

Chairperson: Duncan Shroul
Vice-Chairman: Thomas Lutzow
Secretary: Dr. Robert Chayer
Senior Executive Assistant: Jodi Mapp, 257-5202

MILWAUKEE COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

Thursday, January 25, 2018 - 4:30 P.M.
Washington Park Senior Center
4420 West Vliet Street

MINUTES

PRESENT: Robert Chayer, Michael Davis, Rachel Forman, *Jon Lehrmann, Thomas Lutzow, Mary Neubauer, Maria Perez, Duncan Shroul, and Brenda Wesley
EXCUSED: Robert Curry, Ronald Diamond, and Walter Lanier

*Board Member Jon Lehrmann was not present at the time the roll was called but joined the meeting shortly thereafter.

SCHEDULED ITEMS:

NOTE: All Informational Items are Informational Only Unless Otherwise Directed by the Board.

1. **Welcome.**

Michael Lappen, Administrator, Behavioral Health Division (BHD)

Chairman Shroul welcomed everyone to the Public Hearing. Board Members and Staff were asked to introduce themselves.

Mr. Lappen explained the Mental Health Board Joint Task Force had what is expected to be its final meeting on the proposed outsource of acute services. At that meeting, the Joint Task Force unanimously agreed to recommend BHD enter into formal negotiations with Universal Health Systems (UHS). This recommendation will be addressed at the February 22, 2018, Mental Health Board meeting. Negotiations are expected to occur over the course of the next several months.

UHS responded to a proposal compiled of 133 questions reviewed by a clinical team Review Committee made up of Board Members and BHD Senior Staff. All concerns raised by the Review Committee related to UHS' response were adequately addressed. After a thorough vetting and due diligence process, the recommendation derived is to move forward. As a point of clarification, there is currently no contract, but the way has been paved to proceed with negotiations.

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

There is still a lengthy process ahead. It is important to make sure not only our communities' interests but also BHD's interests are achieved. Moving forward with a signed contract would trigger a two-and-a-half year transition period. Preparation would begin related to no longer serving inpatient acute psychiatric patients at BHD but instead, contract with UHS to serve those customers.

Projections have been done on this change and reflect significant cost savings in the area of facility maintenance and the overall modernization of care provided. Some of these savings would then, in turn, be put back into community services. BHD's main goal has always been to provide services in the least restrictive setting with a strong focus on community services and recovery.

Mr. Lappen also discussed a parallel effort recently started that involves BHD's engagement with the private health systems in Milwaukee, through the Milwaukee Health Care Partnership, to explore a collaborative redesign of Crisis Services. If the outsource moves forward as planned, the Psychiatric Crisis Services Unit at BHD will not be in a position to operate in its current state. This is an extremely valuable service in the community, for which a large continuum of care exists. It is the contention to collaboratively create a plan to sustain the continuum of care within the community for crisis services. This could include a centrally located psychiatric emergency room and will be supported by crisis assessment and response teams, mobile teams, and crisis resource centers, which is all that is entailed in the whole continuum.

There has also been some discussion surrounding interesting ideas on how to expand the crisis footprint though the County's Housing Division and the work it does, from outreach to shelters for homeless individuals who are experiencing a crisis, to individuals with substance use challenges.

These are all components encompassed in the transition plan. Completion of the acute outsource and psych crisis redesign will probably be about a three-year project. This is the next step in securing a contract that works for everyone involved.

Chairman ShROUT reiterated this is all being done in an effort to significantly improve community-based services by ensuring easy access to those services, eliminating waitlists, and early screenings.

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

2.	<p>Public Comment on Outsourcing Acute In-Patient Behavioral Health Hospital Services and all Behavioral Health Division Topics/Services.</p> <p>The meeting opened for public comment on Outsourcing Acute In-Patient Behavioral Health Hospital Services and all Behavioral Health Division Topics/Services. The following individuals appeared and provided comments:</p> <p>Barbara Beckert, Disability Rights Wisconsin Kelly Davis, Mental Health Task Force Eugene Barufkin Patricia Obletz, Mental Health Task Force Clay Ecklund Cecile Duhnke, COPE Services Janette Herrera Bria Grant, Unite MKE Milton Childs, State Public Defender's Office</p>
3.	<p>Adjournment.</p> <p>MOTION BY: (Lutzow) <i>Adjourn. 8-0</i> MOTION 2ND BY: (Davis) AYES: Chayer, Davis, Forman, Lutzow, Neubauer, Perez, Shrout, and Wesley - 8 NOES: 0</p>
<p>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.</p> <p>Length of meeting: 4:41 p.m. to 5:40 p.m.</p> <p>Adjourned,</p> <p>Jodi Mapp Senior Executive Assistant Milwaukee County Mental Health Board</p>	

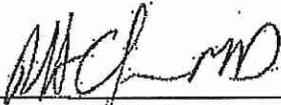
SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

**The next regular meeting for the Milwaukee County Mental Health Board is
Thursday, February 22, 2018, @ 8:00 a.m. at the
Zoofari Conference Center
9715 Bluemound Road**

Visit the Milwaukee County Mental Health Board Web Page at:

<http://county.milwaukee.gov/BehavioralHealthDivi7762/Mental-Health-Board.htm>

The January 25, 2018, meeting minutes of the Milwaukee County Mental Health Board are hereby submitted for approval at the next scheduled regular meeting of the Milwaukee County Mental Health Board.



Dr. Robert Chayer, Secretary
Milwaukee County Mental Health Board