

**Western Service Area Authority (WSAA) Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday, August 12, 2020 • 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**  
**Online and Teleconference Only**

~~~~~

PRESENT: (Board Members – for quorum): Stacey Wheeler, Tyler Steinebach, Denelle Pappier, Kari Auclair; Rena Ayres, Katherine Patton, Sylvia Carollo (left early).  
(Board Advisors from AMDD): (none) Dennis Nyland (Ombudsman)  
(Members/ Guests): Jennifer Driscoll (PSS with Stepping Stones, Missoula), Rena Steyaert (MT Ombudsman office; rsteyaert2@mt.gov)

Convened at 10:09 a.m. – Tele-conference call initiated.

**AUGUST 2020 MEETING OPTIONS: (\*LONG DISTANCE CHARGES MAY APPLY)**

**JOIN ON-LINE: [meet.google.com/tpz-waxc-qqe](https://meet.google.com/tpz-waxc-qqe)**

**JOIN BY TELEPHONE: (US TOLL CALL) 413-438-4279 (PIN: 449113698)**

- 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.]
  - 2. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
    - a. Stacey will not be running for reelection to the WSAA chair, but will remain on the board. She represents Families. Stacey encourages board participation; share our info.
- B. Secretary's Report — Denelle Pappier
  - Approve 05/13/2020 and 07/08/2020 board meeting minutes — (May minutes were deferred for lack of quorum.) Email to board members and poll results.  
**MOTION:** Rena/Sylvia. To accept both sets of minutes as submitted. PASS
- C. Treasurer's Report — Kari Auclair
  - Budget sheet: YTD funds remaining \$24,698.87.
- D. AMDD Report — Jami Hansen (AMDD Bureau Chief)  
(No monthly status report received by email)
- E. AMDD's "COVID/Weekly" Update — (Jami Hansen) / Tyler Steinebach
  - 1. Crisis Worker Training (Disaster Response): State has applied for 2 months of funding to get training started. Plan to apply for additional 9 mos. of funding. Screen workers to get out working. Five member organizations: Voices of Hope, Warm Line (MHA) will hire child specialist to work in schools. MT Hospital Association (registry for health care professionals to be available for volunteer service in a disaster); Kaufman Center/CSK; MT Public Health Institute (media).
- F. OLD BUSINESS
  - 1. SAA Re-Apportionment — Stacey
    - Ongoing investigation on how the process would work changing to a single SAA statewide. WSAA and CSAA have withdrawn their consent to form the single SAA. Main objections are to AMDD appointing chairs and lacks collaboration; not grass-roots driven. ESAA is in favor of going forward. Upcoming meeting to iron out these issues; impacted by COVID restrictions. Need to slow down the process: recommends taking another year to

settle this decision. We want to slow down to see more public participation with the process; difficult with online meetings and getting the word out. Need to take time on consideration to ensure doing this right.

Major concerns of AMDD appointing positions without regional input. Three SAAs are incorporated as nonprofits: we'd have to dissolve and reconfigure as single entity.

Goal is to get LACs strong within each of 6 regions. Each region would have a chair person who can vote and Executive positions (all appointed, rather than elected). Loss of our SAA voting members reduces our ability to be involved in decision-making.

2. Legislative Committee Update — Tyler

It's about time for legislators to submit bills for consideration. Unopposed in elections members may do it now; otherwise, need to wait until after elections. He'd like to work on getting a panel of legislators to present at a WSAA meeting. Will resume after Sept.

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. Submitted Grants Applications — Denelle

Learning experience. Assisted in applications to learn grant process. Next month decide. PSS Scholarships: 4 or 5 submitted and funded. We would like to change to quarterly grant deadlines in next Fiscal Year (FY).

Kari — WSAA funds \$24,698.87; much of that will be available to grants. Applicants on Grant Review Committee agreed to abstain from rating their own applications. From submitted letters of intent, Secretary compiled this table of projected budget:

2. Upcoming WSAA Elections — Denelle

Each active LAC can submit for \$375 stipend; Secretary will send forms out again. Discussion of possible need for physical mailing for WSAA annual ballots/nominations;

Stacey will connect with Denelle to check whose addresses we have. Not a preferred method as we have few physical addresses on file and no budget for postage, etc. Send email to LACs to solicit nominations and allow write-in candidates. Request that all LAC elections be held now for their officers and reps to WSAA; those positions are to be accepted by WSAA board. Courtney Rudbach has resigned from her Kalispell hospital position; she's a VA therapist now.

Kari: WMMHC is willing continue as fiduciary agency. Lots of board vacancies: 4 general positions and LAC positions. Representing Hospitals and 2 Members at Large. Member at Large may be from an area without an active LAC.

Brenda Desmond is willing to stay involved (at least with ByLaws and Grant Reviews) although she is no longer a board Director. ByLaws were revised by consensus to reduce the number of board members; this will make it easier to attain quorum.

Do we want to implement "Elect" positions to introduce people to the roles of Executive Board? Our WSAA contract expires Sept. 30, 2020; new FY begins October 1st.

Suggested to send invitations/encouragement to see who would be interested in participation. Who is on email list? (Secretary will compile and share with Exec. Board). Tyler offered to draft the letter; Stacey will review; Secretary will email out.

3. WSAA Congress?? — Do we want to do something? Maybe online with presentations, We are not required by ByLaws to hold one. Deferred discussion to future agenda.

|                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Total of All Applications: \$21,317.10</b></p> <p><b>Total of Compliant Applications: \$9,967.10</b></p> <p><b>Total of Non-compliant Applications: \$11,350.00</b></p> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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) — She will email to Secretary.
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) — Tyler: meeting on 8/18; working on projects: elections for LAC positions, working on Year-end report. Received LAC stipend check. Kristie sent Sylvia email to get LAC support letters. \*\*\* email: cc: Stacey.
8. Ravalli Co./Hamilton (Denelle/Jenny) — No meeting in July
9. Sanders Co./Plains (Vicky C.) — Not present to report.
10. Silver Bow Co./Butte (Katrena) — Not present to report. K. Moved out of county.
11. "Pintler" (Deer Lodge & Granite counties)/Anaconda (vacant) — Currently inactive.

Adjourn: 11:10

**Next meeting: Wednesday, September 9, 10:00am-1:00pm**

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

~~~~~

<u>ACRONYMS GLOSSARY:</u>	HIPAA Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act	PATH People Assisting The Homeless
AMDD Addictions & Mental Disorders Division	LAC Local Advisory Council	PSS Peer Support Specialist
BH Behavioral Health	LEA Law Enforcement Agency	PT Project Tomorrow
BHAM Behavioral Health Alliance of Montana	MH Mental Health	QPR Question, Persuade, Refer
CBPRS Community-Based Psychiatric Rehabilitative Support	MHAM Mental Health Awareness Month (May)	SAA Service Area Authority
CIT Crisis Intervention Team	MHC Mental Health Center	SDMI Severely-Disabling Mental Illness
CM Case Management	MHFA MH First Aid training	SHIP State Health Improvement Plan
CLO Community Liaison Officer	MHOAC MH Oversight Advisory Council	SILC Statewide Independent Living Council
CPO Community Program Officer	MI Mental Illness	SUD Substance Use Disorder
CSAA Central Service Area Authority	MOU Memorandum of Understanding	TBD "To be determined"
DPHHS Dept. of Public Health & Human Services	MPN Montana Peer Network	WMMHC Western Montana MHC
ESAA Eastern Service Area Auth.	MSH Montana State Hospital	WRAP Wellness Recovery Action Plan
FY Fiscal Year (Oct. to Sept.)	NAMI National Alliance on Mental Illness	WSAA Western Service Area Authority
	PACT Program for Assertive Community Treatment	

~~~~~