

MINUTES

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

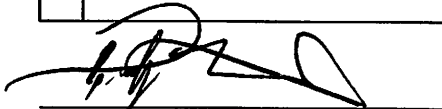
Monday, October 5, 2026 at 5:00 pm

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 and Sara McRae
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							Legend: M-Motion; S-Support; MA-Motion Adopted; AB-Abstained

	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. All the members were present.	
2.	Public Input (Maximum of 5 Minutes)	There were not any members of the public present.	
3.	Unfinished Business	There was not any unfinished business.	
4.	New Business 4.1) Executive Summary of Complaints through September 30, 2026	4.1) J. Kish reviewed the executive summary report noting the data is for the months of August and September. J. Kish reviewed the number of complaints, substantiation rates, pending allegations, average days to resolve, source of complaints, fiscal year (FY) 2026 allegation categories, FY comparisons, remedial action, training activity, and requirement changes for staff continuing education units (CEUs). There were general discussions related to seasonal trends, remedial actions involving employee terminations, and staff transfers or suspensions while a Recipient Rights (RR) investigation is occurring. The Committee Chair, P. McFarland, reported a request for an appeal that was recently received and denied by himself and the Committee Vice Chair. J. Kish reported the notification letter was sent to the appellant.	4.1) No action was necessary

4.2) Policy Training: Right to Access, 03-03-07	4.2) J. Kish reviewed the training as part of the Committee's continued training. J. Kish reported this policy addresses the rights for consumers to have entertainment material, information, and news. If these items are restricted for an individual, it must be noted in the Individual Plan Of Services (IPOS). J. Kish also reported that minors may not have access to these items over the objection of the parent if access is against state law.	4.2) No action was necessary
4.3) Upcoming Site Reviews	4.3) J. Kish reviewed the upcoming site reviews. R. Byrne, S. Mrozinski, and R. Pawlak expressed an interest in attending site visits this month. There were general discussions regarding members attendance at site reviews when a conflict of interest with providers exists.	4.3) No action was necessary
4.4) Recent Recipient Rights Site Reviews Summary	4.4) J. Kish reviewed the recently completed site visits.	4.4) No action was necessary
4.5) Recipient Rights Conference Report	4.5) P. McFarland, J. Peters, and J. Kish provided the conference report noting the impact of Home and Community Based Service (HCBS) rules on residential providers, contradictions between HCBS rules and the current site review process, the assessment process for placing an individual in a residential home, consumer choice, the heavy emphasis on Artificial Intelligence (AI), and the notice of more information coming related to pronoun usage and administrative rule changes.	4.5) No action was necessary
5. Adjournment	On the motion by R. Bowers and support by R. Pawlak, the meeting adjourned at 5:27 pm. The motion passed unanimously.	


 Patrick McFarland, Committee Chair