

NORTHCARE NETWORK GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 13, 2026

1230 Wilson Street, Marquette, MI 49855
Video Connection at Copper Country CMH-Houghton, Gogebic County CMH,
Hiawatha Behavioral Health-Chippewa and Schoolcraft,
Northpointe Behavioral Health Systems-Dickinson and Iron

Present at NorthCare: George Botbyl, George Ecclesine, Mike Koskinen, Ann Martin, Marge Rayner, Craig Reiter, Kathy Thompson, Glenn Wing

Present via Video Connection: Joe Bonovetz, Gale Eilola, Colleen Kichak, Mike Patrick, Bill Malloy, Kevin Pirlot (*alternate*)

Not Present: Mari Negro, Pat Rozich, Susan Roberts (*alternate*), Jim Tervo (*alternate*)

NorthCare/CMH Staff: Megan Rooney, Jennifer Ahonen, Cody Bowser, Mike Bach

Guests: Chris Ryan

Recorder: Sandra Lambert, Executive Assistant to the CEO

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chairperson Botbyl called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM. Roll call was taken by Sandra Lambert, Executive Assistant to the CEO. A quorum was present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA/APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Agenda: Change to Contract Grid under University of Washington- New Rate \$25,000

Minutes: No Changes

Motion made by Mike Koskinen to approve the agenda as amended and the minutes from April 8, 2026 as presented.

Support by Mike Patrick.

Vote -All in favor, Motion carried. Approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gale Eilola commented that everyone seemed far away from the camera in NorthCare's board room.

BOARD CHAIR REPORT

Chairperson Botbyl provided a brief verbal report from the Executive Officer pre-meeting in which they reviewed the agenda/packet. He spoke of his upcoming resignation and how much he enjoyed serving as the board chair.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion made by Glenn Wing to go into closed session to review a written client/attorney privilege legal document.

Support by Craig Reiter.

A roll call vote was requested.

Roll Call Vote

Yes – 14 (Botbyl, Bonovetz, Ecclesine, Eilola, Kichak, Koskinen, Malloy, Martin, Patrick, Pirlot, Rayner, Reiter, Thompson, Wing)

No – 0

Motion carried. Approved.

Moved into closed session at 12:05 PM

Returned to open meeting at 12:40 PM

Motion made by Craig Reiter to empower the CEO to follow attorney's recommendations.

Support by Ann Martin.

Vote- All in favor, Motion carried. Approved.

CEO UPDATE

Megan Rooney, CEO, provided a verbal update on state, regional, and internal matters, including NorthCare's feedback on the Mental Health Framework, House Budget, Autism Alliance of Michigan, UPHCS Trustee Forum, MI Center for Rural Health, PIHP Delegate to the CMHA Board of Directors, and NorthCare staff updates. She discussed the need for a new regional Learning Management System Platform. Megan presented Chairperson Botbyl with an award and thanked him for his years of service as the board chair.

FINANCE

a. Finance Report & Check Register - \$1,335,753.84

Jennifer Ahonen, CFO, presented the Finance Report & Check Register.

Motion made by Craig Reiter to approve both the Finance Report and Check Register as presented.

Support by Marge Rayner.

Discussion was held.

Vote- All in favor, Motion carried. Approved.

b. FY25 Financial Audit Report

Jennifer Ahonen, CFO, presented the FY25 Financial Audit Report.

Motion made by Mike Koskinen to approve the FY25 Financial Audit as presented.

Support by Craig Reiter.

Vote- All in favor, Motion carried. Approved.

Gale Eilola left the meeting at 1:30 PM

OTHER BUSINESS

a. Board Chair Vacancy

At the April board meeting, George Botbyl announced he would be resigning effective 6/1/26. Discussion was held on the bylaws and annual election of officers. Chair Botbyl opened the floor for nominations for the Board Chair's remaining term from June 1, 2026 until annual election of officers.

Mike Koskinen nominated Marge Rayner. Support by Ann Martin.

Craig Reiter nominated Glenn Wing. Support by Marge Rayner.

No further nominations were offered, and a roll call vote was requested.

Election Results:

Marge Rayner: 6 votes (Bonovetz, Koskinen, Malloy, Martin, Thompson, Pirlot)

Glenn Wing: 7 votes (Botbyl, Ecclesine, Kichak, Patrick, Rayner, Reiter, Wing)

Glenn Wing was elected as Board Chair for the remaining term from 6/1/26 until annual election of officers.

b. Board Resolution

Megan Rooney, CEO, discussed the resolution to protect rural access to behavioral health services by adopting proposed fiscal year 2027 boilerplate language.

Motion made by Ann Martin to approve the resolution as presented.

Support by George Ecclesine.

Vote- All in favor, Motion carried. Approved.

c. Contract Grid

The Contract Grid was presented as follows: Dr. Alavi (*Medical Director -\$200/hr. plus \$3,509 reimbursement for malpractice insurance*), University of Washington (*CTC Licenses 3 years-\$25,000*).

Motion made by Glenn Wing to approve the amended Contract Grid as presented.

Support by George Ecclessine.

Vote- All in favor, Motion carried. Approved.

d. In-Person Meeting

Last month, Ann Martin asked whether there would be value in designating certain months as in-person meetings. Chairperson Botbyl asked that the topic be added to this month's agenda for discussion. The board briefly discussed the matter and noted that everyone is welcome to attend any meeting in person. The video conference access at the designated CMH offices would still need to be available to the public, even if the board designated a certain month as an in-person meeting. No further discussion was held.

e. Informational Items

Informational Items were included in the packet: NorthCare Network Board Report, SUD Policy Oversight Board Meeting Draft Minutes (April 15, 2026), NorthCare Network Feedback: Mental Health Framework, House FY27 Budget Boilerplate Language, and House Oversight Subcommittee Report: Michigan's Behavioral Health System.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

Ann Martin wished George Botbyl well and thanked him for being the board chair. Many board members thanked George as well.

Mike Patrick commented that the board should consider designating a month as an in-person meeting. Other board members commented that August would be ideal and agreed it would not be a requirement, but everyone is encouraged to attend in person. Sandra will include a reminder of the in-person meeting when sending out the August board packet.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Election of Officers

NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled meeting will be August 12, 2026

ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Botbyl declared the meeting adjourned at 1:42 PM

Recorded By: Sandra Lambert, Executive Assistant to the CEO