

ST. CLAIR COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY
3111 Electric Avenue
Port Huron, Michigan 48060

GROUP MEETING: SCC Community Mental Health Board
SUBJECT: Regular Meeting
PLACE: St. Clair County Community Mental Health
3111 Electric Avenue, Port Huron
DATE: September 9, 2025
TIME: 5:00 p.m.
PRESIDING: Nancy Thomson, Chairman

IN PERSON: K. Albrecht, J. Jowett-Lee, R. Mirabelli, K. Nicholl, M. Partipilo, E. Pierce, E. Priemer, N. Thomson

VIRTUAL: None

ABSENT: L. Ames, D. Davey, K. Schieweck, J. Totty

ALSO PRESENT: Guests In Person: Vicki Blackburn, Renae Kiehler, Jennifer O'Dell

Staff In Person: T. Delor, H. Fogarty, K. Gallagher, D. Hazlewood, D. Johnson, J. Morocco, M. Measel-Morris, K. Thompson, T. Wells (recording secretary)

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. by Chairman Thomson.

II. CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Concerned Citizen Re. Open Meetings Act

III. AGENDA CHANGES

A motion was made by Ms. Mirabelli, seconded by Ms. Pierce to approve the agenda. **MOTION CARRIED.**

IV. PROGRAM PRESENTATION – CONTRACT MANAGEMENT

Ms. Kimberly Prowse, Contract Management Supervisor, joined the meeting to provide a presentation on the Contract Management department at St. Clair County Community Mental Health.

V. BOARD CAPACITY-BUILDING DISCUSSION / BOARD EDUCATION

A. Building Board Development

The board reviewed the current list of progress on Board Works progress for each board member. Typically, there is a board works opportunity offered at each Community Mental Health

Association Conference however one is not being offered this year. All board works trainings can be found online on the CMHA website.

B. CMHA Conference (10/27 – 10/28)

The Community Mental Health Association Fall Conference is taking place October 27th – October 28th. Board Members wishing to attend should contact Ms. Tracy Wells.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. St. Clair County CMH Previous Meeting Minutes
- B. Finance
 - 1. Monthly Bank Reconciliation
 - 2. Monthly Payment Report
 - 3. Funding Bucket Report
- C. SCCCMHA Board Policies
- D. Chief Executive Officer Report
- E. Leadership Team Report
- F. Employee / Community Relations & Training Department Report
- G. Region 10 PIHP Board Meeting Minutes
- H. Office of Recipient Rights Quarterly Update
- I. Employment Agreement Amendment – Debra Johnson – 2025-04

Mr. Priemer made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda stating: “I move to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the August 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, the Monthly Bank Reconciliation Totaling eleven Million, one hundred twenty-nine thousand, five hundred dollars, and eighty cents, the Monthly Payment Report Totaling six million, nine hundred fifty three thousand, two hundred seventy seven dollars, and thirty cents, the St. Clair County CMH Board Policies, the CEO Report, the Leadership Team Report, the Employee and Community Relations Report, the Region 10 PIHP Meeting Minutes, the Office of Recipient Rights Quarterly Updates, and the Employment Agreement Amendment for Debra Johnson – 2025 - 04.” The motion was seconded by Ms. Partipilo to approve the items within the consent agenda. **MOTION CARRIED.**

VII. CLOSED SESSION – LEGAL

- A. A motion was made by Ms. Jowett-Lee, seconded by Mr. Priemer to move into closed session at 5:23pm. **MOTION CARRIED.**
- B. A motion was made by Mr. Priemer, seconded by Ms. Jowett-Lee to move out of closed session at 5:29pm. **MOTION CARRIED.**

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Union Contract Chapter 20

Ms. Delor presented the Union Contract for AFSCME Michigan, Chapter 1518.20. The contract contains an increase in calendar year 2025 base wages by 3% for calendar year 2026; an increase in calendar year 2026 base wages by 3% for calendar year 2027; a ratification bonus to each employee, excluding rehired retirees, at the gross amount of \$1,500 to be paid in September 2025; and a health insurance stipend to be issued to each employee, excluding rehired retirees, based on their health insurance selections at St. Clair County Community Mental Health

Authority for calendar year 2026 at the gross amount of \$2,000 for an Employee / Opt-Out Employee selection, \$3,000 for an Employee plus one selection, or \$3,700 for a Family selection to be paid in January 2026.

It was moved by Ms. Partipilo, seconded by Ms. Jowett-Lee to approve the AFSCME Michigan, Chapter 1518.20 Contract, as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

B. Union Contract Chapter 3385

Ms. Delor presented the Union Contract for AFSCME Michigan, Chapter 3385. The contract contains the move of Clinician 1s from a Grade 7 to a Grade 7.5; the move of Clinician 2s from a Grade 7.5 to a Grade 8; an increase in calendar year 2025 base wages by 3% for calendar year 2026; an increase in calendar year 2026 base wages by 3% for calendar year 2027; a ratification bonus to each employee, excluding rehired retirees, at the gross amount of \$1,500 to be paid in September 2025; and a health insurance stipend to be issued to each employee, excluding rehired retirees, based on their health insurance selection at the St. Clair County Community Mental Health Authority for calendar year 2026 at the gross amount of \$2,000 for an Employee / Opt-Out Employee selection, \$3,000 for an Employee plus one selection, or \$3,700 for a Family selection to be paid on January 2026.

It was moved by Ms. Pierce, seconded by Ms. Jowett-Lee to approve the St. Clair County Community Mental Health Board By-Laws, as presented. **MOTION CARRIED**

C. Henry Ford Behavioral Health Hospital – Psychiatric Inpatient Contract

Ms. Delor presented the contract for Henry Ford Behavioral Health Hospital – Psychiatric Inpatient. This hospital will provide 154 additional adult beds and 30 minor beds for those needing psychiatric inpatient care.

Ms. Jowett-Lee made a motion to approve the Henry Ford Behavioral Health Hospital – Psychiatric Inpatient Contract as presented, seconded by Ms. Partipilo. **MOTION CARRIED.**

D. FY26 Proposed Budget

Ms. Hazlewood presented the FY26 Proposed Budget.

Mr. Nicholl made a motion to approve FY26 Proposed Budget, seconded by Ms. Jowett-Lee. **MOTION CARRIED.**

IX. OPERATIONAL CONCERNS / ISSUES / UPDATES

A. Chief Executive Officer Updates

Ms. Johnson provided updates to the board on happenings that have occurred since the preparation of her board report.

1. 3001 Electric Ave.

Ms. Johnson provided an update on the Children's Therapeutic Group Home Initiative. Ms. Johnson shared that there is a possibility of partnership with a local contract agency for the Children's Group Home. Addressing the potential and probable room and board shortfall will be a necessity in making this home successful, as well as ensuring adequate staffing. There will never not be a need for this type of home. There are not good options

for kids. Pursuing building a Children's Therapeutic Group Home on the 3001 Electric Ave. property as previously discussed is not something Ms. Johnson is requesting formal action on at this time. An RFP will be presented for this project at the next board meeting. Ms. Johnson did however want to confirm she has the board's support in continuing to look into other potential uses for the property. All board members present agreed that it was ok for staff to continue looking into other uses of the property.

Further discussion on the property took place. Ms. Johnson shared that the agency has received an affordable housing proposal from a nonprofit developer at no cost to the organization. She requested permission to have Mr. Livingston, a contract employee with St. Clair CMH, join her in the next meeting regarding this proposal. Mr. Livingston has an engineering background, and his expertise and perspective would be valuable.

Ms. Johnson added that a future presentation to the board with the developer . designee could can occur when / if things progress. She emphasized that affordable housing aligns with the agency's mission, as it is one of the key social determinants of health.

Ms. Thomson noted that board concerns about developing the property stem from uncertainty around future funding, and therefore a hold should remain on any major spending projects. However, she clarified that involving Mr. Livingston in discussions to explore land use does not constitute major spending. She asked for board member feedback.

Ms. Partipilo agreed, stating that the board's concern is with large-scale development costs, not with minimal costs to explore how the property might be developed and utilized by others.

2. House Oversight Committee Hearing
Ms. Elizabeth Hertel, Director of MDHHS, was interviewed during a House Oversight Committee Hearing. The interview is available for public viewing on YouTube.
3. Advocacy Efforts
Advocacy against the competitive bid out of the public mental health system continues to be a priority. Community members are encouraged to visit the St. Clair County CMH website for resources, including customizable template letters. Ms. Johnson also encouraged everyone to share advocacy-related posts from the St. Clair County CMH Facebook page. Action alerts are also being sent out over email.
4. Change in Access Process
A change in the St. Clair County CMH Access process is happening. The board was provided with a draft of this process. The new number to call is (810) 488-8888. No wrong door policy.
5. Annual Meeting
Planning has begun for the Annual Meeting that will take place in May. Board members were asked their preference of a breakfast or an evening event, and while no formal vote took place, breakfast was the popular choice.
6. Media Opportunity
Ms. Johnson reported that she was reached out to by *Empowerment*, a television program hosted by Actress Meg Ryan. The show features educational content and is aired on public television. Ms. Ryan would be the opener and closer to what St. Clair County

CMH's segment. There is a cost of \$25,000 to participate. St. Clair County CMH would own the rights to the video.

7. Recipient Rights Position Posting

Due to the increase in Recipient Rights complaints, there is going to be a position posted for a Recipient Rights Advisor. Ms. Thomson recommended that the position posted be a full time position.

8. Community Engagement

The St. Clair County Child Abuse and Neglect Council's Annual Roof-sit is taking place, and Ms. Johnson will be on the roof tomorrow.

9. Celebration of Recovery

The Celebration of Recovery is taking place on October 8th.

X. BOAD FORUM / GOVERNANCE

A. CARF Board Governance Standards

Tabled.

B. St. Clair County CMH By-Law Review

The St. Clair County CMH By-Law's were presented to the St. Clair County CMH Board with suggested changes, including the addition of language regarding Citizens wishing to Address the Board. The board offered feedback on the revisions. Board members were asked to continue to review, and email feedback to Ms. Wells.

XI. ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO PROPERLY COME BEFORE THE BOARD

None.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Ms. Jowett-Lee, seconded by Ms. Partipilo, to adjourn. **MOTION CARRIED.**

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Wells
Recording Secretary