Lower-Cost Drugs, and Extenders Act.

Other National Council Activities

1. Released a companion piece to the Public Safety-led Community-oriented Overdose Prevention Effort (PS-COPE) toolkit focused on tribal communities as part of our CDC-funded Training and Education project on Public Safety to Reduce Overdose Among Communities of Color. A series of new time-lapse animated videos around PS-COPE were also released: introduction video, trauma informed approaches video, recovery-oriented systems of care video, and safety-led community-oriented overdose prevention efforts video.
2. National Council's Center of Excellence for Integrated Health Solutions and Montefiore Care Management Organization developed and evaluated a continuum-based General Health Integration (GHI) Framework within a learning collaborative format to guide community behavioral health clinics as they advance their integrated care practice and

workforce and to inform policymakers on the successful scaling of this work and its sustainability. A report, outlining key findings and recommendations from the outcomes of the learning collaborative participants, has been finalized.

3. Center for Workforce Solutions launched the first ECHO session, which will run through July 2024. ECHO participants will engage in peer-to-peer learning on addressing workforce challenges related to six core areas: clinical models, payment, policy, workforce expansion, regulatory, and quality & accountability. From 77 ECHO applications, 34 organizations were selected to participate; 29 of the 34 are National Council members.
4. Partnered with College for Behavioral Health Leaders and Health Management Associates on a webinar to publicly discuss the larger backbone partnership for the Center for Workforce Solutions. The webinar explored the application of collective impact pillars developing workforce solutions and how to engage in this collaborative.

MSHN

Executive Committee

Draft Annual CEO Performance Review:

Committee members were provided with secure access to the CEO Performance Review report by secure link prior to the meeting. CEO Performance Review Chair summarized the report. Dr. O'Boyle noted that 17 of 22 seated board members participated, representing all 12 CMHSPs in the region.

CEO Employment Contract:

Consideration of Renewal: Mr. Sedlock provided a written request for three items for board consideration in renewing his contract, noting that his requests are consistent with compensation adjustments and policies in place for all MSHN staff.

CEO Succession Plan:

MSHN policy requires that the CEO submit his succession plan at the time of his annual performance review. Committee members were provided with secure access to the Succession Plan developed by Mr. Sedlock in advance of this meeting. There is no requirement for the board to act on the succession plan. The Executive Committee will report to the full board that an acceptable succession plan is on file with the Executive Committee in the event of a planned or unplanned triggering event.

Board Self-Evaluation and Other:

Dr. O'Boyle will have further information for the board at the meeting. Proposal to include Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) questions in the future: Mr. Sedlock presented several

questions intended to be included in future board self-evaluations addressing board member DEI understanding and performance. These were simply introduced at this meeting and will be taken up formally at a future meeting.

I informed the EC that JJ Hodshire, Hillsdale Hospital CEO, will present at the NATCON Conference this spring and will host the hospital's ongoing "Rural Health Rising" podcast live from the conference.