



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2021**

The LifeWays Board of Directors met in regular session in the Board Room at the LifeWays Building, 25 Care Drive, Hillsdale, Michigan on Wednesday, October 20, 2021.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jeffrey Peterson (Chair); Bruce Caswell (Vice Chair); Ruth Brown (Secretary); John Clark (Treasurer); Bradley Bohner; Melissa Callison via Zoom; Christine Carlson via Zoom; Earl Poleski; Carl Rice, Jr. via Zoom; Ray Snell via Zoom; Mark Wiley via Zoom; Edward Woods via Zoom

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:** Maribeth Leonard (Chief Executive Officer), Kenneth Berger, Latrelle Burk, Karen Cascaddan, Shannan Clevenger, Michael Cupp, Jon Johnston, Casie Robertson, Alexis Shapiro

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Raven Albertson

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Invocation was presented by Ruth Brown, which was 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.

**APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA**

LW 21-22-001 - Approval of Agenda of the October 20, 2021 Regular Business Meeting

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**MOTION BY BRADLEY BOHNER, SUPPORTED BY RUTH BROWN, FOR APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA OF THE OCTOBER 20, 2021 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING, AS AMENDED. MOTION CARRIED: 12-0**

**APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES**

**LW 21-22-002 - Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Business Meeting held on September 15, 2021**

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**MOTION BY BRADLEY BOHNER, SUPPORTED BY JOHN CLARK, FOR APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2021, AS PRESENTED. MOTION APPROVED: 12-0**

**CEO COMMUNICATIONS**

Maribeth Leonard, Chief Executive Officer, briefly highlighted the communications provided in the Board Folder.

Responding to a question by Mr. Caswell regarding Senator Mike Shirkey's invitation to Ms. Leonard to participate in a Workgroup related to his Senate Bill to amend 1939 PA 280 ("The Social Welfare Act"), Ms. Leonard affirmed that Senator Shirkey had invited her to participate. However, to date, Ms. Leonard has not received a formal invitation.

In response to a question regarding the status of the LifeWays logo change, Ms. Leonard said the updated marketing plan and new logo design have been presented to staff and survey results are being tabulated.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Raven Albertson discussed a loved one's treatment plan and what she called "the lack of effort of working with family members." Ms. Albertson requested that better processes be put into place to protect family communication and involvement, up to and including training for family members.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

**LW 21-22-003 - Approval of the Consent Agenda (October 20, 2021 Regular Business Meeting)**

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**MOTION BY BRADLEY BOHNER, SUPPORTED BY RUTH BROWN, FOR APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA (OCTOBER 20, 2021 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING), AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED: 12-0**

**A. Facilities**

- 1. Approval to Accept RW Mercer Co. Invoice #338743 | Draw #21 in the Amount of \$570,419.97 and Recommendation to LifeWays Finance Committee Approval for Payment for Period Ending 9/30/2021**

**B. Program & Finance**

- 2. Approval to Accept Finance Report – August 2021**
- 3. Approval to Accept Expenses Report – August 2021 - \$6,727,371.05**
- 4. Approval to Accept the Facilities Committee Recommendation for Payment to RW Mercer for Invoice #338743 | Draw #21 in the Amount of \$570,419.97 for Payment for Period Ending 9/30/2021**
- 5. Approval of Out-of-State Travel for Donald Wood, Executive Director of Human Resources, and Nikki Thomsen, Assistant Director of Human Resources, to attend the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) Annual Conference, June 12-15, 2022, in New Orleans, LA for an Estimated Amount of \$8,538.00 to include Registration, Transportation, Lodging and Meals**

**C. Quality Improvement and Credentialing**

- 6. Approval of the Quality Improvement/Credentialing Report – October 2021**
- 7. Approval for Priority V of the Strategic Plan Goals to be Re-evaluated and All Goals Resubmitted in November 2021**
- 8. Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 Substance Use Disorder Prevention Services Contractual Agreement Between Mid-State Health Network and LifeWays Community Mental Health**
- 9. Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 Substance Use Disorder Treatment Contractual Agreement Between Mid-State Health Network and LifeWays Community Mental Health**
- 10. Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 Risk Management Plan**
- 11. Approval of 2022 Board Meeting Calendar**
- 12. Approval of 2022 Board Committee Meeting Calendar**
- 13. Approval of 2021 Board Committee Meeting Calendar Update**
- 14. Approval of Further Clarification of Applicants' Interests**
- 15. Approval of Reviewed Policies: 05-01 Clinical Care; 13-01 Functions of Access; 13-03 Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Screenings; 13-05 Autism Screening; 13-06 Serious Emotional Disturbance Screening for Foster Care; 14-06 Crisis Intervention; 15-02 Prevention Policy**

**APPOINTED COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- LIFEWAYS BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**
- LIFEWAYS RECIPIENT RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

- MID-STATE HEALTH NETWORK (MSHN) BOARD
- MSHN SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER OVERSIGHT POLICY BOARD
- NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD
- COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
- LIFEWAYS MENTAL HEALTH IN SCHOOLS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
- LIFEWAYS SELF-DETERMINATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

#### NEW BUSINESS

#### REPORTS

- CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO)

Ms. Leonard presented the CEO report on the following topics.

- LifeWays Update
  - Certified Community Behavioral Health Update
  - LifeWays Chamber Ribbon Cutting Event
  - LifeWays Participated in the Walk-a-Mile Event
  - Mental Health Supports to Jail Services
  - Appearance on Bart Hawley Show
- State Legislative Update
  - Fiscal Year 2022 Budget is Done
  - House Democrats Launch Mental Health Listening Tour
  - Senate Committee Hears Testimony on Mobile Crisis Bills
- Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Update
  - Addressing Burnout
- Community Mental Health Association (CMHA) Update
  - Legislative Video on CMHA's Website
- Upcoming Events
  - LifeWays Annual Board & Staff Appreciation Event

Ms. Leonard presented to the Board a certificate and plaque In Recognition of Fidelity to

**In-Jail Medication Assisted Treatment Model. These were received from the Michigan Opioid Partnership, which consists of the Wayne State University School of Social Work Center for Behavioral Health and Justice, the Michigan Health Endowment Fund, and the Center for Behavioral Health and Justice. The awards were given to LifeWays in recognition of the jail services implemented and provided in Jackson County.**

**Chair Peterson stated that the staff involved are appreciated for all of the hard work done to implement this successful program.**

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

- **BOARD CHAIR**

**I feel like I speak for all of us when I say that it's good to see Ed Woods on the screen tonight.**

- **MEMBER COMMENTS**

- **Ms. Carlson – No comment.**
- **Mr. Woods – Thanks to everyone for reaching out to me while I was laid low. Family visits are limited to one per 24 hours and visitation hours are short. That leaves a lot of hours in the day to be by yourself, when you're in pain and on opioids, all of which can put you in a dark place. Many of you reached out to me, sending me messages and well wishes, and it really helped a lot. I can't imagine those that take opioids their entire lives; it's a very slippery slope. The doctors are very clear that you stay on them just long enough to get the pain under control, which helps you heal better and recover faster. The whole process is scary, and you think about it all day long; when are you going to get your next pain pill, how long will that one last, will I be able to stop using them today? You aren't yourself for a couple of weeks. It is a stressful thing to go through and I really appreciate all the folks that reached out to me during that time.**
- **Dr. Rice – No comment.**
- **Ms. Callison – No comment.**
- **Mr. Snell – Thanks to Dr. Rice for the recent conversations we've been having on the subjects discussed tonight. And also, to Ed Woods; Ed and I go back a long time. I appreciate both of you being members of this board.**
- **Mr. Wiley – I'm not being antisocial by not being at the meeting since it's in Hillsdale tonight. I planted wheat until about 6:30 and the timing of it wouldn't allow me to get into town. Great to see everybody, even virtually.**
- **Mr. Clark – Happy birthday to Bruce!**
- **Mr. Poleski – Looking forward to having someone from LifeWays speak to our Rotary Club meeting in November. We'd love to hear about the new building, and I'll make sure that former members John Clark and Ray Snell know about**

the meeting once it's scheduled.

- **Mr. Bohner – Happy birthday, Bruce!**
- **Ms. Brown – First, I want to say that I'm very glad to see Ed tonight; we'll keep you in our prayers as we know you have some stuff ahead of you yet. Also, I want to wish safe travels to all of you that are traveling up north to the Fall Conference this weekend. Hope you have a good time and get back safely. I wish I could go with you, but I will be attending virtually. Please put on your radar and calendar the Suicide Survivors Loss Luncheon on Saturday, November 20 at noon. The Jackson and Hillsdale Suicide Prevention Coalitions are sponsoring this event together at Michindoh Conference Center [4545 E. Bacon Rd in Hillsdale]. It's a free event and isn't scheduled to last long so please come out if you can. It's the first time we've had a Suicide Survivors Loss luncheon in Hillsdale, and we've been happy to do it, along with the Jackson Suicide Prevention Coalition's help. The Communications and Outreach Department will be sending out a flyer and also posting it on Facebook. I believe Michigan State is on the road and I know Michigan is, so there's no home games that day to conflict with this.**
- **Mr. Caswell – Ed, I'm glad you're doing better; hang in there! I have to brag about my son, Kevin, who got his work evaluation the other day. He was told that he's doing a good job and they didn't have anything bad to say. The head of the laundry department is retiring at the end of the month. I told him that he should apply to be the head dog of the laundry department. He looked at me and said, "Absolutely not!" We're pretty proud of him.**

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Peterson adjourned the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

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**Ruth Brown, Secretary**