

**Western Service Area Authority (WSAA) Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday, July 8, 2020 • 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**  
**Online and Teleconference Only**

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PRESENT: (Board Members – for quorum): Tyler Steinebach, Stacey Wheeler, Denelle Pappier; Sylvia Carollo, Monique Casbeer, Geri Stewart.

(Board Advisors from AMDD): (none)

(Members/ Guests): Kristy Black, Micole LaCounte, Katherine Patton

Convened at 10:15 a.m. – Tele-conference call initiated.

A. Welcome / Introductions / Announcements — Tyler Steinebach, Acting Chairperson

1. Connected to our new tele-conference option through GoogleMeet. [THE ID CODE WILL CHANGE EACH MONTH; WE WILL SEND IT OUT BY EMAIL BEFORE THE MEETING.] Join the conference online in May: join with GoogleMeet: [meet.google.com/vdv-ezwu-iaa](https://meet.google.com/vdv-ezwu-iaa)  
Join by Telephone: [+1 304-981-1553](tel:+13049811553) (PIN: 386100112).

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

a. MPN has held lots of training: free, with membership (which is also free).

Go to: <https://mtpeernetwork.org>

b. Discussion/Consensus: When do we want to resume in-person meetings? Will take off month of June with no meeting and see where quarantine is in July. Tyler will post on our website that we will not meeting in June.

B. Secretary's Report — Denelle Pappier

Approve 05/13/2020 board meeting minutes — Deferred motion for lack of quorum.

C. Treasurer's Report — Kari Auclair (not present)

D. AMDD Report — Jami Hansen (AMDD Bureau Chief)

(No monthly status report received by email) —

E. SAA Summit Quarterly Report (Online meeting or at AMDD office, Helena)

Has been meeting weekly with AMDD and all SAAs. Working to develop a single state-wide SAA with six regional areas, each with a chair. Chairs are responsible to focus on building/supporting LACs. Agreed that LAC needs to be the priority to gather information that the SAA/AMDD needs to hear. "We're shaping it as we go, so it will be what we want it to be." AMDD's Jami Hansen and Bobbi Perkins are committed to keeping LAC input as a priority.

Budget and By-Laws need to change; state lawyers are looking into the legalities. Reviewed/revised the contract between SAA and AMDD; Stacey feels it's more flexible. Plan to hold grants on quarterly basis in future. Each LAC will receive \$500 operating funds.

F. OLD BUSINESS

1. Legislative Priorities (LP) — Not work on this needed now.

2. New BHOAC Representative — Can happen when the new group is formed.

3. Website Manager — Will advertise for state-wide webmaster.

4. MSH Data Records — Stacey is the only non-governmental person on this email list for information (gets a new report every day). Mostly keeping track that MSH doesn't go over recommended population census. Data may be shared with groups.

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. SAA Re-Appportionment — Stacey

Moving toward becoming a single state-wide SAA: the plan needs a chair from each of six areas (each representing nine LACs). Stacey is not available for our area (Stipend + mileage

reimbursement available). Please share this info with any stakeholder who may be interested. AMDD has a VISTA volunteer who is helping with details.

Would be one Secretary for the entire SAA; one fiscal agent (will not be a MHC; trying to get MPN to do it). Six co-chairs for the state's regions.

Members are welcome to attend meetings by phone or online. Trying to keep to four Executive Board people from each current SAA. Will ask Jamie about sharing meeting information with wider subset of members and public notification.

2. Mental Health Fair — Tyler. Have shifted interest in doing this through the Missoula LAC; currently on hold due to quarantine.

3. Letter to stakeholders — Will hold off until transition is complete in October 1, 2020.

4. LAC budget — Stacey send a requisition order for Missoula LAC back pay. Each LAC needs to submit request for \$375.00 operating costs. Encourage active LACs to submit for their annual stipends.

Kari — WSAA Budget \$24,698.87; much of that will be available to grants.

5. WSAA Congress?? — Do we want to do something? Maybe online with presentations, discuss legislative issues. Tyler is still monitoring the developments in Legislature. Will get busier after elections in November; have a new slate of representatives. PSS has two bills pending: add PSS to BHOAC, and get funding for PSS able to reimburse as their own entity (to not need to be employed by MHC).

Kari: concerns about PSS. The application form is okay, but she considers some questions are an invasion of privacy and HIPAA to require their personal psychiatric records/diagnoses. Consensus that we all agree that it should be eliminated. The role is people helping people; needn't be based on any MH diagnosis. Stacey: she's sent in peoples' applications without the records, just a letter of support from her for the person. Also requires Dept. of Justice fingerprints. It's not been an easy process putting this legislation together; not impossible to amend it now.

Senate Bill 660 – Tyler noted a need to fight to keep funding; he will follow-up with how LACs can help.

6. WMMHC needs translators (Spanish, ASL, and others). Stacey uses "Soft Landing" as an easy online translation program. For deaf, she uses 2 TTY machines to type Q/A to each other.

H. 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 (Katherine) — Annual Big Sky conference is cancelled. In lieu of 2 day summit, will hold one day mini-summit meeting in October (expect @50 people). Rick has resigned; Katherine is the new Representative. Summit: Advocacy panels + Zoe Barnard to discuss what is/isn't working in MH. Expanding online program to get local MH services; hired a special person to work individually 1:1 and share resources.

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

3. Lake Co./Polson (Douglas) — Not present to report.

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

5. Madison Co./Virginia City (vacant) — Not present to report.

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

7. Missoula Co./Missoula (Sylvia/David) — New Rep. Seraphina Gordon, Alt. Phoenix White Feather (MaryBeth Lundeen). Meeting today at 3pm; will not be holding annual summer picnic. Plan to buy coupons to Big Dipper ice cream and hand out at all MHCs.

8. Ravalli Co./Hamilton (Denelle/Jenny) — No meeting in June.
9. Sanders Co./Plains (Vicky C.) — Not present to report.
10. Silver Bow Co./Butte (Katrena) — Not present to report.
11. "Pintler" (Deer Lodge & Granite counties)/Anaconda (vacant) — Currently inactive.

Adjourn: 11:35am

**Next meeting: Wednesday, August 12, 10:00am-1:00pm**

Submitted by: Denelle Pappier, WSAA Secretary (406-363-1311 / [Denelle406@gmail.com](mailto:Denelle406@gmail.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*)

HIPAA Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act  
 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  
 MPN Montana Peer Network  
 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  
 SILC Statewide Independent Living Council  
 SUD Substance Use Disorder  
 TBD "To be determined"  
 WMMHC Western Montana MHC  
 WRAP Wellness Recovery Action Plan  
 WSAA Western Service Area Authority

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