

The Right Door for Hope, Recovery and Wellness
(Ionia County Community Mental Health)

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, November 24, 2025, 4 p.m.
375 Apple Tree Drive
Ionia, Michigan

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Board Chairperson Nancy Patera called the meeting to order at 4 p.m.; Secretary Mary Barker took roll call.

Member(s) Present:

Mary Barker, Karen Bota, David Hodges, Mariah Lab, Tara Lanz, Melissa McKinstry, Deborah McPeek-McFadden, Linda Purcey, Ron Thomas

Ex-Officio Member(s) Present: CEO Kerry Possehn, Board Chairperson Nancy Patera

Members Absent: Andrew Dinehart (excused), Nancy Haga (excused)

Staff Present:

Brenda Charles, Nathan Derusha, Amanda Eveleth, Lisa Lubenow, Jennie Morgan, Maureen Perkins, Susan Richards, Jenny Scheurer, Liz Thelen

2. Determination of Quorum

A quorum was determined to be present.

3. Public Comment

Board Vice Chair McPeek McFadden informed the Board of the recent passing of Raul Gonzales, Board Member of CEI CMH.

4. October 20, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes

MOVED by Melissa McKinstry and SUPPORTED by Ron Thomas to approve the October 20, 2025 Board meeting minutes as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

5. Acceptance of Agenda

MOVED by Melissa McKinstry and SUPPORTED by David Hodges to approve the agenda as amended.

MOTION carried unanimously.

6. Financial Statements – October 2025

CFO Nathan Derusha reviewed the October 2025 financial statements.

7. Pending Contracts – November 2025

MOVED by Melissa McKinstry and SUPPORTED by Deborah McPeek-McFadden to approve the November 2025 pending contracts as presented.

MOTION carried unanimously.

8. Policy Review

MOVED by Deborah McPeek-McFadden and SUPPORTED by Melissa McKinstry to approve Policies F-222 Accounts Receivable and Delinquent Accounts, F-234 Cash Donations, F-281 Records Retention, G-320 Succession Planning, HR-518 Media Relations, HR-533 Absence From Work, ITIS-410 Backup and Disaster Recovery, RR-131 Provider of Choice, RR-993 Limited English Proficiency, RR-104 Notification of Rights as presented and HR-511 Professional Conduct and HR-517 Agency Hours of Operation as amended.

MOTION carried unanimously.

9. FY 26 CMHA Board Dues

MOVED by Melissa McKinstry and SUPPORTED by Mary Barker to approve the payment of FY 26 CMHA board dues.

MOTION carried unanimously.

9a. MSHN Contract Amendment

MOVED by Melissa McKinstry and SUPPORTED by Mary Barker to approve the MSHN contract amendment as presented.

MOTION carried unanimously.

9b. Hard Cap Exemption

MOVED by Melissa McKinstry and SUPPORTED by Mary Barker to approve the agency PA152 Hard Cap exemption for calendar year 2026 health insurance benefit.

MOTION carried unanimously.

10. Meeting Schedule for 2026

MOVED by Deborah McPeek-McFadden and SUPPORTED by David Hodges to accept the 2026 meeting schedule as presented.

MOTION carried unanimously.

11. Nominating Committee Appointment for CY 2026 Board Officers

Board members Deborah McPeek-McFadden, David Hodges, and Linda Purcey were appointed as the nominating committee.

12. Employee Leave Extension – HR 534

MOVED by Melissa McKinstry and SUPPORTED by Ron Thomas to amend Policy HR-534 to include language for the Board to approve leave extension if the employee has less than ten years of service.

MOTION carried unanimously.

MOVED by Melissa McKinstry and SUPPORTED by Mary Barker to approve the employee leave extension as presented by CEO Possehn.

MOTION carried unanimously.

13. Quality Improvement

QI/Compliance Officer Susan Richards reviewed the FY 25 Quarter 4 board outcomes. She also reviewed the FY 26 Board outcomes.

MOVED by Melissa McKinstry and SUPPORTED by Deborah McPeek-McFadden to approve the FY 26 Board Outcomes as presented.

MOTION carried unanimously.

14. Mid-State Health Network Affiliation Report

There was no report.

15. CMHA Report

Board Member McKinstry discussed the MDHHS proposed policy of using MichiCans for assessments, the CMS rural health initiative plan for 2026-2030, and the use of biopsychosocial assessments.

16. CEO Report

CEO Possehn discussed the status of the lawsuit for intent to halt the PIHP RFP process. There will be a second hearing on December 8 and 9 where all directors will attend. Carol Mills and Joe Sedlock will testify. She also discussed the MI Plan – three agencies from MSHN (Shiawassee, CEI and Lifeways) have signed on with Richard Carpenter of Rehmann Robson. CEO Possehn reminded members of the December Board meeting scheduled at 1 p.m. with a holiday luncheon prior at noon.

17. Other

No other items presented for discussion.

18. Board Meeting Wrap-Up October 2025 Review

Board meeting wrap-up questionnaire responses from October were included in the packet.

19. Board Meeting Wrap-Up Questionnaire

Board Chairperson Patera encouraged members to complete the form.

20. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

