**Chairman:** Thomas Lutzow  
**Vice-Chairperson:** Maria Perez  
**Secretary:** Michael Davis  
**Senior Executive Assistant:** Jodi Mapp, 257-5202

## MILWAUKEE COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD  
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, March 20, 2019 - 11:00 A.M.**  
Milwaukee County Mental Health Complex  
Conference Room 1045

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Thomas Lutzow, Maria Perez, Michael Davis, and Duncan Shrout

**SCHEDULED ITEMS:**

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| 1 | **Welcome.**  
Chairman Lutzow greeted Committee Members and welcomed everyone to the March 20, 2019, Mental Health Board's annual meeting of the Executive Committee. |
| 2 | **Milwaukee County Mental Health Board Goals and Vision for 2019.**  
Michael Lappen, Administrator, Behavioral Health Division (BHD)  
Dr. John Schneider, Chief Medical Officer, BHD  
Jeanne Dorff, Fiscal Administrator, Department of Health and Human Services  

Chairman Lutzow stated the intent of the report was to provide the Board with content related to future issues requiring Board consideration and to basically serve as a roadmap of the general direction the Board needs to go collectively. Top priorities include the Universal Health Services (UHS) contract, facility relocation, and crisis redesign. The report will also generate subsequent items through the input and feedback of Board Members. He also referenced work needed in the area of quality improvement.  

Detailed discussions were held regarding facility relocation efforts and crisis redesign. Chairman Lutzow recommended exploring the possibility of hospital systems contributing to the redesign. A Return on Investment (ROI) cost justification was done in another state indicating contribution on the part of hospital systems yield favorable returns for those hospital systems. It was recommended to have WIPFLi conduct an analysis on a centralized Psychiatric Crisis Services (PCS) crisis response structure funded by the hospital systems and operated by BHD. It is cost justified for the private hospital systems to invest in public service. |
Chairman Lutzow emphasized the importance of soliciting the State to restructure the Medicaid reimbursement rate for mental health services. Mr. Lappen stated changes in the reimbursement structure would have a significant positive impact on BHD, which would also translate to a positive impact for BHD’s health system partners. Rate reform is clearly needed. Board Secretary Davis recommended the Board meet with the hospital systems to have a roundtable discussion on a strategy to address rate reimbursement. The Executive Committee directed Mr. Lappen to arrange a meeting with State Representative Joe Sanfillipo to discuss this issue, in addition to the other issues faced by BHD.

Board Secretary Davis indicated certain items listed on the report will present themselves with specific deadlines, particularly surrounding the closing of the hospital. Other issues on the list appear to be more on-going. A potential solution to addressing the report would be an assignment of timelines. In addition to timelines, how the work is delegated should be included. Because it is going to take a lot of planning, the focus should be on organizing the list in such a way that is manageable to the Board.

Chairman Lutzow directed Mr. Lappen to create a strategic plan that includes timelines, due dates, and identifies the parties responsible for the work.

A detailed discussion was held regarding the hospital transition. Mr. Lappen explained BHD’s undertaking of eight major projects in an attempt to organize and effectively allocate available resources to the transition. Mr. Lappen stated he will report on the project teams’ progress regularly as the projects move forward. He stated Jennifer Bergersen, Dr. Schneider, and Linda Oczus are collaboratively leading the hospital transition team and responsible for operational details needed to go from transitioning down from a four unit facility through closure, all while continuing to operate at a high level up until the very last patient is discharged. Some of this will include a collaboration with UHS to engage BHD staff to help build their own medical staff organization and identify a workforce to staff their units.

Chairman Lutzow addressed the workforce shortage being suffered by providers in the community. Mr. Lappen informed the Committee of the workforce development and diversity project and team currently in place interfacing with various universities, with a connection to Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC) through Board Member Lanier, in the hopes of expanding. It will provide a pathway through an accommodating internship site and assist students through the programs. This requires developing talent through the community by providing opportunities in coordination with provider agencies.

Mr. Lappen reviewed the list of topics and provided an update on BHD’s progress as to each.

3. **Adjournment.**

Chairman Lutzow ordered the meeting adjourned.
This meeting was recorded. The official copy of these minutes and subject reports, along with the audio recording of this meeting, is available on the Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division/Mental Health Board web page.

Length of meeting: 11:05 a.m. to 12:20 p.m.

Adjourned,

**Jodi Mapp**
Senior Executive Assistant
Milwaukee County Mental Health Board

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**Scheduling of the next**
Milwaukee County Mental Health Board Executive Committee
Is at the Call of the Chair

Visit the Milwaukee County Mental Health Board Web Page at:

[https://county.milwaukee.gov/EN/DHHS/About/Governance](https://county.milwaukee.gov/EN/DHHS/About/Governance)

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The March 20, 2019, meeting minutes of the Milwaukee County Mental Health Board Executive Committee have been reviewed and are hereby approved.

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Michael Davis, Secretary
Milwaukee County Mental Health Board