

NORTHCARE NETWORK GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 8, 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, Mike Koskinen, Marge Rayner, Glenn Wing
Present via Video Connection: Joe Bonovetz, George Ecclesine, Ann Martin, Mari Negro, Mike Patrick, Bill Malloy, Pat Rozich, Kathy Thompson
Not Present: Gale Eilola, Colleen Kichak, Craig Reiter, Kevin Pirlot (*alternate*), Susan Roberts (*alternate*), Jim Tervo (*alternate*)
NorthCare/CMH Staff: Megan Rooney, Jennifer Ahonen, Andy Kulie, Sara Sircely, Courtney Grant, Mike Bach, Tess Greenough, Matt Maskart
Guests: None
Recorder: Sandra Lambert, Executive Assistant to the CEO

George Ecclesine arrived at 12:04 PM

Colleen Kichak attended virtually as a member of the public and was not considered present as a board member.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chairperson Botbyl called the meeting to order at 12:02 PM. Roll call was taken by Sandra Lambert, Executive Assistant to the CEO. A quorum was present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA/APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Agenda: Additional Informational Item -Rural and Frontier Caucus

Minutes: No Changes

Motion made by Glenn Wing to approve the agenda as amended and the minutes from February 11, 2026 as presented. Support by Mike Koskinen.

Vote -All in favor, Motion carried. Approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

BOARD CHAIR REPORT

Chairperson Botbyl provided a brief verbal report from the Executive Officer pre-meeting in which they reviewed the agenda/packet.

Chairperson Botbyl announced his resignation effective 6/1/26 due to moving out of the area. This will be added to the May agenda for further discussion.

CEO UPDATE

Megan Rooney, CEO, provided a verbal update on state, regional, and internal matters, including the FY25 MDHHS/PIHP Contract litigation and upcoming court hearing, the federal Prior Authorization Metric

requirement, Autism Alliance, Director's Forum, the National Association of County Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability (NACBHDD), the National Association for Rural Mental Health (NARMH), and NorthCare staffing changes. Discussion was held regarding Senator McBroom's proposed legislation.

FINANCE

a. Finance Report & Check Register - \$1,465,354.67

Jennifer Ahonen, CFO, presented the Finance Report & Check Register. FY25 closed out at the end of February. Discussion was held on FY25 savings and lapse in Medicaid.

Motion made by Glenn Wing to approve both the Finance Report and Check Register as presented.

Support by Marge Rayner.

Vote- All in favor, Motion carried. Approved.

OTHER BUSINESS

a. GLRMHA & September Meeting

The revised GLRMHA conference dates (September 8-9, 2026) conflict with the September Governing Board meeting. NorthCare recommended rescheduling the board meeting to September 16, 2026. Sandra confirmed all CMH remote locations are available.

Motion made by Glenn Wing to reschedule the September board meeting to September 16, 2026.

Support by Mike Koskinen.

Vote- All in favor, Motion carried. Approved.

b. CMHA Special Assessment

Megan Rooney, CEO, presented the CMHA Special Assessment, which is intended to support continued advocacy efforts. Discussion was held regarding current finances. The total cost for NorthCare and the 5 CMHs would be \$71,507 for the region.

Motion made by George Ecclesine to approve \$71,507 for the CMHA Special Assessment on behalf of the region (NorthCare & the 5 CMHs). Support by Mike Patrick.

Vote- All in favor, Motion carried. Approved.

c. Contract Grid

The Contract Grid was presented as follows: GLRC (*SUD Treatment-H0018:W1 -\$145,T1009 -\$60*), GLRC (*BHH Services-S0280 -\$378.40*).

Motion made by Marge Rayner to approve the Contract Grid as presented. Support by Glenn Wing.

Vote- All in favor, Motion carried. Approved.

d. FY26 Compliance Plan

Megan Rooney, CEO, presented the new updates to the FY26 Compliance Plan. Discussion was held.

Motion made by Glenn Wing to approve the updated FY26 Compliance Plan presented.

Support by George Ecclesine.

Vote- All in favor, Motion carried. Approved.

e. Informational Items

Informational Items were included in the packet: NorthCare Network Board Report, Quality Report, and Rural and Frontier Caucus. Discussion was held.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

Ann Martin asked if there would be value in the board designating certain months to meet in person. Chairperson Botbyl asked that this be added to the next meeting agenda for further discussion.

Ann Martin also thanked George Botbyl for his leadership on the board.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Colleen Kichak asked whether the board had approved the CMHA special assessment last year. It was confirmed that the Board had.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Board Chair Vacancy
2. Board Schedule & In-Person Meetings

NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled meeting will be May 13, 2026

ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Botbyl declared the meeting adjourned at 1:05 PM

Recorded By: Sandra Lambert, Executive Assistant to the CEO