



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
REGULAR MEETING**

Thursday, December 18, 2025 at 5:00 pm  
Room 225, Behavioral Health Center, 201 Mulholland Street, Bay City, MI 48708

MINUTES

<u>Board Members:</u>	Present	Excused	Absent
Robert Pawlak, Chair	X	_____	_____
Patrick McFarland, Vice Chair	X	_____	_____
Christopher Girard, Treasurer	X	_____	_____
Sally Mrozinski, Secretary	X	_____	_____
Tim Banaszak	X	_____	_____
Richard Byrne	X	_____	_____
Patrick Conley	X	_____	_____
Jerome Crete	X	_____	_____
Shelley King	X	_____	_____
Kathy Niemiec	X	_____	_____
Carole O'Brien	_____	X	_____
Pamela Schumacher	X	_____	_____

PUBLIC PRESENT

Paul Niemiec and Colleen Maillette

OTHERS PRESENT FROM BAY ARENAC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (BABH)

Christopher Pinter, Jennifer Lasceski, Karen Amon, Marci Rozek, Jackie Kish, and Sara McRae

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Board Chair, R. Pawlak, called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

M#148-25:

On motion of C. Girard and support by T. Banaszak, C. O'Brien was excused. The motion was adopted unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF RECOGNITION PLAQUE FOR COLLEEN MAILLETTE

R#2512001:

On motion of R. Byrne and support by C. Girard, the Board approved the recognition of Colleen Maillette for 12 years of distinguished service as a member of the Board of Directors. Her dedication and allegiance to the Authority is deeply appreciated, and her advocacy for the community and individuals we serve is outstanding. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Board Chair, R. Pawlak, presented the recognition plaque to Colleen Maillette. Colleen Maillette expressed her gratitude.

PRESENTATION OF RECOGNITION PLAQUE FOR RICHARD BYRNE

R#2512002: On motion of C. Girard and support by P. McFarland, the Board approved the recognition of Richard Byrne for seven years of service as Chair of the Board of Directors. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Board Chair, R. Pawlak, presented the recognition plaque to R. Byrne. R. Byrne expressed his gratitude.

PRESENTATION OF RECOGNITION PLAQUE FOR ERNIE KRYGIER

R#2512003: On motion of R. Byrne and support by C. Girard, the Board approved the recognition of Ernie Krygier for 18 years of distinguished service as a member of the Board of Directors. His devotion and commitment to the Community is sincerely appreciated, and his advocacy for the persons and families we serve is commendable. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Board Chair, R. Pawlak, reported Ernie Krygier was not available to be in attendance and the plaque will be sent to him.

COMMUNICATIONS

C. Pinter reported the letter to the Governor regarding the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) was also emailed to the Board of Directors.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING, November 20, 2025

Meeting Minutes:

M#149-25: On motion of C. Girard and support by K. Niemiec, the Board approved the minutes of the regular Board meeting of November 20, 2025. The motion was adopted unanimously.

FACILITIES & SAFETY COMMITTEE, December 4, 2025

Meeting Minutes:

M#150-25: On motion of J. Crete and support by P. Conley, the Board approved the minutes of the Facilities & Safety Committee meeting of December 4, 2025. The motion was adopted unanimously.

RECIPIENT RIGHTS ADVISORY & APPEALS COMMITTEE, December 8, 2025

Recipient Rights Annual Report:

R#2512004: On motion of P. McFarland and support by C. Girard, the Board approve the 2025 BABHA Annual Recipient Rights Report. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Meeting Minutes:

M#151-25: On motion of P. McFarland and support by P. Conley, the Board approved the minutes of the Recipient Rights Advisory & Appeals Committee meeting of December 8, 2025. The motion was adopted unanimously.

FINANCE COMMITTEE, December 10, 2025

Investment Earnings Balances:

M#152-25: On motion of T. Banaszak and support by P. Schumacher, the Board approved the investment earnings balances for the period ending November 30, 2025. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Contract List:

R#2512005: On motion of T. Banaszak and support by C. Girard, the Board approved the Finance December 2025 contract list. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Risk Management Plan:

R#2512006: On motion of T. Banaszak and support by J. Crete, the Board approved the Risk Management Plan. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Autism Services Competitive Bid Process:

R#2512007: On motion of T. Banaszak and support by P. Conley, the Board authorized administration to implement a competitive bid process to address revenue and expense issues for autism services. There were discussions regarding autism funding shortages, rates are not based on utilization, penetration rates, Midstate Health Network (MSHN) supports cost reduction efforts, the potential of reducing expenses while maintaining a similar level of services, the potential to reduce the provider network while maintaining consumer choice, previous RFPs issued by community mental health service programs (CMHSPs) such as for residential services.

The motion was adopted unanimously.

Meeting Minutes:

M#153-25: On motion of T. Banaszak and support by P. Conley, the Board approved the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of December 10, 2025. The motion was adopted unanimously.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE, December 11, 2025

Requests for Clinical Privileges:

R#2512008: On motion of C. Girard and support by P. Schumacher, the Board approved the request for clinical privileges for Cynthia Mai, PMHNP-BC, for a three-year renewal term expiring December 31, 2028. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Policy Beginning 30-day Review:

R#2512009: On motion of C. Girard and support by T. Banaszak, the Board approved the policy, Home and Community Based Rules, 04-05-08, to begin 30-day review. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Minutes:

M#154-25: On motion of C. Girard and support by J. Crete, the Board approved the minutes of the Program Committee meeting of December 11, 2025. The motion was adopted unanimously.

AUDIT COMMITTEE, December 15, 2025

Financial Statements:

R#2512010: On motion of P. McFarland and support by T. Banaszak, the Board approved the financial statements for the period ending November 30, 2025. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Electronic Fund Transfers:

R#2512011: On motion of P. McFarland and support by J. Crete, the Board approved the electronic fund transfers for the period ending November 30, 2025. There were discussions regarding the frequency of transfers, there are no fees for transfers, the goal of maximizing the higher rate money market account, the sweep account, and the amount of interest revenue. Leadership will report the interest revenue at Finance Committee.

The motion was adopted unanimously.

Disbursements & Health Care Claims:

R#2512012: On motion of P. McFarland and support by P. Schumacher, the Board approved the disbursement & health care claims payments from November 15, 2025 through December 12, 2025. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Meeting Minutes:

M#155-25: On motion of P. McFarland and support of C. Girard, the Board approved the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting of December 15, 2025. The motion was adopted unanimously.

REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATION

Federal & State Health Policy Update:

C. Pinter reported there is a federal bipartisan bill in support of Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs) being covered under Medicare billing. However, the Michigan House of Representatives has a hold on CCBHC expansion sites this year. C. Pinter also reported the current funding mechanism has a federal/state split of 75/25, and in 2027 the federal match is reducing for an overall split of 50/50. Leadership will continue to monitor the situation for future support of CCBHCs and state funding levels.

C. Pinter reviewed the news article which conveys the State of Oregon wants their county-based mental health programs to be liable for unfunded services and make individuals coming out of prison a priority over all other members of the community. The Oregon county mental health programs are pushing back saying they need to get paid for services and that individuals being released from jail are a state issue, not a county issue.

MidState Health Network (MSHN) Lawsuit in State Court of Claims:

C. Pinter provided an update on the lawsuit related to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan (PIHP) procurement process noting there is not a final decision yet. The judge did note the RFP as written may not allow CMHSPs to do their job as required in the Mental Health Code and that the State may need to address this issue before proceeding.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was not any unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

Holiday Schedule:

Board Chair, R. Pawlak, reported BABHA offices will be closed on Wednesday and Thursday, December 24 & 25, 2025 for the Christmas holiday. BABHA offices will also be closed on Wednesday and Thursday, December 31, 2025 & January 1, 2026 for the New Year's holiday.

Meeting Schedule for 2026:

M#156-25:

On motion of C. Girard and support by T. Banaszak, The Board adopted the 2026 board and committee meeting schedule. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Personnel & Compensation (P&C) Committee Meeting:

Board Chair, R. Pawlak, reported the regular scheduled January 1, 2026 P&C Committee meeting has been canceled due to the New Year's holiday.

Community Mental Health Association (CMHA) 2026 Winter Conference:

Board Chair, R. Pawlak, reported the CMHA Winter Conference is scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday, February 3 and 4, 2026 at the Radisson Plaza Hotel in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Those interested in attending can coordinate with S. McRae.

February Audit Committee Meeting:

Board Chair, R. Pawlak, reported the regular scheduled February 16, 2026 Audit Committee meeting has been canceled due to a conflict with President's Day.

ADJOURNMENT

M#157-25:

On motion of S. Mrozinski and support of C. Girard, the Board meeting adjourned at 5:25 pm. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Submitted by:

  
Sally Mrozinski, Board Secretary

Accepted by:

  
Robert Pawlak, Board Chair