



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING**

Thursday, November 20, 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	_____	_____

OTHERS PRESENT FROM BAY ARENAC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (BABH)

Christopher Pinter, Jennifer Lasceski, Karen Amon, Marci Rozek, Caeley Novak, and Sara McRae

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

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

M#137-25:

On motion of C. O'Brien and support by C. Girard, S. Mrozinski was excused. The motion was adopted unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

Board Chair, R. Pawlak, reported two former board members, Robert Luce and Michael Halstead, recently passed away. R. Luce served on the board for 9 years and was an advocate for individuals with disabilities, substance use disorders, and provider staff. M. Halstead served on the board for 8 years. The board observed a moment of silence in honor of R. Luce and M. Halstead.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING, October 16, 2025

Meeting Minutes:

M#138-25: On motion of T. Banaszak and support by R. Byrne, the Board approved the minutes of the regular Board meeting of October 16, 2025. The motion was adopted unanimously.

CORPORATE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE, November 6, 2025

Meeting Minutes:

The board discussed a correction to the minutes.

M#139-25: On motion of P. Conley and support by C. Girard, the Board approved the minutes of the Corporate Compliance Committee meeting of November 6, 2025 as corrected to change the individual who made the motion to adjourn the meeting from C. Pinter to C. Girard. The motion was adopted unanimously.

RECIPIENT RIGHTS ADVISORY & APPEALS COMMITTEE, November 10, 2025

Meeting Minutes:

M#140-25: On motion of P. McFarland and support by C. O'Brien, the Board approved the minutes of the Recipient Rights Advisory & Appeals Committee meeting of November 10, 2025. The motion was adopted unanimously.

FINANCE COMMITTEE, November 12, 2025

Investment Earnings Balances:

M#141-25: On motion of T. Banaszak and support by C. Girard, the Board approved the investment earnings balances for the period ending October 31, 2025. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Contract List:

R#2511001: On motion of T. Banaszak and support by P. Schumacher, the Board approved the Finance November 2025 contract list. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Meeting Minutes:

M#142-25: On motion of T. Banaszak and support by C. Girard, the Board approved the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of November 12, 2025. The motion was adopted unanimously.

SPECIAL BYLAW COMMITTEE, November 12, 2025

The board discussed a correction to the minutes.

M#143-25: On motion of T. Banaszak and support by J. Crete, the Board approved the minutes of the Special Bylaw Committee meeting of November 12, 2025 as corrected with deleting the language in the motion/action column under item 4.1. The motion was adopted unanimously.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE, November 13, 2025

Requests for Clinical Privileges:

R#2511002: On motion of C. Girard and support by J. Crete, the Board approved the following requests for clinical privileges:

- 1) Ali Ibrahim, M.D., for a three-year renewal term expiring November 30, 2028.
- 2) Jill LeBourdais, PA-C, for a three-year renewal term expiring November 30, 2028.

The motion was adopted unanimously.

Meeting Minutes:

M#144-25: On motion of C. Girard and support by P. Schumacher, the Board approved the minutes of the Program Committee meeting of November 13, 2025. The motion was adopted unanimously.

AUDIT COMMITTEE, November 17, 2025

Financial Statements:

R#2511003: On motion of P. McFarland and support by C. Girard, the Board approved the financial statements for the period ending October 31, 2025. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Electronic Fund Transfers:

R#2511004: On motion of P. McFarland and support by C. O'Brien, the Board approved the electronic fund transfers for the period ending October 31, 2025. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Disbursements & Health Care Claims:

R#2511005: On motion of P. McFarland and support by P. Conley, the Board approved the disbursement & health care claims payments from October 11, 2025 through November 14, 2025. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Meeting Minutes:

M#145-25: On motion of P. McFarland and support of R. Byrne, the Board approved the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting of November 17, 2025. The motion was adopted unanimously.

BOARD MEETING CONTRACT LIST, November 20, 2025

C. Pinter reported staff changes in the Information Technology (IT) Department and noted the yearly equipment replacement schedule was deferred in fiscal year 2025. Leadership is requesting the replacement of several devices before the end of December as they will no longer be supported by Windows 10 and need to be updated.

M#146-25: On motion of C. Girard and support by T. Banaszak, the Board approved the Board meeting November 2025 contract list. The motion was adopted unanimously.

REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATION

Federal & State Health Policy Update:

C. Pinter reviewed a summary of the Continuing Resolution sections related to mental health including 101 Extension of Funding, 111 Mandatory Programs, 118 Reimbursement to State governments, and 6208 Extension of certain telehealth flexibilities. C. Pinter reported that the extension of telehealth flexibilities is critical for BABHA services due to staffing and transportation barriers. C. Pinter also reviewed the fiscal year (FY) 2026 funding comparison report noting that the entire Medicaid system in Michigan cost \$4.3 billion in FY2025 and is estimated to cost \$4.2 billion in FY2026. C. Pinter reviewed the individual funding sources for Medicaid, substance use disorders, and autism services. There were general discussions regarding acronyms for disabled/blind/elderly (DAB) Medicaid, temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) Medicaid, habilitation support waiver (HSW), children's waiver program (CWP), serious emotional disturbance waiver (SED), and Healthy Michigan plan (HMP).

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

C. Pinter provided an update of the legal proceedings related to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan (PIHP) procurement process noting the next step is to show financial harm to the community mental health (CMHs) for services required in the Mental Health Code. In addition, the similar court case filed on behalf of several CMHs in Northern Michigan has been enjoined with the MSHN filing, raising the number of plaintiff organizations to 15 in total. C. Pinter has been asked to possibly testify at the hearing scheduled for December 9, 2025 relative to the impact on counties and CMHs. C. Pinter reviewed the possible outcomes of the lawsuit and potential impacts to BABHA. The Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) has submitted a bid in response to the PIHP request for proposals (RFP). There were general discussions that the bidders are not all known, the risk reserve and financial liability of PIHPs, the impact of the three Detroit metro counties, the potential impact when the RFP winner is selected, impact to the county jails if the system is privatized, and the anticipated increase in administrative overhead if the system is prioritized.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was not any unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

Recipient Rights (RR) Advisory & Appeals Committee Non-board Member Appointment:

Board Chair, R. Pawlak, appointed Robert Bowers to the RR Advisory & Appeals Committee for a three-year term commencing January 1, 2026 and expiring December 31, 2028.

Holiday Schedule:

Board Chair, R. Pawlak, reported BABHA Offices will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 27 and 28, 2025 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

ADJOURNMENT

M#147-25: On motion of C. Girard and support of P. Conley, the Board meeting adjourned at 5:33 pm.
The motion was adopted unanimously.

Submitted by:


Sally Mrozinski, Board Secretary

Accepted by:


Robert Pawlak, Board Chair