

Western Service Area Authority (WSAA) Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 27, 2018 • 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Western Montana Mental Health Center

1321 Wyoming St., Room 102, Missoula, Montana

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PRESENT: (Board Members – for quorum): Rena Ayres, Sylvia Carollo, Monique Casbeer (by phone, joined late), David Cockrell, Brenda Desmond, Rick Hartz, Tricia Herman (by phone), Claire Leonard, Denelle Pappier, Dawn Sandberg, Pete Snyder, Geri Stewart, Stacey Wheeler.

(Board Advisors from AMDD): Vicky Varichak (Members/ Guests): Heidi White (Sunburst),

Convened at 10:10 a.m. – Tele-conference call initiated through poly-com.

A. Welcome / Introductions / Announcements — Stacey Wheeler, Chair

1. Pete Snyder: QPR Trainings upcoming (Attach in email to Directors in April)

B. Secretary's Report — Denelle Pappier

Pete clarified the correct word said in his report (A.1) should be "adverse", not "aberrant."

**MOTION:** Sylvia/Pete. To approve February 27, 2018 board minutes as read with clarification. PASS.

C. Treasurer's Report — (Not present to report)

Natalie McGillen of WMMHC is continuing search for new fiduciary agent to represent as our Treasurer. Paul Meyer is Acting CEO for WMMHC and may be contacted to clarify; Stacey will follow-up.

D. AMDD Report — (CPO Vicky Varichak)

Referred to handout given at SAA Summit by Mary LeMieux (copies distributed); clarified that CPOs are not available to attend any LAC meeting (in person or by phone) until further notice. If there is a significant need with a struggling LAC, please call Mary to make a special request. The AMDD has only 3 CPOs, rather than 5 as before, to serve the entire state. (Mary LeMieux, 444-2878, [mlemieux2@mt.gov](mailto:mlemieux2@mt.gov))

Statewide, there is a shortage in services to consumers to be Payee for their benefits; could be a non-profit organization to serve; the fee for service is a percentage of the person's benefit check (@\$30/mo.).

E. Local Advisory Council (LAC) Reports — LAC Representatives

**(Beaverhead Co., Flathead Co., Lake Co., Lincoln Co., Madison Co., Mineral Co., Missoula Co., Ravalli Co., Sanders Co., Silver Bow Co., Pintler: (Deer Lodge & Granite counties)**

1. Beaverhead Co./Dillon (Rick) — Selected for Great Harvest "Bake Days" recipient of funds (expect to raise @\$8-10K); fundraiser will be held in November. United Way grant of \$4500 to deal with loss of MH services in county; get stakeholders together to identify/deal with problems in May. Next BH Summit: Sept. 13; working on speakers. ACES taskforce active with training teachers on PIR days.

2. Flathead Co./Kalispell (Susan) — Not present to report.

3. Lake Co./Polson (Douglas) — Not present to report. (Emailed: No attendance at last meeting.)

4. Lincoln Co./Libby (Chris) — Currently inactive.

5. Madison Co./Virginia City (Claire) — Meeting regularly monthly; now up to 12 members on LAC board (although fewer consumers than required of 51%); elected new officers. Coordinating ACES training on teacher PIR days. Account balance from BH Integration grant (@\$6K) was turned back to them to expend on local MH needs. MHAM: will have Ennis movie theater show "Walking Man" (MH topics).

6. Mineral Co./Superior (Dawn) — County Jail is back open (had staffing issues). Didn't have LAC meeting last month.

7. Missoula Co./Missoula (Sylvia/David) — Talked about CM cuts; people need help (including payees). July 19th Party at Franklin Park planning began. Discussed the repercussions felt in city/county since budget cuts (especially ERs); need also supported employment. Looking to get guest speakers at future meetings; mini-grants approval through Partnership Healthcare Center.

8. Ravalli Co./Hamilton (Denelle) — Discussed Mini-grant for the Rx program and ways to keep LAC active with minimal participation; discussed potential for a public event to introduce LAC, possibly for MHAM in May.

9. Sanders Co./Plains (Shelby/Vicky C.) — Not present to report.

10. Silver Bow Co./Butte (Tricia) — Beginning PSS outreach program with networking of stakeholders; apply for mini-grant to fund Butte Warming Shelter (funds now expire in May; need to prepare to reopen in Fall, if funded). Insufficient crisis services having a heavy impact on community (is state-wide problem); hospital ERs are overloaded with people waiting for an available bed in crisis facility (MSH and others).

11. "Pintler" (Deer Lodge & Granite counties)/Anaconda (Charlotte) — Not present to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

G. WSAA Website — Tricia Herman

Posted all 2017 board minutes and updated some other pages/links. Wants to post current LAC meeting directory; board members' bios/pictures. Discussed how to gather this information from members. Teleconference capability of website is currently inactive (Microsoft SilverLight); we're using Pete's Providence Hospital teleconference account. Pete will test the link before next meeting to open link for meetings. Posting relevant documents (disseminated from AMDD, etc.) to our site in PDF format.

Adding pages for LAC Directory (Needs more info.! Call her at 406-565-2433 to discuss; email to [pherman87@gmail.com](mailto:pherman87@gmail.com) and [wsaamontana@gmail.com](mailto:wsaamontana@gmail.com)). Wants to post region-wide MH activities; send those details to her, as well.

H. WSAA Mini-Grants – Dates & details reminder:

- E-mail Notice of Intent to Apply Friday, March 23, 2018, 5 p.m.
- Application Submission Friday, April 20, 2018, 5 p.m.
- Determination to Award Funding Tuesday, May 22, 2018

By March deadline, have received five Letters of Intent (LOI) to apply for grant funds.

NEW BUSINESS

J. SAA Summit (was held Monday, March 26, AMDD offices, 100 No. Park Ave., #300, Helena)

Stacey and Denelle, and Claire and Vicky by phone, attended the meeting yesterday. Representatives from Central and Eastern SAAs and AMDD were also present. New contract requires one statewide Congress of combined SAAs; it was proposed to add on a day to when NAMI-MT meets for annual conference in October, but unsure if NAMI-MT is amenable to that idea. Also, discussed historical basis for and relationship between SAAs, Congress, LACs, MHOAC, etc. and try to determine how to make most impact on affecting change in MH systems.

**MOTION:** Brenda/Claire. To write letter of concern to AMDD regarding proposed contracted requirement to hold a statewide Congress meeting, due to expenses and logistics. PASS.

K. NAMI 2019 Legislative Objectives — Stacey

(NAMI List attached to minutes email to directors.) Ask LACs to discuss this list and these issues; and respond by May WSAA board meeting. Each community will have some variation on what's important in their area; some are statewide needs, others will be unique to each community. Try to identify the LAC's priority list of legislative priorities AND any suggested solutions.

Adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

Next meeting: **Tuesday, April 24, 2017, 10:00am-1:00pm** (at WMMHC in Missoula)

Submitted by: Denelle Pappier, WSAA Secretary  
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ACRONYMS GLOSSARY:

AMDD Addictions & Mental Disorders Division

BH Behavioral Health

CBPRS Community-Based

Psychiatric Rehabilitative Support

CIT Crisis Intervention Team

CM Case Management

CLO Community Liaison Officer

CPO Community Program Officer

DPHHS Dept. of Public Health & Human Services

FY Fiscal Year (July to June)

LAC Local Advisory Council

LEA Law Enforcement Agency

MCS D Msla Co. School District

MH Mental Health

MHAM Mental Health Awareness Month (May)

MHC Mental Health Center

MHFA MH First Aid training

MHOAC MH Oversight Advisory Council.

MI Mental Illness

MOU Memo. of Understanding

MSH Montana State Hospital

NAMI National Alliance on Mental Illness

PACT Program for Assertive Community Treatment

PSS Peer Support Specialist

PT Project Tomorrow

SAA Service Area Authority

SDMI Severely-Disabling Mental Illness

SUD Substance Use Disorder

TBD To be determined

WMMHC Western Montana MHC

WOC Winds of Change MHC

WSAA Western Service Area Authority