

Chairwoman: Dr. Maria Perez
Vice-Chairperson: Walter Lanier
Secretary: Mary Neubauer
Senior Executive Assistant: Jodi Mapp, 257-5202

**MILWAUKEE COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Thursday, August 12, 2021 - 1:30 P.M.
Teleconference Meeting

MINUTES

PRESENT: Maria Perez, Mary Neubauer, and Thomas Lutzow
EXCUSED: Walter Lanier

SCHEDULED ITEMS:

1. **Welcome.**

Chairwoman Perez welcomed everyone to the August 12, 2021, Mental Health Board Executive Committee remote/virtual meeting.

2. **Future State/Structure of Mental Health Board Support Resources.**

Chairwoman Perez explained this item came about in recognition of the Behavioral Health Division (BHD) going through considerable transition. In doing so, there has been difficulty retaining staff, which makes it harder for BHD to function as it gets closer to the closure of the hospital. The Board, however, continues to expand with discussions of creating more committees. Operations are becoming more complex, yet BHD's staff continues to dwindle. As it stands today, the current way of functioning is not sustainable. Now would be a good time to determine what resources are needed, not only for the Board but also for BHD. The transition provides an opportunity to set up a sustainable structure. The main concern, again, is the loss of staff.

The Committee was reminded in its very early stages, the Board had authority with matters pertaining to personnel. The Board then chose to opt out of those affairs. Because times are changing, it warrants a discussion to see if, in fact, the Board wants to entertain reasserting itself. Currently, it appears Human Resources has the authority, or final say, when it comes to positions needed or staff adjustments, which has proven to be challenging for BHD Administration. Upon recommendation, the Board would be able to assert some authority, therefore empowering the Administrator, who is more knowledgeable about what resources are needed to properly function and support the work being done, to make the necessary staffing decisions.

Discussion ensued at length.

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

	<p>Several Board Members weighed in on the discussion in support of reconsidering personnel and staffing.</p> <p>Board Member Eilers indicated the topic of personnel and staffing can be brought before the Governance Committee at its next meeting.</p> <p>The Committee agreed to pursue positions dedicated strictly to serving the Board.</p> <p>This item was informational.</p>
3.	<p>Presentations from Non-Contracted Vendors.</p> <p>Chairwoman Perez stated this item is on the agenda to determine the appropriateness of having non-contracted vendors appear and present before the Board. This is not to be confused with the presentations by Behavioral Health Division contracted vendors, which were requested monthly by the Board to get information on county-funded community services provided through the contracted agency.</p> <p>Board Member Wesley informed the Committee this topic was part of a discussion had at the last Public Hearing related to highlighting the many innovations and new programming happening in the community of which the Board should be kept abreast. She suggested the proper forum could be the Community Engagement Committee.</p> <p>After further discussion, this item was referred to the Community Engagement Committee.</p>
4.	<p>Adjournment.</p> <p>Chairwoman Perez ordered the meeting adjourned.</p>
<p>This meeting was recorded. The official copy of these minutes, along with the audio recording of this meeting, is available on the Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division/Mental Health Board web page.</p> <p>Length of meeting: 1:34 p.m. to 2:21 p.m.</p> <p>Adjourned,</p> <p><i>Jodi Mapp</i></p> <p>Jodi Mapp Senior Executive Assistant Milwaukee County Mental Health Board</p>	

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

**The next meeting for the
Milwaukee County Mental Health Board Executive Committee
Will be on Thursday, December 1, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.**

**Visit the Milwaukee County Mental Health Board Web Page at:
<https://county.milwaukee.gov/EN/DHHS/About/Governance>**

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278-3932 (voice) or 711 (TRS), upon receipt of this notice.***