



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2020**

The LifeWays Board of Directors met in regular session via Zoom (due to the COVID-19 pandemic) on Wednesday, November 18, 2020.

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Jim Shotwell, Sr.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Maribeth Leonard (Chief Executive Officer), Ken Berger, Latrelle Burk, Karen Cascaddan, Shannan Clevenger, Michael Cupp, Angie O'Dowd, Casie Robertson

OTHERS PRESENT:

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 Jeffrey Peterson, 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 20-21-005 - Approval of Agenda of the November 18, 2020 Regular Business Meeting

MOTION BY BRADLEY BOHNER, SUPPORTED BY JOHN CLARK, FOR APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA OF THE NOVEMBER 18, 2020 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING, AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED: 11-0

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

LW 20-21-006 - Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Business Meeting held on October 21, 2020

MOTION BY CARL RICE, JR., SUPPORTED BY BRADLEY BOHNER, FOR APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 21, 2020, AS PRESENTED. MOTION APPROVED: 11-0

CEO COMMUNICATIONS

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

It was noted that the law enforcement mental health assistance is wonderful (as evidenced on page 27 of the Board Folder); however, the same supports are still needed in the schools. LifeWays has been working towards providing services in schools and will continue to do so with the Children's Crisis Response Team and the use of mental health millage dollars. Advocacy to state representatives would be helpful and appreciated.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

SPECIAL ORDER TOPIC: RECIPIENT RIGHTS REPORT ON SITE VISITS – D'ANGELA O'DOWD, RECIPIENT RIGHTS OFFICER

D'Angela O'Dowd reviewed the Site Visit Report for the Board and answered the following questions.

Q. What do you use as reminders to ensure the site visits are done in a timely manner?

A. The Plan of Correction (POC) recently submitted to the State is reviewed at all Office of Recipient Rights (ORR) team meetings (which are normally held on a weekly basis) to ensure all areas in the POC are being covered on a timely basis, including site visits. All findings are reported to the Recipient Rights Advisory Council (RRAC) at each bi-monthly meeting.

Q. On page 4 of the RRAC Site Visit Calendar, the list of providers outnumbers the list of residential homes; are there multiple providers for these homes?

A. The balance between the providers and residential homes varies, depending on the most recent contracts and residential home needs.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

LW 20-21-007 - Approval of the Consent Agenda (November 18, 2020 Regular Business Meeting)

MOTION BY MELISSA CALLISON, SUPPORTED BY CARL RICE, JR., FOR APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA (NOVEMBER 18, 2020 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING), AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED: 11-0

A. Facilities

1. Approval to Accept RW Mercer Co. Invoice #337527 | Draw #10 in the Amount of \$409,058.91 and Recommendation to LifeWays Finance Committee Approval for Payment for Period Ending 10/31/2020
2. Approval of Change Order Request #6 for the LifeWays Building Remodel (Capital Improvement Bonds, Series 2018C) for Phase 2 Additional Pricing

B. Program & Finance

3. Approval to Accept Finance Report – September 2020
4. Approval to Accept Expenses Report – September 2020 - \$6,983,580.24
5. Approval to Accept the Facilities Committee Recommendation for Payment to RW Mercer for Invoice #337527 | Draw #10 in the Amount of \$409,058.91 and Recommendation to LifeWays Finance Committee Approval for Payment for Period Ending 10/31/2020

C. Quality Improvement and Credentialing

6. Approval of the Quality Improvement/Credentialing Report – November 2020

APPOINTED COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **LIFEWAYS BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**
- **LIFEWAYS RECIPIENT RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RRAC)**
- **MID-STATE HEALTH NETWORK (MSHN) BOARD**
- **MSHN SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER (SUD) OVERSIGHT POLICY BOARD**
- **NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD**

- **COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN (CMHAM)**
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY COMMITTEE
- **LIFEWAYS MENTAL HEALTH IN SCHOOLS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

NEW BUSINESS

REPORTS

- **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO)**

Before reviewing the CEO Report, Ms. Leonard presented the following certificates from the CMHA Fall Conference:

- **Appreciation for 20 Years of Service: Jeffrey Peterson**
- **Recognition for Completion of BoardWorks Training: Christine Carlson**

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

Not included in the written report is the news that LifeWays is partnering with the Jackson County Intermediate School District (ISD) to provide group sessions to schools, which will help staff deal with stress, challenges and anxiety experienced as a result of COVID-19. LifeWays' Clinical Team has been assigned to the Michigan Center School District.

The Clinical Team will also be providing weekly support to the Jackson Interfaith Shelter.

Ms. Leonard has also been asked to participate in the workgroup for the further development of the Michigan Crisis and Access Line (MiCAL). LifeWays Access staff has been asked to participate also to provide their feet-on-the-ground perspective. Common Ground has been chosen as the vendor.

- **LifeWays Update**
 - **Strategic Plan Update**
 - **COVID-19 Status Update**
 - **Face-to-Face Services**
 - **LifeWays Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Plan Update**
 - **Engagement Center Update**
 - **Exciting News!**
- **Mid-State Health Network (MSHN)**
 - **Michigan Stay Well Counseling**
 - **MSHN SUD Block Grant**

- Residential Monitoring During COVID-19
- Performance Bonus Incentive Pool 2020
- **Community Mental Health Association (CMHA)**
 - CMHA Board and Committee Meetings
 - Certified Community Behavioral Health Center (CCBHC) Demonstration State Work
- **Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)**
 - Gatherings and Face Mask Orders
- **State Legislative Update**
 - Crisis Stabilization Units (CSU) – House Bill (HB) 5832
 - Universal Credentialing – HB 5178
 - Reporting for Inpatient Units – Senate Bill (SB) 813
 - Reporting for Inpatient Units – HB 5615
 - Certificate of Need – SB 672 and 673
 - Mental Health Professionals – SB 826
 - Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTFs) – HB 5298
 - Mental Health First Aid – SB 41
 - Telehealth Coverage – SB 898
 - Pre-parole Mental Health Discharge Planning – HB 4700
 - Medicaid Reimbursement for Alcohol Use Disorder Treatment – HB 5408
 - Inpatient Bed Registry / MiCAL – HB 6188 and 6189
- **Upcoming Events**
 - Annual Board and Staff Recognition Event
 - “Diversity and Inclusion Around the Board Table” Training

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

- **BOARD CHAIR**

The Self-Determination (Self-D) Ad Hoc Committee was set up last month. Committee Chair Callison, has the committee met yet?

Ms. Callison: A kick off meeting was held earlier this month. Notes from it are being reviewed by core members and will be forwarded to the CEO and the Executive Director of Governance for their review before the committee begins meeting on a regular schedule. The committee will then be added to the monthly board meeting agenda for updates to the

board.

- **MEMBER COMMENTS**

- Ms. Callison – Another quick thank you for the development of the Self-D advisory committee; I'm really looking forward to that. Almost as much as I'm looking forward to everyone wearing a bow tie to our next meeting.
- Mr. Clark – I would like to reiterate the importance of mental health in our schools at this time. Just being associated with Sharp Park Academy and the limited amount of work that I do with them, I know the strain that teachers and parents are under, having to operate from home. The teachers are just overwhelmed, I don't know how else to put it. They have to make sure their Zoom meetings go correctly; they have to be actors on a screen almost daily; and it's all very stressful. Anything we can do to support our teachers, the parents and students, please go out of your way to do so. Lastly, what is the dress code for this year's virtual holiday event?

Karen Cascaddan, Executive Director of Governance, replied that the dress code is holiday casual.

- Mr. Woods – I got a *Partners in Health* newsletter in the mail from Henry Ford Allegiance Health (HFAH); it includes an article on improving access to behavioral health and how HFAH is partnering with LifeWays to try to create better experiences. It sounds like things have improved since the change in leadership at HFAH. Would appreciate an update on how that's going in the future. It sounds very positive. On the cover of the newsletter is a picture of the mural of Andrea Johnson, CNA (Certified Nursing Assistant), recognizing her for her hard work during the pandemic. Also featured is Myeshia Jones, HFAH's Communications and Community Outreach representative. Ms. Jones is a Jackson native; she has a master's degree and was recently promoted to her position. If you meet her, you won't soon forget her as she is a high energy and engaging young lady. What I wanted to point out about her that you probably don't know is that she is a product of local Master Peter May's Tai Kwon Do program (which was started with the assistance of former LifeWays CEO, Chris Thompson). The program was started for local kids that were having issues in school with bullies and/or showing aggression. Ms. Thompson assisted in getting them enrolled in Mr. May's program, which was held at Rev. Combs' church. Ms. Jones went through the program and became quite the star; she has since become quite successful. The article doesn't mention her participation in May's program, which is her connection to LifeWays, but she does talk about some of the obstacles she overcame so I wanted to share that with everyone. Also, none of the men on this board was selected for Sexiest Man Alive though I thought Dr. Rice was a shoo-in. Maybe next year, Dr. Rice.
- Mr. Caswell – The only thing I want to bring up is the continuing saga of the refusal of Reading Emergency Unit to transfer mentally ill patients from Hillsdale Hospital to approved facilities throughout the state. I learned from Shannan [Clevenger, Chief Operations Officer] that last week two patients lost beds

because Reading wouldn't transport them. Maribeth and Shannan have done an excellent job of presenting options, such as the mental health millage dollars, to assist with transport but Reading still refuses to cooperate. For those of you in Jackson County, count your lucky stars that you have an ambulance service that will work with the Emergency Department to get these seriously ill people to facilities throughout the state cause we don't have such a service in Hillsdale County. When it comes a time for the Hillsdale Board of County Commissioners [BOCC], of which I am a part for only a short time more, to allocate money for ambulance service, I am not going to vote for giving Reading the money they ask for. I'm going to vote to withhold a percentage to pay for another ambulance service to come in to transport these patients. You'd never think to not transport someone with a physical problem such as a heart attack. It's extremely disturbing to me that anyone would treat mentally ill people in this manner. This comes from the leadership at the top of the company and it's very disappointing.

- Ms. Carlson – I want to wish everyone a very happy and safe Thanksgiving.
- Mr. Wiley – All I've got is a comment that we'll have Maribeth at the Hillsdale BOCC meeting on December 8, though virtually instead of in-person. She'll be first on the agenda; Maribeth, we'll get you the link for you to join. I'll echo the comment about having a safe Thanksgiving, and stay within your pod!
- Mr. Poleski – No comment.
- Dr. Rice – Just wanted to say that we have a lot of meetings throughout our involvement in our community, some more than others, but we all have so much going on in life. I've heard over and over from people, from various committees that have people from all walks of life, from the healthcare field, first responders and others that I'm in regular contact with, just how physically and mentally exhausted everyone is getting. Whoever is inclined to, we need to pray for one another as this is wearing on people, yet we still have to push forward because we've got a public service to make sure we get things done.
- Ms. Brown – Saturday, November 21 is Suicide Survivors Loss Day. I want to encourage everyone to go on the AFSP [American Foundation for Suicide Prevention] website on Saturday for their programs. There are programs in the morning and afternoon. LifeWays has also set up some trainings as far as Mental Health First Aid for both adults and youth. The Youth training is full but there will be another in January [on January 30 in partnership with the Hillsdale County ISD; for more info: <https://lifewayscmh.org/Training-Events/Calendar/Calendar-Details/ArtMID/477/ArticleID/1219/Virtual-Youth-Mental-Health-First-Aid>]. The Adult training is on December 12 [for more info: <https://lifewayscmh.org/Training-Events/Calendar/Calendar-Details/ArtMID/477/ArticleID/1225/Virtual-Adult-Mental-Health-First-Aid>]. This training is on a Saturday, which is unusual, but it was requested for those that can't make training during the week. A couple more people are needed to hold the class; if you need to take the class or need a refresher, please sign up as soon as you can. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone and thank you to everyone for all your hard work.

- **Mr. Bohner – It's a dangerous time out there right now; we don't know what kind of germs are out in the public or who's carrying them specifically. Things were settling down in Hillsdale County; somewhat recently we had no more than 175 cases and now we're up over 1,000. Be safe and have a good Thanksgiving.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Peterson adjourned the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

Ruth Brown, Secretary