

MINUTES

BAY ARENAC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECIPIENT RIGHTS ADVISORY & APPEALS COMMITTEE MEETING

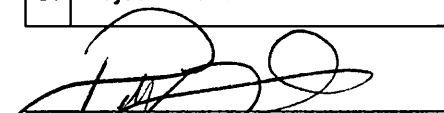
Monday, March 9, 2026 at 5:00 pm

Room 225, Behavioral Health Center, 201 Mulholland Street, Bay City, MI 48708

Committee Members:	Present	Excused	Absent	Committee Members	Present	Excused	Absent	Others Present:
Patrick McFarland, Ex Off, Ch	X			Carole O'Brien	X			BABH: Chris Girard, Jackie Kish, Chris Pinter, and Sara McRae Legend: M-Motion; S-Support; MA-Motion Adopted; AB-Abstained
Sally Mrozinski, V Ch		X		Justin Peters	X			
Robert Bowers	X			Laurie Van Wert	X			
Richard Byrne	X			Robert Pawlak, Ex Off	X			
Kathy Niemiec	X							

	Agenda Item	Discussion	Motion/Action
1.	Call To Order & Roll Call	The Committee Chair, P. McFarland, called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.	On the motion by R. Byrne and support by R. Pawlak, S. Mrozinski was excused. The motion passed unanimously.
2.	Public Input (Maximum of 5 Minutes)	There were not any members of the public present.	
3.	Unfinished Business 3.1) BABHA Recipient Rights Office Annual Budget Review Update	3.1) C. Pinter reported the miscellaneous expenses in the Recipient Rights Office budget are comprised of interpreter services. C. Pinter reviewed a breakdown of the interpreter services expenses since 2021 noting there are two providers that assisted six consumers. In the future, these services will have their own line item. There were general discussions that these services include interpreting English to sign language or foreign languages.	3.1) No action was necessary
4.	New Business 4.1) Executive Summary of Complaints through February of 2026 4.2) Policy Training: Communication, Mail, Telephone and Visits, 03-03-14	4.1) J. Kish reviewed the report noting the number of complaints, substantiation rate, trend report by allegation, average days to resolve, source of complaints, fiscal year comparison, remedial action, training, and completed site visits. 4.2) J. Kish reviewed the policy noting that an individual living in a residential group home setting has a right to mail, phone calls, and visitors. However, limitations can be placed on these items if the proper	4.1) No action was necessary 4.2) No action was necessary

	<p>4.3) Upcoming Site Reviews</p> <p>4.4) Recent Recipient Rights Site Reviews Summary</p> <p>4.5) Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Office of Recipient Rights (ORR) Triennial Assessment</p> <p>4.6) Annual Recipient Rights Training Reminder</p> <p>4.7) Virtual MDHHS Advisory & Appeals Committee Training Reminder</p>	<p>process is followed and the limitations and expiration dates are entered into the individual's plan of service. There were general discussions related to possible reasons for mail restrictions, this policy does not apply to non-licensed residential settings, the Recipient Rights System applies to all settings and community living support individuals so a complaint can be filed in non-licensed residential settings, and that this policy is a legacy policy from the state hospital system and protecting individual's rights.</p> <p>4.3) The Committee Chair, P. McFarland, reported members interested in attending a site visit should coordinate with S. McRae.</p> <p>4.4) J. Kish reviewed the summary of the completed site reviews. There were general discussions regarding the benefits of a therapy dog.</p> <p>4.5) J. Kish reported the triennial assessment is scheduled for Tuesday, March 24 through Thursday, March 26, 2026.</p> <p>4.6) The Committee Chair, P. McFarland, reported all committee members have completed the training.</p> <p>4.7) The Committee Chair, P. McFarland, reminded the members of the optional training provided by MDHHS.</p>	<p>4.3) No action was necessary</p> <p>4.4) No action was necessary</p> <p>4.5) No action was necessary</p> <p>4.6) On the motion by R. Pawlak and support by R. Byrne, the annual Recipient Rights training details were forwarded to the full board for information. The motion was adopted unanimously.</p> <p>4.7) No action was necessary</p>
5.	Adjournment	On the motion by J. Peters and support by R. Bowers, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm. The motion passed unanimously.	



Pat McFarland, Committee Chair