

MINUTES

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

Monday, May 11, 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: 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	<p>Committee Chair, P. McFarland, called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.</p> <p>All the members were present.</p>	
2.	Public Input (Maximum of 5 Minutes)	There were not any members of the public present.	
3.	<p>Nomination & Elections</p> <p>3.1) Committee Chair</p> <p>3.2) Committee Vice Chair</p>	<p>3.1) Committee Chair, P. McFarland, asked for nominations for committee chair. J. Peters nominated P. McFarland for chair. R. Byrne seconded the nomination. Hearing no other nominations, P. McFarland closed nominations. The Committee elected P. McFarland as committee chair.</p> <p>3.2) Committee Chair, P. McFarland, asked for nominations for committee vice chair. R. Byrne nominated S. Mrozinski. C. O'Brien seconded the nomination. Hearing no other nominations, P. McFarland closed nominations. The Committee elected S. Mrozinski as committee vice chair.</p>	
4.	Unfinished Business	There was not any unfinished business.	

5.	<p>New Business 5.1) Executive Summary of Complaints through April of 2026</p>	<p>5.1) J. Kish reviewed the report noting the number of complaints, the substantiation rate, the number of pending complaints, average days to resolve, source of complaints, fiscal year comparison of substantiated complaints, remedial action, training activity, and completed site visits. There were general discussions related to allegations classified as No Right Involved, location of site visits, in-person versus virtual site visits for out-of-county providers.</p>	<p>5.1) No action was necessary</p>
	<p>5.2) Policy Training: Consent for Treatment, 03-03-02</p>	<p>5.2) J. Kish reviewed the policy noting the impact of the electronic health record and utilization of electronic signatures for the annual paperwork requirements on consumers and clinicians. There were general discussions related to state law allowing persons 14 years or older to request services without parent consent or financial responsibility for up to 12 weeks, coordination with local schools and the referral process of school aged children, and that consent forms are part of the annual person-centered planning process.</p>	<p>5.2) No action was necessary</p>
	<p>5.3) Upcoming Site Reviews</p>	<p>5.3) Committee Chair, P. McFarland, reported the committee members can attend two site visits per year with the recipient rights manager. These visits should be coordinated through S. McRae.</p>	<p>5.3) No action was necessary</p>
	<p>5.4) Recent Recipient Rights Site Reviews Summary</p>	<p>5.4) J. Kish provided summaries of the recently completed site reviews. Committee members also provided feedback on their experiences attending the site reviews.</p>	<p>5.4) No action was necessary</p>
	<p>5.5) 2026 Accessibility Plan</p>	<p>5.5) C. Pinter reported that the Council on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) requires an Accessibility Plan and reviewed the proposed changes for this year relative to barriers to services across multiple avenues including architectural, environmental, attitudinal, financial, employment, communication, transportation, and technology. There were general discussions regarding ADA requirement to provide assistance on websites for the hearing and visually impaired, coordination with local law enforcement including the mobile response team and mental health first aid training, and compliance with alternate outpatient treatment orders issued by the courts.</p>	<p>5.5) On motion of R. Byrne and support of K. Niemiec, the 2026 Accessibility Plan was referred to the full Board for approval. The motion was adopted unanimously.</p>

	5.6) Schedule Mock Appeal Training 5.7) Save the Date: 33 rd Annual Recipient Rights Conference is Wednesday – Friday, September 16 – 18, 2026 at Crystal Mountain Resort	5.6) Committee Chair, P. McFarland, inquired if the training could take place in lieu of next month's regular meeting. The committee and staff concurred. 5.7) Committee Chair, P. McFarland, encouraged committee members to save the date and attend the conference if they are able.	5.6) No action was necessary 5.7) No action was necessary
6.	Adjournment	On the motion by J. Peters and support by R. Byrne, the meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm. The motion passed unanimously.	



Pat McFarland, Committee Chair