



BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, February 19, 2026 at 5:00 pm
Arenac Center, 1000 West Cedar Street, Standish, MI 48658

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

Kelly Luce

OTHERS PRESENT FROM BAY ARENAC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AUTHORITY (BABHA)

Christopher Pinter, Heather Friebe, Melissa Prusi, Jennifer Lasceski, Marci Rozek, and Sara McRae.

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

The board chair, R. Pawlak, called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

PUBLIC INPUT

There were not any members of the public that wished to address the board.

PRESENTATION OF PLAQUE IN MEMORY OF ROBERT LUCE

R#2602001:

On motion by C. Girard and support by R. Byrne, the board approved the resolution in memory of Robert Luce for nine years of committed service as a member of the Board of Directors. His dedication and commitment to persons with disabilities was greatly appreciated. His consistent advocacy for substance use services in our area was admirable. The motion was adopted unanimously.

The board chair, R. Pawlak, presented the memorial plaque to Kelly Luce, the wife of former board member Robert Luce. K. Luce expressed her gratitude.

COMMUNICATIONS

C. Pinter reported the thank you letter to the provider was sent because they took excellent care of a Bay County resident that was struggling around the holidays.

C. Pinter reported the receipt from Bay Shore Camp & Family Ministries was for the donation in memory of former board member, Robert Luce.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING, January 15, 2026

Meeting Minutes:

M#011-26: On motion by C. Girard and support by J. Crete, the Board approved the minutes of the regular Board meeting of January 15, 2026. The motion was adopted unanimously.

CORPORATE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE, February 5, 2026

Strategic Plan:

R#2602002: On motion by P. Conley and support by P. Schumacher, the board approved the 2026 Corporate Compliance Plan. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Meeting Minutes:

M#012-26: On motion by P. Conley and support by S. King, the board approved the minutes of the Corporate Compliance Committee meeting of February 5, 2026. The motion was adopted unanimously.

RECIPIENT RIGHTS ADVISORY & APPEALS COMMITTEE, February 9, 2026

Annual Recipient Rights Training:

Committee Chair, P. McFarland reminded the board the annual RR training is due by March 31, 2026 and members can see S. McRae with questions.

M#013-26: On motion by P. McFarland and support by C. Girard, the board received the annual Recipient Rights training information. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Meeting Minutes:

M#014-26: On motion by P. McFarland and support by P. Conley, the board approved the minutes of the Recipient Rights Advisory & Appeals Committee meeting of February 9, 2026. The motion was adopted unanimously.

FINANCE COMMITTEE, February 11, 2026

Investment Earnings Balances:

M#015-26: On motion by T. Banaszak and support by P. Schumacher, the board approved the investment earnings balances for the period ending January 31, 2026. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Contract List:

There were general discussions regarding the status of the agreements resulting from the community living support (CLS) provider transition that were removed. These items are included on the special Board meeting contract list.

R#2602003: On motion by T. Banaszak and support by J. Crete, the board approved the Finance February 2026 contract list as revised with items 2 and 9 removed. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Voluntary Employees' Beneficiary Association (VEBA) Trust Assets:

There were general discussions related to the oversight of the VEBA funds, the process involving the County Retirement Board, the mechanism and requirements for withdrawing these funds, the VEBA is super-funded, and the impacts to the budget when utilizing these funds.

R#2602004: On motion by T. Banaszak and support by P. Conley, the board approved utilizing the VEBA trust assets for calendar year 2026 retiree health benefit costs. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Vehicle Purchase:

There were general discussions regarding reasons for purchasing a new vehicle instead of adding to the Enterprise fleet, the Enterprise fleet program was started on a trial basis and is scheduled to be evaluated in March, and that leadership will obtain the required three quotes prior to purchasing a vehicle.

R#2602005: On motion by T. Banaszak and support by C. Girard, the board approved purchasing a Chevy Trax for an amount up to \$25,000. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Adjusted Salary Schedule:

R#2602006: On motion by T. Banaszak and support by P. Schumacher, the board approved the adjusted salary scheduled for Direct Service Professionals (DSPs) effective January 1, 2026. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Meeting Minutes:

M#016-26: On motion by T. Banaszak and support by P. Conley, the board approved the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of February 11, 2026. The motion was adopted unanimously.

SPECIAL BYLAW COMMITTEE, February 11, 2026

Bylaw Revisions:

There were general discussions regarding the additional language to cover any gaps in time if the annual meetings where board officers are elected are more than one year apart.

R#2602007: On motion by T. Banaszak and support by J. Crete, the board approved the 2025 revisions to the BABHA Bylaws. The motion was adopted by a roll call vote: 12 yes; 0 no; 0 excused.

R. Pawlak:	Yes
P. McFarland:	Yes
C. Girard:	Yes
S. Mrozinski:	Yes
T. Banaszak:	Yes
R. Byrne:	Yes
P. Conley:	Yes
J. Crete:	Yes
S. King:	Yes
K. Niemiec:	Yes
C. O'Brien:	Yes
P. Schumacher:	Yes

Meeting Minutes:

M#017-26: On motion by T. Banaszak and support by P. Conley, the board approved the minutes of the special Bylaw Committee meeting of February 11, 2026. The motion was adopted unanimously.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE, February 12, 2026

Requests for Clinical Privileges:

R#2602008: On motion by C. Girard and support by S. King, the board approved the request for clinical privileges for Heather Nix, LP, for a three-year renewal term expiring February 28, 2029. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Policies Ending 30-day Review:

R#2602009: On motion by C. Girard and support by P. Schumacher, the board approved the policy, Videoconferencing, recording, transcribing, and use of Artificial Intelligence (AI), 09-05-10, to end 30-day review. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Meeting Minutes:

M#018-26: On motion by C. Girard and support by C. O'Brien, the board approved the minutes of the Program Committee meeting of February 12, 2026. The motion was adopted unanimously.

REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATION

Federal & State Health Policy Updates:

C. Pinter reported the Michigan Department of Health and Human Service (MDHHS) has canceled the request for proposals related to the Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan (PIHP) procurement resulting from the lawsuit. C. Pinter reported that the telehealth flexibilities have been extended for Bay and Arenac Counties through December 31, 2027. C. Pinter reviewed the executive budget proposal released by the Governor for the fiscal year starting October 1, 2026.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was not any unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

Financial Statements for Period Ending January 31, 2026:

M#019-26: On motion by C. Girard and support by R. Byrne, the board accepted the financial statements for period ending January 31, 2026. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Electronic Fund Transfers (EFTS) for Period Ending January 31, 2026

M#020-26: On motion by P. Conley and support by P. Schumacher, the board approved the EFTs for period ending January 31, 2026. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Disbursement & Health Care Claims Payments

M#021-26: On motion by C. Girard and support by J. Crete, the board approved the disbursements and health care claims payments from January 10, 2026 to February 13, 2026. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Board Meeting February 2026 Contract List

M. Rozek reviewed the proposed contract list noting the items related to contract amendments necessary for the provider transition for community living support (CLS) services, third party psychiatric services, and the revenue contracts for autism evaluations. There were general discussions related to the process for second opinions.

M#022-26: On motion by C. Girard and support by P. McFarland, the board approved the board meeting February 2026 contract list. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Nomination Committee Meeting

The board chair, R. Pawlak, reported a special Nomination Committee meeting has been scheduled for 5:00 pm on Wednesday, March 4, 2026 to review the applications to the BABHA Board of Directors as a courtesy to the Bay County Board of Commissioners.

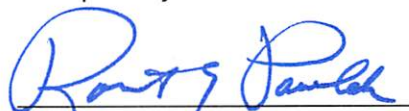
ADJOURNMENT

M#023-26: On motion by C. Girard and support by P. Conley, the meeting adjourned at 5:34 pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by:


Sally Mrozinski, Board Secretary

Accepted by:


Robert Pawlak, Board Chair