

**NEXT MEETING: SEPTEMBER 22, 2022 – 7:00 P.M.**  
**TUSCOLA COUNTY FAIR MIDWAY HALL**  
**700 SOUTH ALMER STREET, CARO, MI 48723**  
**IF UNABLE TO ATTEND CALL: 989.673.6191 OR 1.800.462.6814**

The regular meeting of the Tuscola Behavioral Health System's Board of Directors was called to order by Chairperson Grimshaw, August 25, 2022 at 7:06 pm, at the Tuscola County Fair Midway Hall located at 700 South Almer Street, Caro, MI 48723.

<b>BOARD ATTENDANCE:</b>	Bardwell	Present	McNett	Present
	Fritz	Present	Moore	Present
	Griesing	Present	Partridge	Present
	Grimshaw	Present	Ryan	Present
	Harrington	Present	Snider	Excused
	Helmbold	Present	Szostak	Present
<b>STAFF ATTENDANCE:</b>	Beals	Present	Majeske	Present
	Dudewicz	Excused	Mitchell	Present

**ROLL CALL** taken by Mitchell on behalf of Snider.

**MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:** No public

<b>DATE-NUMBER</b>	<b>BODY</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

August 25, 2022 - - 1	Szostak moved and Fritz supported to accept the minutes from the July 28, 2022 meeting as mailed.	Motion Carried
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**CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS REVIEWED BY BEALS:**

August 25, 2022 - - 2	Griesing moved and McNett supported to approve the Contracts/Agreements presented on the Contract List Sheet dated August 25, 2022 and authorize the CEO to sign on behalf of the Board.	Motion Carried
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**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REVIEWED BY BEALS:**

August 25, 2022 - - 3	Szostak moved and Partridge supported placing the Financial Statements on file as presented.	Motion Carried
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**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT BY BEALS** (highlighted areas of written report):

- FY22 Medicaid and FY22 General Fund - Nothing new to report
- COVID - We are having issues again with increases in the number of positive COVID cases. Currently we have one TBHS staff that is COVID positive, there is one contracted residential home where 6 of the staff are positive. Within the contract residential network, one home has

5 of the 5 residents that are positive, another 1 of 1 is positive and another 2 of the 4 residents positive.

We had hoped to be able to have an in-person staff appreciation event, however, the decision was made a few weeks ago that we could not justify bringing all staff together at this time due to the increases that we had started to see with positive COVID cases and the increase in the number of staff requiring testing.

- Staffing - Current open positions include the following: ACT Supervisor, Children's Home Based Supervisor, 1 part time residential, 1 Case Manager/Supports Coordinators (MI), 1 Case Manager/Supports Coordinator (DD), 1 ACT Advocate, 4 Children's Services Workers, Quality Systems/Compliance Supervisor, Registered Nurse, Acute Care Coordinator, Peer Wellness Coach, Youth Peer Support Specialist, Contract Manager and an after- hours Emergency Services worker. We also have a need for a Speech Therapist as either an employee or contractual.
- We have submitted a request to MDHHS which was supported by MSHN to temporarily discontinue our ACT program. ACT is an evidence-based program with very specific criteria for team composition. We currently have two members of the team on FMLA and three vacant positions on the team (Supervisor, Advocate and Nurse) leaving only 2 Advocates, the Peer and the Psychiatrist as active team members. Supervision is currently being provided by the Health Operations Supervisor in the absence of the program supervisor. We are awaiting approval from MDHHS for this temporary change. Current staff and the individuals served would be temporarily transferred to case management services.
- Staff Psychiatrists – Dr. Challa will be back as a 30 hour per week employee in September. We continue to work with Locum Tenens companies for Locum psychiatrists and continue to look to add a child psychiatrist.
- State Facility - There is currently a lot occurring with state facilities. TBHS is not the only CMH that had a judicial admission denied at a state facility. We were fortunate and the Tuscola judicial admission was accepted at the Caro Center after admission was denied at Kalamazoo. Thanks to MSHN staff for their advocacy related to this case, I don't believe that this individual would have been accepted at Caro without their assistance. Others have not been as fortunate and one of our partner boards (Shiawassee) was actually brought into court for Failure to Adequately Search for Judicial Admission Placement for the Respondent. Their next court hearing is on September 14, 2022. It will be interesting to see how this progresses.

As a region, the CEOs have agreed to send a letter to the state regarding our concerns related to state facility placements and the failure of the state to fulfill its obligation to its citizens. The recommendation from the state at this time is that we pursue placement in out of state facilities. Per the mental health code, the level of care provided at state facilities is the responsibility of the state.

Another point in regard to state facilities is that the state took the general fund dollars from the CMH system because they were taking on the responsibility for state facility placements – if they are not accepting these placements, do we get our funding back?

- Guardianships - Yesterday, we did have a court hearing where we had requested an amendment to the guardianship order for one individual that we have been appointed guardian for that is also now actively receiving TBHS services. The outcome of the hearing was that our motion was denied, however, from discussion with our attorney, we are looking at the option of filing an appeal. There is a direct conflict of interest with TBHS being both the service provider and the guardian.
- Certified Community Mental Health Centers (CCBHC) - Participated in a ZOOM conference yesterday with CMHA regarding CCBHC status for CMHs in Michigan. It appears that there is movement at the association level that will encourage all CMHs to move forward with

applying to be CCBHCs. I had not attended the first two meetings as I really did not believe that this was something that TBHS could even consider at this time, however, based on the discussion yesterday, there may be a state-wide movement toward all CMHs becoming CCBHCs – so more to come on this. There are certainly some advantages to becoming a CCBHC, however, being a CCBHC will also require us to provide additional/enhanced services which would be extremely challenging at this time.

- MERS - We have made the request to MERS to receive the valuation to change our amortization to 3 or 4 years for this year only. We did receive this information back from MERS, the initial report was incorrect, but did receive a corrected report this afternoon. With a four-year valuation we could contribute an additional \$137,016. With a three-year valuation we could contribute an additional \$365,640. Prior to proceeding with any additional payment, we will need to have follow up discussion with the auditor.
- Health Care Savings Contribution - Last month the board approved the contribution to the Health Care Savings account of up to \$400,000. Based on the \$400,000 available, this would be a per year contribution of \$420.00 for a total of \$396,480. I will need a motion approving the \$420.00 per year of service amount.

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Griesing moved and Moore supported approval for a payment of \$420.00 per employee per year of continuous service (as of 9/1/2022) to be paid to Health Care Savings Plan.

Motion Carried

- Merit Based Pay - As part of the FY22/23 budget, the board approved up to \$250,000 be made available for merit-based pay for employees. Tomorrow the merit-based payment will be made to staff totaling \$238,609.15 or 95.4% of \$250,000. Last year staff earned 97.3%, however, this is still a considerable accomplishment considering the number of vacant positions throughout this evaluation period.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Szostak gave an update for the CEO Search Committee. Szostak reported that all board members should have received a questionnaire to complete by August 29, 2022 via email from the Rehmann agency. Szostak also shared that they have come up with a tentative schedule of events that they would like to see accomplished by certain dates.

## **OTHER BUSINESS:**

Harrington shared with the board her intent to resign from the TBHS Board of Directors effectively immediately as well as from the Recipient Rights Advisory Committee due to family obligations. Chairperson Grimshaw accepted with regret Harrington's resignation. Harrington stated that she also plans to submit her resignation in writing as well.

The TBHS Board Policies were included in tonight's packet with the changes that were made at last month's meeting. Chairperson Grimshaw reminded members that we follow the Carver model and board members should not disrupt the operations of the agency.

Fall conference is scheduled for October 24-25, 2022 at the Grand Traverse Resort in Traverse City, MI. Discussion of rate of per diem for conferences. Beals shared that per ByLaws a board member per diem shall not be larger than the highest per diem for members of the county advisory boards. Beals offered to check with others as well as review the ByLaws and the mental health code for any language related to board member per diems.

**BOARD'S SELF-EVALUATION:** In compliance.

**SEPTEMBER MEETING AGENDA ITEMS:** Public Hearing for Proposed Budget, Contract Committee, and the Strategic Plan for FY22/23.

**MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:** No public

**NEXT MEETING DATE:** Thursday, September 22, 2022 - 7:10 pm at the Tuscola County Fair Midway Hall, 700 South Almer Street Caro, MI 48723. Public Hearing for the Proposed Budget will begin at 7:00 pm at the same location.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Chairperson Grimshaw adjourned the meeting at 8:23 pm.



Cindy Mitchell  
Recorder



Daniel Grimshaw  
Chairperson



Karen Snider  
Secretary