



Administrative Office, 105 Hall Street, Suite A, Traverse City, MI 49684

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

October 16, 2025

1:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Shawn Kraycs, Kim Morley, Ruth Pilon, Dean Smallegan, Ben Townsend, Al Cambridge, Penny Morris, Vince Cornellier, Ty Wessell, Dave Freedman, Tony Lentych, Mary Marois, Greg McMorrow

Others Present: Kevin Hartley, Neil Rojas, Jeremiah Williams, Kim Silbor, Brian Newcomb, Mark Crane, Marsha Brown, April Weinrick, Cindy Evans

Virtual Attendees: Ann Ketchum, Victoria McDonald, Daniel Mauk, Lori Stendel, Erica Smith, Terri Henderson, Rob Ordiway, Trapper Merz, Lynn Pope, Tiffany Fewins, Heather Sleight, Rob Palmer, Lauren Van Hulle, Kaitlin Merritt, Bailey MacDonald, Lisa Jones, Ashley Cross, Lisa Woodcox, Joseph Barkman, Aly Kleidon, Erin Barbus, Teri Dougherty, Aimee Horton Johnson, Erica Longstreet, Sophorn Klingelsmith, Becky Brown, Jessica Williams, Kayla Sklener, Amanda Ritchie, Gina Schlegel, Justin Reed, Kellee Hoag, Melissa Bentgen, Karen Cass, Kari Barker, 3 unknown

Call to Order: 1:00 p.m.

Conflict of Interest: None

Timekeeper: None

Approval of Agenda: Yes, see changes below.

MOTION: Remove celebration from this agenda and add approval of special meeting minutes

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: T. Lentych

SECONDER: G. McMorrow

MOTION: Approve the Consent Agenda

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: T. Lentych

SECONDER: M. Marois

Public Comment:

Laurie Shnell, Mother of an adult son with developmental disabilities who receives services through CMH. Laurie expressed thanks and the importance of continuing to advocate for the services that our consumers depend on.

Welcome:

Mr. McMorrow extended an official welcome to the new CEO of Northern Lakes Community Mental Health Authority, Lynda Zeller.

Report of Officers:

Recipient Rights Report: Brian Newcomb, Director of the Office of Recipient Rights, prepared a report which is presented in the board packet. Mr. Newcomb welcomed new Recipient Rights Specialist Bailey MacDonald and informed the board of upcoming recipient rights training they will need to complete.

Chief Executive Officer's Report: Lynda Zeller, Chief Executive Officer of Northern Lakes, presented her and interim CEO Dr. Curtis Cummins' report to the Board. The full report is included in the packet. The report included the KPI report, upcoming meetings, agency updates, media, and more. Ms. Zeller spoke about the PIHP bid out and how it relates to the State, as well as the concern of how a shift like this may impact CMH services. Ms. Zeller spoke about a new grant, rural transformation fund, coming from the State that Northern Lakes may be able to apply for.

Chief Financial Officer's Report: Kevin Hartley, Chief Financial Officer of Northern Lakes, presented the financial report. His report included a summary of variances and fluctuations, which highlighted the operating revenues, such as the Medicaid capitations, Healthy Michigan capitation, and General Fund capitations. The report also reviewed the operating expenses, such as salaries and fringes, and CMH provider network contractual services. Mr. Hartley's report included a statement of net position and statement of revenue.

Chief Information Officer's Report: Dan Mauk, Chief Information Officer of Northern Lakes, presented the security report. Mr. Mauk shared that Northern Lakes received an excellent security safety score after the most recent assessment. Mr. Mauk spoke about how the team is focusing on response time and continual improvement. Mr. Mauk shared concern over changes made during cost containment that may present a vulnerability.

Committee Reports:

NMRE:

Ms. Pilon reviewed updates regarding NMRE and CMHA. The most recent meeting discussed the Northern Lakes look back and the update for that. The NMRE Board discussed whether they are going to allow the striking of the look back of years 2018/2019. Originally the NMRE Board wanted to complete the 5-7 years look back and did not want to strike the last two years. The NMRE Board voted to pay Northern Lakes Community Mental Health Authority the difference between the FY 2020 – 2022 amount owed, less the FY 2023-2024, because that was already settled, in the amount of \$3,040,311.00, with the understanding that Northern Lakes will not pursue any review of FYs 2018-2022.

Executive:

Mr. Greg McMorrow, the Chairperson of the Northern Lakes Board, recognized the excellent work of the Interim CEO, Dr. Curtis Cummins, over the past few months. He noted that Dr. Cummins jumped right in, managed with the leadership team, rationalized employment and right sized the leadership team from 11 to 6. The leadership team and Dr. Cummins brought forward a balanced budget in less than 90 day; in parallel, the Board was able to hire a new CEO. Mr. McMorrow also noted that Ms. Zeller reduced her salary by 5% to align herself with those who had to take a salary reduction due to cost containment.

Finance: Mr. Cambridge provided a recap of financial related motions passed at the last Board meeting in September. The finance committee has met and discussed their next point of action.

MOTION: The Board acknowledges the cost settlement motion passed by the NMRE; However, we believe that it is in the best interest of all that we review fiscal years 2020, 2021, and 2022 by our auditor RPC as moved by our Board during our 2025 August meeting.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: A. Cambridge

SECONDER: T. Wessell

Policy: Mr. Freedman shared that the policy committee has not met recently and requests to meet with Ms. Zeller to determine the direction of the committee moving forward.

Personnel: Ms. Pilon shared that there is no new news from the Personnel Committee and their next meeting is near the end of October.

Unfinished Business: Ms. Marois requested an updated organization chart. It was brought up that the committee assignment chart needs to be updated.

Public Comment:

Marsha Brown, a home supervisor for NLCMHA, welcomed the new CEO and extended an invitation to visit the SRS unit so that Ms. Zeller may see what the staff are proud of and what they love to do.

Cindy Evans, Grand Traverse Industries, extended an invitation to Ms. Zeller to tour the facility. GTI recently underwent a site visit by the NMRE and passed with 100%. Cindy thanked the Board and CMH.

Jeremiah Williams, Information Technology Supervisor at NLCMHA, thanked the finance committee for pushing for the audit. Many feel betrayed by the NMRE for withholding funds.

Announcements/ Board Member Reports/ Board Association: Ms. Marois shared the need to appoint a delegate in order for Northern Lakes CMHA to be able to cast a vote at general assemblies. The Board Chair must nominate someone for this position.

Next Meeting: November 20, 2025 – Cadillac

Adjournment: 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexandra Coon, Interim Executive Administrator

Greg McMorrow, Board Chairperson

Lynn Pope, Secretary
