



## Central Service Area Authority Board Meeting centralsaamontana.org

(November/December Combined Board Meeting)  
**Friday, December 16th 11:00 am – 1:00 pm**  
ZOOM ONLY

All Central Service Area Authority (CSAA) Board meetings are open to the public

**PUBLIC COMMENT STATEMENT:** In accordance with 2-3-103(1), MCA, the CSAA Board will hold a public comment period. The Open Forum is the public's opportunity to address the Board on any public mental health issue. While the Board cannot take action on the issues presented, the Board will listen to comments and may place the issue on a subsequent agenda for possible action. The Chairperson of the meeting determines the amount of time allotted for public comment.

**Statutory purpose:** *To collaborate with the BHDD and LAC's, to promote consumer and family leadership, and to foster individual choice and access to a continuum of mental health services in the Central Service Area.*

**Statutory duties:** *(1) Collaborate with the BHDD on the planning, implementation, and evaluation of the mental health system. (2) Submit a biennial review and evaluation of mental health service needs and services within the service area. (3) Review and monitor crisis intervention programs within the service area.*

### CSAA Minutes

**Meeting called to order:** The meeting was officially called to order at 11:04 am by Crystal Laufer.

**Board Members Present:** Crystal Laufer (Hill), Bob Mullen (Jefferson), Tom Peluso (Gallatin), Greg Tilton (Cascade), Matt Furlong (Lewis & Clark), Patricia Moritz (Broadwater), Shirley Kaufman (Gallatin), Jennifer Whitfield (Cascade County), Jolene Jennings (Lewis & Clark), Gilberta Belgarde (Chippewa Cree Wellness Center)

**Board Members Absent:** Andrea Lower (Gallatin), Tina Mord (Blaine), Julie Anderson (Park), Melinda Holom (Broadwater), Curtis Smeby (Hill),

**Guests:** Anthea George (Gallatin), Lori Reynolds (CSAA Administrative Support)

**BHDD:** not present  
**Children's Services:** not present  
**MH Ombudsman:** Dennis Nyland  
**Board of Visitors:** Jeremy Hoscheid

### Votes:

#### **Meeting Minutes**

The October Minutes will be sent out via email.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Tom and Lori reported that they were in the process of finalizing the receipts for the fiscal year 2021-2022 and discussed the Treasurer's Report. Expenses for November were \$5,000.75. Tom stated that \$37,500 was deposited for the WSAA. The ending balance as of December 16, 2022 was \$49,650.05. Matt made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Bob seconded it. Motioned passed. Pat asked if WSAA's money that comes in for CSAA to handle is kept in a separate account than the CSAA's or is it put into the same account? Tom replied that it would be put in the same account and would be held

there to draw on as the expenses for WSAA occur. There was further discussion on how that would be handled.

### **SAA Update - New BHDD Contract - October 1, 2022 - June 30, 2024**

Lori reported that Jami Hansen stated in the December SAA meeting that typically the SAAs are funded through the General Fund but that a lot more moneys have been going to support Montana State Hospital (MSH), so she is gathering funds from other sources to help with funding the SAAs. Because of this, Jami said the new contract for this fiscal year will go from October 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024 making it a 20-month contract. Jami stated that since WSAA was still working on restructuring, she would be keeping things the same with CSAA and ESAA being the fiduciary for WSAA funds going forth until the WSAA gets approved with the state. There was further discussion of how that would work.

Bob stated that he wants the CSAA to end the relationship with WSAA; he didn't want us to continue to go on fiscal year after fiscal year doing their work for them. Jennifer asked if there were any benchmark goals or when they would be able to break away on their own? Tom explained the process of what is happening and that WSAA is in the process of reformation. Matt said he agrees with Bob and especially the time that we've spent talking about it. There was further discussion about it. Bob stated that BHDD should go to Missoula and teach them how to account for their expenditures, it shouldn't be our job.

Matt said he thinks it would be appropriate to send BHDD an email to see if there is a way to move the money back to the WSAA because they extended their contract, then they extended our time having to manage it, which means that's somebody doing a job for another entity. Then they should be getting paid to do that job by the entity. He asked if Lori is calculating the time she spends working on WSAA work and charging for that out of WSAA funds because she's a resource to our CSAA board and they are pulling our time and efforts away. He asked if it would be appropriate for Lori to connect with BHDD and try to put that back into the hands of WSAA. So then BHDD could work with WSAA instead of us. Pat stated that he should put that into a motion. Lori said that she keeps track of when she works on things for WSAA. Lori shared that Jami has said that once the WSAA gets their Board together and approved by BHDD the funds can go back to them. There was further discussion, as well as discussion about whether the WSAA should be able to purchase their own insurance. Matt made a motion that CSAA request that BHDD takes back the management of WSAA; CSAA can hold the money in our fiduciary, but that BHDD needs to help WSAA with the oversight and transitioning back to managing their own business. Pat seconded it. Bob asked if they would give it to ESAA to manage it then. Tom said yes, he believes so. Tom said we should discuss this more in the Workgroup and not at this meeting. Tom and Bob voted nay, and the rest voted yea. Bob said he was afraid of what the consequences would be giving all of the business to ESAA. Then ESAA would be managing those counties which would put us off and running getting close to a one region state, so that bothers him. Tom said it bothers him, too.

Tom made a motion that we delay implementation of the previous motion until the next board meeting to see what kind of change happens in the meantime and find out what the consequences are. Bob, Shirley, and Jolene seconded. Motion carried.

### **Public Comment:**

No public comments

### **New Business**

#### **1. Thursday Workgroup Meeting-change day**

Lori discussed that starting in January she would not be able to meet on Thursday mornings for the Workgroup and it was decided to move the Workgroup to Friday mornings from 8:30-10 (except for the fourth Friday). On the fourth Friday there would only be the monthly Board meeting from 11:00-1:00 and no Workgroup. Tom made a motion to change the Workgroup to Fridays. Greg seconded the motion. All were in favor.

## **2. BHAC Representatives requested to speak in January CSAA Board Meeting**

Lori shared the request from Jim Hajny and Lawrence Rhone, that they come speak to the CSAA in January to discuss BHAC.

## **3. Daniel requested we have Individual Placement and Support (IPS) Supported Employment/Vocational Rehabilitation (Voc Rehab) speak to the CSAA Board (February?)**

Lori discussed that Daniel Laughlin requested that Individual Placement and Support (IPS) and Vocational Rehabilitation be invited to come speak to the board. Lori shared that she had sent Daniel a request to join this CSAA board meeting with a list of questions that we would like him to discuss.

## **4. New Committee-Gaps and Services/Legislative Priorities**

Lori discussed that there is interest in starting the Gaps and Services committee with nine board members interested in participating. There was discussion about what was needed. It was decided that scheduling the next committee meeting would be decided via group email. Bob said he thinks we may need to ask for money to pay someone to come and help us with the process of strategic planning because this is for the future, not this legislative session.

## **Ongoing Business**

1. **SAA Update - New BHDD Contract - October 1, 2022 - June 30, 2024** (See above)

### **2. WSAA Update**

Lori shared that the mini grants were being processed for reimbursement for the Montana Peer Network Conference and for Sanders County.

### **3. First Episode Psychosis has been re-opened**

Lori discussed the RFP for First Episode Psychosis (FEP) that was reopened, and that Jami Hansen reported at the SAA meeting that it is required that 10% of the grant monies that we receive need to be spent on first episode psychosis. Jennifer reported that Many Rivers Whole Health is looking at this RFP. There was further discussion about these services.

### **4. Governor's 2025 Biennium Executive Budget**

Lori showed the website for the Governor's budget and there was discussion about the coming legislative session. Bob stated that all of our information would be under Program 10 for BHDD (pp. 32-38) and he explained the process. Bob said they're saying they're going to request a 4% increase in the provider rate, when the Provider Rate Study recommended 8 and 17% for adults and adolescents, respectfully.

**5-minute break:** 1:12:14 – 1:17:40

### **5. Legislative Advisory Committee-Update**

Gilberta asked what the acronym LC means. Tom said that stands for Legislative Committee and it means that the bill is still in draft form and hasn't become a Bill yet. Gilberta wanted to know about the HJR 45: CHILD REMOVAL/FAMILY REUNIFICATION TRIGGERS STUDY. She discussed the double standards for Native families and child removals.

Lori asked Bob to do a short training session on the Legislation, figuring out Bills and to explain how it works. Bob agreed to share on December 29<sup>th</sup> at the Thursday Workgroup.

Crystal shared that Rep. Ed Stafman would be speaking at the Legislative Advisory Meeting with MHA of MT and will meet on Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm. There was further discussion about the role that Rep. Stafman has in the Legislature and what Bills are coming up.

## **6. Workgroup Updates**

Crystal reminded that there would not be a Workgroup meeting on December 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Updates**

#### **BHDD-absent**

#### **Ombudsman**

Dennis shared that there are more calls than usual about people not having a place to discharge to after being at MSH. Crisis Intervention Teams will start their academies in Billings, Bozeman, and potentially three new academies in the State. He said they have a grant with Blackfeet/Glacier County. He said it's exciting that they're going to have the first Indian Country CIT Academy. They have been working on getting training in Fort Peck/Roosevelt County. They were going to have a CIT Academy with them before Covid hit but it got stalled. There are about 13-14 CIT Academies throughout the state. There was discussion about the history and founding of CIT in Montana, which started around 2005.

#### **Board of Visitors**

Jeremy reported they had their annual board meeting in November and got the site inspection calendar approved that is posted on their website. They did a site inspection in Great Falls at Benefis. Tom asked Jeremy if he had any feedback on MSH. Jeremy brought up the article that Disability Rights of Montana had done. Jeremy said there is still staffing struggles and lack of treatment that we all know about. Long road to go to get the state hospital where it needs to be. He's excited to see the Alvarez & Marsal Consulting Group's recommendations are for quality of care and higher standards. He said the administration and the department are putting big dollars into the state facilities to improve them.

Greg asked Jeremy about what the current focus on the fentanyl use and what is going on as far as public health. Jeremy said it is out of his day to day world but said there was a big drug cartel that was busted in Butte. They've been doing add blitzes and public awareness.

### **LAC Updates**

#### **Lewis & Clark**

Jolene reported on the Lewis & Clark Legislative Forum that was on December 9<sup>th</sup>. They had four County representatives from the Tri-County area and four of the legislative representatives and a senator . There were about 50 people who participated.

#### **Chippewa Cree Wellness Center (Rocky Boy)**

Gilberta shared that they are having their Learning Circle Nights every Wednesday, sponsored by the Health Center. The topics are grief, loss, historical trauma, and recovery support.

### **Provider Updates**

#### **Many Rivers Whole Health**

Jennifer shared that Many Rivers has an MET provider that has gone full time. They have a team full time. Looking at the FEP RFP. They had their CCBHC site visit assessment to see if they're a candidate for moving forward and they scored in the highest percentile. The biggest challenges are for the group homes and PACT/MACT programs. Crystal asked if they had more services in Havre. Jennifer said they have expanded,

and they now have outpatient therapists, case management, a care coordinator, and a part time peer on top of the adult day treatment and the MACT team.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:06 pm.

**Next Meeting** Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup> 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

**See below for list of acronyms**

**Table 1. List of Acronyms**

BHAC	Behavioral Health Advisory Council
BHDD	Behavioral Health Behavioral Health and Disabilities Division
CCBHC	Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic
CIT	Crisis Intervention Team
CSAA	Central Service Area Authority
ESAA/MESSA	Eastern Service Area Authority
FEP	First Episode Psychosis
IPS	Individual Placement and Support
LC	Legislative Committee
MACT	Montana Assertive Community Treatment
MH	Mental Health
MHA of MT	Mental Health of America of Montana
MSH	Montana State Hospital
PACT	Program for Assertive Community Treatment
RFP	Request For Proposal
SAA	Service Area Authority
Voc Rehab	Vocational Rehabilitation
WSAA	Western Service Area Authority

**Vimeo Link to CSAA November/December Board Meeting:**

<https://vimeo.com/user171736338/nov-dec-2022-board-meeting>