



POLICY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, September 23, 2024, 5:30 pm

The Policy Board of CareWell Services SW met on Monday, September 23, 2024, in the Burnham Brook Conference Room of the Kool Family Community Center, in Battle Creek, Michigan.

Board Members Present: Lyn Briel, Allen Byam, Mary Frisby, Steve Marzolf, Corally O'Dell, Jose Orozco, Jr. (via zoom), Deana Spencer, Shirley Tuggle, Thomas Unger, Linda Whitfield

Board Members Absent: Jim Baldwin, Barbara Frederick

Staff Present: Valerie Barnaby, Karen Courtney, Jodi De Jonge, John Gelletich, Paulette Porter, Stacy Wines, Glin Winsor

Guest Present: Julie Cortright - ACLS Field Representative, Meg Fairchild - Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi - Social Services Director, Clare Tanner - The Arc, Executive Director, Rod Auton - Calhoun County Senior Services Manager

I. Call to Order

Vice Chair, Byam called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Quorum met.

- A. **Introductions:** Introductions were made. Clare Tanner was given the floor to present her credentials as a candidate to join the Policy Board.
- B. **Action Item:** Approval of Consent Agenda for September 23, 2024, and approval of Policy Board Meeting Minutes for August 26, 2024, meeting.

Motion for approval of the Consent Agenda for September 23, 2024, except for item IV.C.1 as board approval is not required per the Bylaws for retention of legal counsel and for approval of the August 26, 2024, Meeting Minutes. Motion made by Marzolf, supported by Unger. Motion CARRIED.

II. Public Comment/Open Meeting

ACLS Field Representative Julie Courtright noted that Wines, Porter and Winsor traveled to Lansing and presented the FY2025 Annual Implementation Plan. They did an excellent job and received positive recognition due to them using a team approach when presenting.

III. CEO Report:

Wines gave an update on staffing numbers as follows: currently nine social workers and nine registered nurses. Two social workers resigned. The glitch in the application system was fixed and we are receiving quite a few employment applications. Per Logsdon, she completed two interviews last week and four more next week for both positions. Logsdon is hoping by the end of the next fiscal year we will have four employees trained in EA's.

The MDHHS All Star Meeting and Nutrition Summit was the first one held since Covid. Porter advised the summit was extremely informative. CareWell invited BCCOA Executive Director and the Nutrition Programs Manager for Milestone Senior Services. Wines stated that they were enlightened on the different types of foods that may be needed in different sectors of our communities.

Wines advised that MMAP will now be bid out per the State. MMAP will be changing to an RFP process. The RFP will be released in the next couple of months. The current contract will be honored through the end of March 2025.

IV. Policy Board Committee Reports

A. Executive/Personnel Membership Committee

1. Approval of the appointment of Clare Tanner to the Policy Board
Tanner was requested to leave. Wines presented her nomination. Once voting was concluded. Tanner joined the meeting.

Motion to approve the Appointment of Clare Tanner made by Marzolf, supported by Unger. Motion CARRIED.

2. Resignation of Doster

Wines gave an overview of the resignation letter from the Policy Board and the Finance Committee. She clarified that Doster currently wants to remain on the Advisory Council.

Motion to accept the resignation of Mark Doster from the Policy Board and Finance Committee made by Marzolf, supported by Unger. Motion CARRIED.

3. Recognition of Board Members:

Wines recognized the following board members that have concluded their term serving on our board: Steve Marzolf, Lyn Briel, Barbara Frederick, and Thomas Unger. Wines presented each member with a gift of appreciation for their service. Byam also gave his utmost appreciation for all that these members have contributed. Wines also noted spoke with four potential candidates from Barry County to join our board.

4. Update on Directors/Review Slate of Officers:

Wines indicated the slate of officers will be placed on hold until we have a firmer foundation of new members.

5. Action Item

Open Meetings Act Calendar of Policy Board Meetings

Open Meetings Act Calendar approval needed for Fiscal Year 24-25. Wines noted that the Advisory Council and the Policy Board meeting will both be on Monday, October 21, 2024, due to the annual Region V meeting in Chicago on October 28. The Policy Board meeting will be at 5:00 for this meeting only.

Motion to approve the Open Meetings Act Calendar for FY 2024 – 2025 made by Marzolf, supported by Unger. Motion CARRIED.

B. Finance/Audit Committee:

1. Action Item: Approval of Financial Statements

Winsor reviewed the income statement. We are currently showing a negative balance in some areas. Some of this is still due to Waiver. Our interest income is still positive due to the timely movement of funds into Certificates of Deposits. Our debt has increased due to the MMAP program and the support of Heritage Commons, however, we are financially improved over last year at this time. Per Wines, it appears that other AAA's are also seeing a deficit with the Waiver program.

Motion for approval of the Financial Statements for month ending August 2024, made by Marzolf, supported by Unger. Motion CARRIED.

C. Waiver:

De Jonge reported we are still in double digits for enrollment however, we are still in double digits for closures. This seems to be an ongoing battle. She advised that our Clinical Quality Review will be next month.

D. Advocacy and Outreach Updates

1. O'Dell and the Advocacy Team is requesting that people call their Senators regarding the guardianship laws.

Tuggle stated how proud she is of CWS and the presentation of the Annual Implementation Plan. She also stated that she heard information regarding the MMAP program and the changes that are forthcoming. They will continue to seek answers regarding the information has been presented at the state level.

2. Courtney advised that CWS has been very busy attending many events and activities. She stated that MMAP is moving along and getting ready for open enrollment. We are currently at 76% of our MMAP goal. Courtney also advised we are at funding capacity for PERS.

V. Policy Board Member Time/General Discussion:

1. Byam requested that if anyone has any questions regarding acronyms that are used in our meetings to please ask for clarification if they do not understand or know what the acronyms stand for.
2. Spencer advised that there is a Meet & Greet for the Battle Creek Get Out and Vote initiative. She and Tuggle invited all to attend.
3. Briel is excited to see representation from our local tribal group.

VI. Adjournment:

With no additional items to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:35pm.

**Motion for Policy Board to adjourn made by Marzolf, supported by Unger.
Motion CARRIED.**

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie J. Barnaby, Administrative Assistant