

## OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Name of Governmental Body: Wisconsin Council on Mental Health			Attending: Council members: Inshira Farhoud, Sheryl Smith, Rick Immler, Ana Winton, Karen Odegaard, Kimberlee Coronado, Chrissy Barnard, Kevin Kallas, Dennis Hanson, Jerolynn Scaggs. Tim Peerenboom, Debra Lambole (connected via phone), Dawn Shelton Williams, Jessica Barrickan  DHS Staff: Laura Gebhardt, Ryan Stachowiak, Maddie Johnson, Jamie McCarville, Holy Audley, Joann Stephens, Andrea Jacobson, Alexa Nobis, Sarah Coyle, Mai Zong Vue, Heather Carlson, Jason Latva, Lesly Winslow-Stanley, Hailey Young, Langeston Hughes  Guests: Jane Penner Hoppe (Department of Children and Families), Michelle Seguin, Mary Madden (NAMI-Waukesha), Brian Michel (Legislative and Policy Committee)
Date: 11/17/2021	Time Started: 10:00AM	Time Ended: 3:38PM	
Location: Zoom			Presiding Officer: Rick Immler
<b>Minutes</b>			

### 1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting attendees introduced themselves and shared what they are hoping to improve about the mental health system. I. Farhoud read the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health (WCMH) guidelines.

*Review and approval of the minutes of September 15, 2021*

A. Winton made a motion to accept the minutes.

K. Coronado seconded the minutes

The minutes passed unanimously with the suggested edits.

### *Announcements*

R. Immler stated that the full Council Chair and Vice Council's chair (K. Coronado's position) are up for reappointment.

K. Coronado mentioned that she wants to share a video during lunch highlighting Dr. Dyslexia Dude. K. Coronado mentioned that the reading readiness bill did not pass and was vetoed by Governor Evers. K. Coronado mentioned that this bill raised awareness about reading readiness and the importance of this topic in Wisconsin. I. Farhoud mentioned many refugees are coming to Milwaukee and she had the opportunity to go to Fort McCoy. I. Farhoud mentioned about 30 people are coming to Milwaukee, but they do not have housing and are being housed in hotels. I. Farhoud mentioned to let her know if you know of any resources. K. Odegaard mentioned that the Governor's Health Equity Council is meeting from 1PM-4PM today and that there are upcoming listening sessions. K. Coronado mentioned there is an upcoming meeting regarding assisted technology in Wisconsin. Mai Zong Vue stated that the State Council on Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse's (SCAODA) statewide meeting is on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 at 9:30AM.

### *Public Comment*

There was no public comment.

## **2. Division of Care and Treatment Services (DCTS) Briefing and Updates**

K. Odegaard shared updates from the Department of Health Services Secretary's Office. K. Odegaard mentioned that the Secretary's Office will be reaching out to the WCMH for input on the next budget cycle. H. Audley mentioned that L. Hughes is the new Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy Initiatives Advisor in the Administrator's Office. L. Hughes shared information about his work. L. Hughes mentioned that he is the co-chair for the Health Equity Diversity and Inclusion Council (HEDI) and that HEDI is having an open meeting this morning. H. Audley gave updates on the Coronavirus Appropriations Act (CAA) Appropriations American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). H. Audley stated that the Bureau has engaged with stakeholders to determine how funding should be spent.

H. Audley mentioned that the CAA supplemental funds were released to tribes and counties. H. Audley stated that these applications are currently being processed. H. Audley mentioned that communities that did not apply shared they already had a lot of supplemental awards and were not able to take on additional plans at this time. H. Audley stated that ARPA funding can be spent until September 2025. H. Audley mentioned that ARPA funds will be used for crisis development, early serious mental illness programming, crisis services including crisis stabilization facilities and the rollout of 988, recovery supports (such as peer-run respites), the peer-run warm line, and the children's system of care development. The Council asked questions about the supplemental funding opportunities. H. Audley stated that she can share the Crisis Now Model with the Council.

H. Audley discussed the Substance Abuse Block Grant supplemental funds (CAA and ARPA). H. Audley stated that funding opportunities include county supplemental dollars, tribal supplemental dollars, crisis services, harm reduction, Narcan direct to law enforcement, recovery supports, a possible pilot project for recovery housing and sober living facilities, prevention activities, prevention campaigns, women's treatment, and a DHS data surveillance system for opioid notices. R. Stachowiak mentioned that we have SAMHSA approval for our plans, but any external document for the public would need to be approved through our Communications Office. A. Jacobson mentioned that there are restrictions on supplemental funding in terms of incentives.

H. Audley mentioned that DHS 75 is being rolled out (community-based substance use treatment) and that the rule does not take effect until October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. H. Audley mentioned there is a new Substance Abuse Block Grant recovery support set-aside (10%) and an increase in funding for this set-aside amount.

H. Audley provided a facilities update and that the facilities are managing their facility support. H. Audley mentioned that there are staffing vacancies at the facilities and that the facilities are putting forward requests for supplemental add-ons for pay for facility workers. H. Audley mentioned that they are working collaboratively with the National Guard so National Guard volunteers can be trained as nursing assistants. H. Audley hopes these individuals can help when the vaccine mandate takes effect and with employees who are working overtime. H. Audley mentioned that there is a leveling off of the census at the Winnebago Mental Health Institute. H. Audley mentioned that L. Hughes has supported Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion efforts at the facilities.

The Council took a five-minute break.

## **3. Report from the Chair**

R. Immler presented a report from the Chair, specifically where the Council has been and where the Council plans to go. R. Immler stated the Council's purpose is broad according to Chapter 51 including supporting the needs of underserved groups. R. Immler mentioned that meeting via zoom added more accessibility. R. Immler mentioned that the Council focused on the Governor's budget and Medicaid expansion in 2021. R. Immler stated that the Council focused on access and equity this fall. R. Immler stated that in the letter to SAMHSA, the Council stated they need additional support. R. Immler stated the Council has asked about more detailed reporting. R. Immler is wondering how the block grant funding is being used and what the outcomes are.

R. Immler stated the Council was not successful in expanding Medicaid. R. Immler stated there are challenges in gaps in structures and systems. R. Immler stated a low proportion of those with a mental health problem receive services through the County. R. Immler mentioned there are limits on the State Mental Health Authority and that the block grant can be used for system transformation. R. Immler mentioned that the Council needs an updated strategic plan and that the substance use and mental health system is siloed. R. Immler mentioned policy analysis is being left to Council members and many Council members are volunteers. R. Immler mentioned that the Council Bylaws highlight that the Bureau needs to provide policy analysis. R. Immler moved into a discussion of recommendations including Medicaid expansion, receiving feedback on the SAMHSA letter from the Secretary's Office, a potential zoom presentation from providers, working with the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute to write a quantitative gaps report, and a zoom presentation focused on data. R. Immler discussed the behavioral health workforce.

#### **4. Lunch Break**

K. Coronado shared a [video from Dr. Shawn Robinson](#) in the zoom chat for Council members to watch during lunch.

#### **5. Discussion of next steps on Access and Equity**

R. Immler opened up the conversation to the full Council to discuss the next steps on access and equity. R. Immler reviewed the PowerPoint on potential considerations for the Council. J. Barrickman discussed strategic planning and resources from the Department of Health Services. K. Coronado mentioned the importance of looking at prevention and education. R. Immler discussed the scope of the Council to look at Department of Health Services mental health funding. C. Barnard mentioned monitoring all DHS funding and programs and how data collection could be very important for her county. C. Barnard mentioned she is from a county that is struggling to provide services and that data collection could be important. A. Winton mentioned that there is a lack of ability for tribal communities to access county services and that data on this topic would be important.

R. Immler mentioned that the zoom presentations also serve to educate state staff. R. Immler stated these topics could be tabled to provide Council members with the topics to digest these recommendations. R. Immler asked for feedback on the Council presentations. S. Smith mentioned she knows that many people struggle with navigating the system and she thinks we need more peer and parent services. K. Coronado mentioned the information from the fall presentations was priceless. R. Immler asked at when the Secretary's Office would like budget recommendations and K. Odegaard said she would follow-up with this information. R. Immler mentioned it is important for the Committees to work on these issues and set the agenda. M. Vue mentioned that the Bureau has a consultant and she can share her contact information with R. Immler. R. Immler mentioned he is willing to work in a workgroup to do background work and reach out to M. Vue about the facilitation process. R. Immler mentioned that these efforts would be helpful to do in conjunction with Committees.

K. Coronado asked if it should be written that strategic planning happen once or twice a year. J. Barrickman stated that she would be open to help facilitate strategic planning. R. Immler stated it would be great if he could reach out to J. Barrickman to learn more. R. Immler asked if there would be value in having a workgroup in December. R. Immler mentioned workgroups are usually on Friday morning from 8AM-9:30AM. J. Barrickman mentioned that if the Committees want to have a well-thought out strategic plan, this would be challenging to do in two months. H. Audley mentioned that budget proposal papers are crafted in February or March.

R. Immler suggested making a specific request for the Secretary's Office to make a comment on the Mental Health Block Grant letter. H. Audley mentioned it makes sense to receive budget recommendations from March. K. Odegaard asked if there are specific aspects of the letter that the Council is looking for a response to. J. Barrickman mentioned she would support reviewing the MHBG letter again. J. Barrickman also suggested conducting a survey. K. Odegaard mentioned having recommendations from a workgroup would be sufficient for the Secretary's Office. K. Odegaard also wondered if these recommendations could be used to inform the budget considerations. A. Winton mentioned it would be helpful to know if progress has been made on points in the letter. R. Immler mentioned that prior to a workgroup, a survey would be helpful. R. Immler also mentioned that a workgroup would be helpful given the feedback from the Council. M. Johnson stated she will

send out a calendar hold for the workgroup meeting on December 10<sup>th</sup> from 8AM-10AM. J. Barrickman mentioned she can help putting a survey together.

## **6. WCMH Committee Reports, Discussion, and Consideration of Motions**

### **a. Executive Committee – Rick Immler**

R. Immler mentioned that there was a rapid response Executive Committee to address legislative proposals including provisional licensing and a letter was sent to the appropriate committee chairs. R. Immler mentioned the other letter sent supported the telehealth bill. R. Immler mentioned the regular Executive Committee was to prepare for today.

### **b. Adult Quality Committee – Lynn Harrigan and Kristin Welch**

S. Smith shared that there was a presentation from K. Bittner and C. Matz focused on MHBG contracts.

### **c. Children and Youth Committee (CYC) – Phyllis Greenberger and Amy Polsin**

R. Immler stated the CYC has focused on school resource officers, but there has been no formal motion or action.

### **d. Criminal Justice Committee – Tamra Oman and Tara Wilhelmi**

J. McCarville mentioned that Paul Krepski spoke to the Committee about the new opioid settlement dollars. J. McCarville mentioned the discussion for the need for new members, workgroups, and a potential workgroup on housing. J. McCarville mentioned that the next meeting is December 8<sup>th</sup>. R. Immler mentioned that workgroups are helpful for Committees to move issues forward.

### **e. Legislative and Policy Committee (LPC)**

B. Michel mentioned that he and B. Beckert are now the co-chairs of the LPC. B. Michel mentioned that they are focused on advancing equity as well as reviewing legislation and policy through a state bill tracker as well as some federal legislation. B. Michel mentioned that there was a recent presentation on 988, the new crisis line. B. Michel mentioned that the Committee is also working to create a more coordinated response to bring issues to the Council.

### **f. Nominating Committee**

K. Coronado mentioned that the Nominating Committee meets monthly and just met on Monday. K. Coronado mentioned that all of the co-chair positions are filled on the Council and Committee. K. Coronado mentioned that R. Immler's and her position are now expired and that the new chair and vice chair positions are open. K. Coronado mentioned that there are some three year terms expiring next July. K. Coronado mentioned that if individuals are looking to extend their term, to send an email to M. Johnson by June 15<sup>th</sup>. M. Johnson plans to reach out to members whose terms are expiring in early June to see if these individuals are interested in extending their term on the Council.

R. Immler stated that the chair and vice chair positions are two year terms. K. Coronado asked if there was anyone interested in serving as Chair of the Council.

**A. Winton made a motion to thank R. Immler and K. Coronado for their service and extend R. Immler's term for 6 months and a new term for K. Coronado.**

**D. Shelton-Williams seconded this motion.**

**R. Immler asked if there is anyone interested in either position.**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

i. Consider new member nominations

M. Madden shared that she is the Executive Director of NAMI Waukesha. B. Michel shared that he is the Director of Prevention Services for Mental Health America. K. Coronado, J. Scaggs, and R. Immler provided updates on Cecilia Blancas and Charlotte Svea Erlandson. K. Coronado mentioned they are going to wait on the fifth potential member.

1. **Brian Michel**
2. **Cecilia Blancas**
3. **Mary Madden**
4. **Charlotte Svea Erlandson**

**A. Winton made a motion – send these names to the Secretary’s Office for recommendation to the Governor.**

**D. Shelton-Williams seconded this motion**

**This motion passed unanimously.**

K. Coronado mentioned that there was a discussion on bylaw draft amendments.

**7. Call for future WCMH agenda items**

R. Immler suggested a potential invite to the Secretary’s Office to present at the January Council meeting.

**8. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 3:38PM.