

# Western Service Area Authority (WSAA) Board Meeting

Tuesday, June 25, 2019 • 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): Kari Auclair, Sylvia Carollo (by phone), Monique Casbeer, Rick Hartz, Claire Leonard (by phone), Denelle Pappier, Douglas Schimmel, Pete Snyder (left 11:45a), Tyler Steinebach, Stacey Wheeler.

(Board Advisors from AMDD): (None)

(Members/ Guests): Charles Baker, Katie Sorenson.

Convened at 10:08 a.m. – Tele-conference call initiated.

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

1. Pete: Providence/St.Patrick Hospital will not renew the contract with his employer, which expires in 67 days. Psych Services are going to be handled “in-house” instead of contracted with Diamond Healthcare Corp. (Richmond, VA). Pete will know later if his position can be reassigned. His company has been “so good that they make it look easy.”

B. Secretary’s Report — Denelle Pappier

Claire: “Senior Centers” rather than “Nursing Homes” in Madison Co. LAC Report

**MOTION:** Monique/Rick. To approve May 28, 2018 board minutes as corrected. PASS

C. Treasurer’s Report — Kari Auclair

Funds Carryover: some funds (@\$6580) are allowed to carry into next fiscal year. Proposed FY2020 budget. Stacey reported our fiscal agent, WMMHC, has concluded that our mini-grants do NOT expend the funds in the current year and cannot carry over into next fiscal year. She will contact our state representative to get clarification/flexibility; AMDD has been very willing to work with us, so we will probably not have to worry that our approved mini-grants won’t be funded. Undetermined how much statewide SAA Congress in September will cost; we will know our remaining funds after that time. May want to consider funding mini-grants throughout year.

**MOTION:** Monique/Pete. To accept FY 7/2019-6/2020 budget as proposed. PASS

D. MHOAC/BHOAC Report — Claire Leonard

Met May 16th. Changed the name to “Behavioral Health Oversight Advisory Council” to reflect the new direction of Federal standards to include SUD along with MH disorders. Some confusion with Montana Medicaid reimbursements: apparently, they no longer cover both SUD and MH services simultaneously. (\*See AMDD Question Box\*) This would be of great concern for everyone with co-occurring conditions.

Every meeting, AMDD begins with all the changes with personnel and who’s in charge of what programs. Need continuity to know how to best help population. Montana has never applied for State Block Grant for combined services; MHOAC has administered the Mental Health component. Adding SUD services as BHOAC does not automatically cover SUD services through a Block Grant. May just need to write two separate applications that serve the same population? Or, just add “SUD” to “MH” services in grant application.

SAMHSA will be in Montana to audit the MT Block Grant in August. Next meets August 15 in Helena (with call-in option); Contact Stacey, if interested to attend.

E. SAA Summit Report — Stacey

Was held June 14th at AMDD offices in Helena. Spent lots of time on reporting on SAA activities and AMDD changes (personnel, assignments, etc.). SAAs are seen as collaborators with AMDD rather than a part of it, per se. Discussed implementation of Peer Support Specialists (PSS); they will not be doing any diagnosing (they will be working with people who have a SDMI

or SUD diagnosis). Looking at reimbursable rates for PSS working through MHCs. Also, continuing concern over Case Mgmt. reimbursable rates not being sustainable employment.

Matching Grants are now available to tribes in state. Wanting to add more discussion about what activities are being utilized around state (and how to replicate successes); need to address what is/isn't working within communities. Next: Sept. 13th.

Statewide Congress: Friday, Sept. 6 at Colonial Inn, Helena; 2hrs starting at 9 AM for our Congress within the daylong Montana Peer Network (MPN) conference (CEUs available). Report on things SAAS did and want to achieve; afternoon workshops on related topics; lunch provided. Any member who wants, may attend with carpool, lodging, meals provided through WSAA.

F. AMDD Report — CPO Kenny Bell / Vicky Varichak

No CPO present; received a monthly email from Cindy Dallas. Jami Hanson has been hired to manage the First Episode Psychosis, Supported Employment, Peer Support, and PATH contracts. She will be the point of contact for the SAA and LAC. Jami reports to Bobbi Perkins. Dana Geary has been hired to manage the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Block Grants and oversee compliance with other discretionary grants. She will be the point of contact for BHOAC (formally called MHOAC) and also reports to Bobbi Perkins.

Questions/Concerns Addressed to AMDD:

1. Medicaid reimbursement for clients w/ co-occurring treatment appointments.
2. Change beginning of fiscal year (FY)?
3. Get release of MSH Census information.

F. 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) — Katie Sorenson will put on a 1-day "Introduction To Recovery" class, August 8th at UM campus in Dillon. OPA has come to Co. every Wednesday to provide services in community (these are contracted year-to-year); looking for other agency than LAC to administer OPA services. Jan-Feb: served 220+ people. Hope to use their approved mini-grant to continue funding these services. They continue to work on the Big Sky Behavioral Health Conference, October 3-4 in Dillon (Register through Eventbrite).

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

3. Lake Co./Polson (Douglas) — Still struggling, having difficulty getting people to attend.

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

5. Madison Co./Virginia City (Claire) — Have 2 events upcoming: Jim Hajny (MPN) to speak at July LAC meeting (1st Monday, 2:30p). July 16: 1-person play from Helena, "Any Brilliant Thing" (Suicide/MH-related content); includes discussion panel after end of play. (7/20 in Dillon).

Have 3 Prevention Specialists out of Butte come to serve their county; they're presenting ideas for many possible services to implement (and they have budget to fund some!). Speaker Kevin Briggs (CHP officer to patrol GG bridge for "jumpers."

6. Mineral Co./Superior (Dawn) — Not present to report.

7. Missoula Co./Missoula (Sylvia) — Planning is "starting over" by relearning what Karen Ward used to do to make July 18th Party in Park happen. Still need to make promo flyer. Seeking enough funding to put this on; especially want to provide Big Dipper Ice Cream.

8. Ravalli Co./Hamilton (Denelle) — Contact with LEA about scheduling of CIT training and having peers present to contribute. Networking to find free meeting space in Hamilton. Meets on 1st Thurs 12:30-2p); Kari will look into finding space at Riverfront WMMHC.

9. Sanders Co./Plains (Vicky C.) — Not present to report. (Meets 4th Weds; 532-9190 x.1)

10. Silver Bow Co./Butte (vacant) — Not present to report. (Chair, Karen Sullivan, Ph.D.)

11. "Pintler" (Deer Lodge & Granite counties)/Anaconda (vacant) — Currently inactive.

G. OLD BUSINESS:

1. 2019 Legislative Committee Update — Tyler Steinebach

Legislative session ended May 1st. Unsure what Legislative Committee will work on between sessions; Interim state committees will be meeting from now until Sept. 2020. Children/Family Health Cmte will be addressing subjects most pertinent to our mission. (\*See Draft plan, mid-pg. 7). Only five of the bills we were watching for our identified Priorities List have passed; Tyler will bring all updates to our August meeting.

2. Proposed New SAA Catchment Areas — Stacey

Still awaiting the majority of LACs feedback. Deferred further discussion.

3. MT State Hospital — Tyler

Census reports? FOIA letter. Received letters from Governor's office: They don't have any records; get records from DPHHS. DPH: we're in their queue to receive an answer and how much it will cost (it's been over 1 month and no reply yet; applied to defer expense as we are a non-profit advocacy service.). MSH is administered under AMDD (Zoe Barnard) and is not even getting these answers for themselves. It is not a HIPAA issue, as there is no individual identifying data referenced. The MSH Interim Director needs to be impressed that this is an important service. (Can AMDD get this information?)

ADART is no longer meeting, so no bi-monthly reports on MSH census, tracked by county admission/discharge outcomes. Montana Board of Visitors (BOV) is no longer able to give overview to this problem.

H. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Elect WSAA State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) representative: They hold monthly meetings (phone-in or in person), 2-3:30pm for SHIP (Anna Bradley in charge). Just beginning a 5-year contract and are still figuring out what action is needed in this area. Tyler expressed interest to serve; nominated.

**MOTION:** Rick/Claire. To appoint Tyler Steinebach as WSAA SHIP representative. PASS

2. New AMDD contract (begins July): Should have new contract for FY2020; Stacey & Kari will be signatories. AMDD is considering changing their fiscal year, so may give part-year contract to change to the new month beginning FY. Will consider at August meeting.

3. Statewide Facebook and/or website of SAAs/LACs: Discussion by board, generally in favor, if all SAAs will be equally responsible to contribute content. Should continue this conversation at the SAA Congress in September. Should have "roll out" media event to announce.

4. Review of WSAA Strategic Plan (SP): Stacey has gone through our plan and commented on what has and hasn't been done. WSAA needs to work on updating By-Laws. Review and consider making our SP a two-year plan. Stacey will ask Crystal Evans what may have come about from her investigation into having an Oversight of the many committees that handle housing issues and try to consolidate for efficiency.

5. Discussion/decision. **MOTION:** Claire/Pete. To skip the July WSAA meeting. PASS

Adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

**Next meeting: Tuesday, August 27, 2019, 10:00am-1:00pm**

Submitted by: Denelle Pappier, WSAA Secretary (406-363-1311 / [dpappier@aol.com](mailto:dpappier@aol.com))

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ACRONYMS GLOSSARY:

AMDD Addictions & Mental Disorders Division  
BH Behavioral Health  
BHAM Behavioral Health Alliance of Montana  
CBPRS Community-Based

Psychiatric Rehabilitative Support  
CIT Crisis Intervention Team  
CM Case Management  
CLO Community Liaison Officer  
CPO Community Program Officer

CSAA Central Service Area Authority  
DPHHS Dept. of Public Health & Human Services  
ESAA Eastern Service Area Auth.  
FY Fiscal Year (*July to June*)  
LAC Local Advisory Council

LEA Law Enforcement Agency  
 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 Memorandum of Understanding

MSH Montana State Hospital  
 NAMI National Alliance on Mental Illness  
 PACT Program for Assertive Community Treatment  
 PATH People Assisting The Homeless  
 PSS Peer Support Specialist  
 PT Project Tomorrow  
 QPR Question, Persuade, Refer  
 SAA Service Area Authority

SDMI Severely-Disabling Mental Illness  
 SHIP State Health Improvement Plan  
 SUD Substance Use Disorder  
 TBD "To be determined"  
 WMMHC Western Montana MHC  
 WSAA Western Service Area Authority

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**AMDD REPORT TO SERVICE AREA AUTHORITIES (SAA)**

June 2019 Update (email)

Cindy Dallas, Office Manager

Addictive & Mental Disorders Division; 444-3907

**AMDD**

- Jami Hanson has been hired to manage the First Episode Psychosis, Supported Employment, Peer Support, and PATH contracts. She will be the point of contact for the SAA and LAC. Jami reports to Bobbi Perkins.
- Dana Geary has been hired to manage the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Block Grants and oversee compliance with other discretionary grants. She will be the point of contact for BHAC (formally called MHOAC) and also reports to Bobbi Perkins.
  - a. Introductions to these new staff will be made soon.
  - A Federal Site visit for the MH Block Grant is scheduled for the end of August. Bobbi will be reaching out to SAA and BHAC with invitations to attend. Please consider the following:
    - b. Federal Officers will be researching MT websites; if you can ensure your LAC and SAA websites are updated, that would be most excellent.
    - c. Federal Officers are requesting to meet with a few members of each SAA (that includes representation from LAC) and BHAC. Please identify who from your SAA / LAC / BHAC you would like to represent your council / advisory. Bobbi Perkins will reach out to you for this information in the near future.

**Behavioral Health**

County and Tribal Matching Grant RFPs and Mobile Crisis Grant RFPs should be published by end of July.

**Partnership for Success Grant (PFS)**

The Partnership for Success Grant from SAHMSA focuses on substance use prevention. The purpose of this grant is focused on at-risk individuals and families to address underage drinking among persons aged 9 to 20, and youth misuse of marijuana and methamphetamine. The PFS grant recently hired a Program Evaluator, Courtney Geary, and an Epidemiologist, William Gardner. The additional focus of evaluation and statistical analysis will be important to learn about the available data on substance use in Montana and identify the gaps in data. The PFS grant will also focus on taking a closer look at program implementation and coalition work in the communities.\*

(\*Kari stated: Large coalition in Mineral Co., none in Missoula.)