NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
10:00AM – SEPTEMBER 23, 2026
GAYLORD BOARDROOM

ATTENDEES:	**Bob Adrian, Dave Freedman, Ed Ginop, Ron Iseler, Eric Lawson, Tim Markey, Michael Newman, Jay O'Farrell, Ruth Pilon, Mark Surbrook, Don Tanner, Chuck Varner**
VIRTUAL ATTENDEES:	**Karen Goodman**
ABSENT:	**Dana Labar, Mary Marois**
NMRE STAFF/CMHSP CEOs:	**Bea Arsenov, Brian Babbitt, Carol Balousek, Eugene Branigan, Amy Christie, Curt Cummins, Gail Grangood-Griffin, Lisa Hartley, Chip Johnston, Eric Kurtz, Brie Molaison, Trish Otremba, Pamela Polom, Brandon Rhue, Nena Sork, Denise Switzer, Deanna Yockey**
PUBLIC:	**Anonymous (1), Erin Barbus, Nichole Flickema, Denise Fox, Ann Friend, Sarah Garthe, Guest (1), Terri Henderson, Larry LaCross, Katie Lorence, Rob Palmer, Jody Perkola, Nancy Rhue, Amanda Ritchie, Ellen Templeton, Chris VanWagoner, Sharon Vreeland**

CALL TO ORDER
Let the record show that Board Chairman, Ed Ginop, called the meeting to order at 10:00AM.

ROLL CALL
Let the record show that Dana Labar and Mary Marois were not in attendance for the meeting on this date. All other Board Members were present either virtually or in person.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Let the record show that the Pledge of Allegiance was recited as a group.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST
Let the record show that no conflicts of interest to any of the meeting agenda items were declared.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Let the record show that no additions to the meeting agenda were requested.

MOTION BY ERIC LAWSON TO APPROVE THE NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA FOR SEPTEMBER 23, 2026; SUPPORT BY RUTH PILON. MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES
Let the record show that the August minutes of the NMRE Governing Board were included in the materials for the meeting on this date.

MOTION BY RON ISELER TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 26, 2026 MEETING OF THE NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS; SUPPORT BY JAY O'FARRELL. MOTION CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. A letter dated September 14, 2026, sent by Amanda Ittner of MidState Health Network on behalf of the 10 PIHPs to Meghan Groen and Kristen Morningstar, outlining concerns about SUD Pay-for-Performance Measures and providing recommendations for improvement.
2. PowerPoint slides from the Community Mental Health Association of Michigan (CMHA) detailing the Medicaid Adult Dental benefit.
3. CMHA's "Vision for a Stronger Public Mental Health System."
4. PowerPoint slides from MDHHS for Medicaid and Healthy Michigan Plan (HMP) beneficiaries titled, "Keep Your Medicaid Coverage Running Smoothly."
5. An invitation from CMHA to outgoing CEO Bob Sheehan's retirement party on October 30, 2026, at the Marriott in Lansing.
6. The draft minutes from the September 9, 2026, Regional Finance Committee meeting.

Mr. Kurtz referenced the memorandum to MDHHS from Amanda Ittner on behalf of the ten PIHP CEOs. The letter was sent to express concerns about the current SUD pay-for-performance methodology and offered recommendations to improve measure accuracy, transparency, and fairness.

Michigan's PIHPs outlined concerns with current SUD pay-for-performance measures, noting data gaps, reporting delays, and misalignment with Michigan's service array. They requested updated coding, access to event-level data, recognition of care coordination, faster CC360 reporting, and fairer accountability for services outside PIHP control.

Mr. Kurtz next drew attention to the Medicaid Dental benefit.

- In 2023, The state argued that moving adult dental into Medicaid Health Plans (MHPs) would improve coordination and outcomes.
- For FY27, the Legislature is directing MDHHS to examine or move toward carving dental back out of the MHPs.

Mr. Kurtz noted that MDHHS's communication to Medicaid and Healthy Michigan Plan (HMP) beneficiaries was intended to inform them of the upcoming work requirement (under HR1) and help prevent gaps in coverage.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Tanner announced that the Centra Wellness Network Board of Directors has selected Sarah Garthe to succeed Chip Johnston as Chief Executive Officer upon his retirement effective October 1, 2026. Ms. Garthe was previously Centra Wellness Network's Clinical Director of Children's Services.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Danielle Fox, CEO of Balance Mental Health & Wellness, stated that she was directed by the State of Michigan to attend the meeting to follow up on a complaint filed against Northern Lakes Community Mental Health Authority regarding access to services. She noted that her organization has been contracted with Northern Lakes since December 2024 but has not received any referrals. Ms. Fox reported that she has reached out to Northern Lakes several times over the past year without receiving a response and emphasized the need to better serve clients.

Jodie Perkola, a clinician working with Ms. Fox, expressed concerns regarding access to services, denials, and adequate staffing. She stated that eligibility determinations appear to be confused with the ability to provide services. Ms. Perkola reported a number of clients under mandatory hospitalization with no follow-up or oversight and referenced a client who was told that Northern Lakes "didn't have a provider that could meet the level of care required." She asked how NMRE can address these issues to ensure consumers receive adequate services.

Ms. Fox and Ms. Perkola were encouraged to attend the next meeting of the Northern Lakes Board of Directors on October 15th and contact Lisa Lashley at the Office of Recipient Rights.

REPORTS

Executive Committee Report

The NMRE Board Executive Committee met at 9:15AM on this date to discuss the FY26 CEO evaluation and compensation. The decision was made to offer Mr. Kurtz a 3% cost of living adjustment (COLA) for FY27, which is the same amount that has been budgeted for NMRE staff.

Mr. Lawson shared that overall, the scores were high, but he was surprised that they were not even higher. He referred to Mr. Kurtz as the right guy for the job to lead the region through difficult times.

Mr. Kurtz stated that he is taking the feedback in the CEO Evaluation Report to heart and intends to implement the suggested improvements.

MOTION BY DON TANNER TO AUTHORIZE OFFERING UP TO A THREE PERCENT (3%) COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT TO THE NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SALARY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2027 AND TO ENSURE THAT, IF ANY ADDITIONAL INCENTIVES ARE PROVIDED TO STAFF, THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECEIVES THE SAME. SUPPORT BY JAY O'FARRELL. ROLL CALL VOTE.

"Yea" Votes:	R. Adrian, D. Freedman, E. Ginop, R. Iseler, E. Lawson, T. Markey, M. Newman, J. O'Farrell, R. Pilon, M. Surbrook, D. Tanner, C. Varner
"Nay" Votes:	Nil

MOTION CARRIED.

CEO Report

The NMRE CEO Monthly Report for September 2026 was included in the materials for the meeting held on this date. Mr. Kurtz highlighted his September 16th meeting with representatives from the Autism Alliance of Michigan.

The FY27 Behavioral Health Boilerplate included a new requirement for MDHHS to dedicate up to 1.0% of the autism line to contract with an independent agency to identify fraud, implement quality-control measures, and provide technical assistance to improve outcomes and accountability. It was noted that the selection of this agency will require full procurement and budget processes, and implementation will likely take significant time. Mr. Kurtz may consider contracting directly with the Autism Alliance in the meantime. Further discussions will take place with the NMRE Operations Committee.

July 2026 Financial Report

- Net Position showed a net surplus for Medicaid and HMP of $6,439,940. Carry forward was reported as $2,844,054. The total Medicaid and HMP current year surplus was reported as $9,283,994. The total Medicaid and HMP Internal Service Fund was reported as $20,590,089. The total Medicaid and HMP net surplus was reported as $29,874,083.
- Traditional Medicaid showed $195,827,580 in revenue, and $186,625,745 in expenses, resulting in a net surplus of $9,201,835. Medicaid ISF was reported as $13,519,285 based on the current FSR. Medicaid Savings was reported as $2,844,054.
- Healthy Michigan Plan showed $25,376,700 in revenue, and $28,138,595 in expenses, resulting in a net deficit of $2,761,895. HMP ISF was reported as $7,070,804 based on the current FSR. HMP savings was reported as $0.
- Health Home showed $3,183,868 in revenue, and $2,793,377 in expenses, resulting in a net surplus of $390,491.
- SUD showed all funding source revenue of $19,175,537 and $16,995,048 in expenses, resulting in a net surplus of $2,180,489. Total PA2 funds were reported as $ 5,061,057.

PA2/Liquor Tax was summarized as follows:

Projected FY26 Activity			
Beginning Balance	Projected Revenue	Approved Projects	Projected Ending Balance
$5,137,481	$1,847,106	$2,071,443	$4,913,143

Actual FY26 Activity			
Beginning Balance	Current Receipts	Current Expenditures	Current Ending Balance
$5,137,481	$1,147,646	$1,224,070	$5,061,057

	Centra Wellness	North Country	Northeast MI	Northern Lakes	Wellvance
Medicaid	$444,200	$2,277,403	$1,933,336	($1,140,570)	$3,662,544
HMP	($394,849)	($576,350)	($186,490)	($2,096,859)	($274,181)
Total	$49,351	$1,701,052	$1,746,846	($3,237,429)	$3,388,363

Year-end documents received from the Department indicate that a FY26 final rate amendment amount will be sent by October 1st; this will be applied to the FY26 carryforward.

A lapse of SUD block grant funds is anticipated for FY26. PA2 approved grant expenses have been moved to BGF where possible.

Mr. Freedman asked whether BGF funds can be used for MAT services. Ms. Switzer clarified that BGF may be used for medication purchases, but it cannot supplant other funding sources. Any allowable BGF expenses will be shifted from PA2. Funding was offered to SUD providers for training and conferences; however, a sizable lapse is still anticipated.

MOTION BY DON TANNER TO APPROVE THE NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR JULY 2026; SUPPORT BY CHUCK VARNER. MOTION CARRIED.

Operations Committee Report
The minutes from September 15, 2026, were included in the materials for the meeting held on this date.

A substantial portion of the discussion focused on budget and revenue projections. The draft rate information prepared by Milliman was reviewed.

Mr. Kurtz, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Babbitt, Ms. Sork, and Ms. Zeller attended the Great Lakes Rural Mental Health Association (GLRMA) Conference on September 8–9 in Harris, MI. Key takeaways included:

- The value of rural collaboration
- Concerns regarding political influence from larger counties
- The need for continued presence and engagement at statewide meetings
- Ongoing tension with certain regional leaders who resist collaborative financial transparency

A broader group is scheduled to convene prior to the next GLRMA Conference and potentially prior to the CMHA Improving Outcomes Conference in November.

NMRE SUD Oversight Committee Report
The minutes from September 14, 2026, were included in the materials for the meeting on this date. Liquor tax requests were discussed under "New Business."

NEW BUSINESS
FY27 PA2/Liquor Tax Requests
The NMRE Substance Use Disorder Oversight Committee recommended approval of the following liquor tax requests during its September 14, 2026, meeting.

NMRE SUD Treatment and Grant Manager Denise Switzer summarized the requests. Since that meeting, Catholic Human Services increased its Wexford Jail SUD Program request (MOUD and AUD services) from $50,000 to $51,116.

During the meeting, NMRE staff explained that Alcona County did not have sufficient funds to support all three requests under review. The committee agreed to evaluate the requests together to prioritize funding. Alcona County's required $198.05 contribution toward the $10,000 Michigan Rehabilitation Services Interagency Cash Transfer Agreement could not be modified.

Following discussion, the committee recommended fully funding the Alcona County Students Leading Students project and partially funding the Bridge to Mental Health project with the remaining $66,993.51 available.

Northeast Michigan CMHA had originally requested $117,723 in Alcona County liquor tax funds for the Bridge to Mental Health project, which would place a Crisis Response Officer in the county. The agency will offset the unfunded portion with local dollars.

	Requesting Entity	Project	County	Amount
1.	57th Circuit Court	Emmet County Recovery Program	Emmet	$209,083
2.	217 Recovery	Recovery Stories Series	Grand Traverse	$15,840

3.	Catholic Human Services	Students Leading Students Program	Alcona	$9,550
4.	Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health Authority	Bridge to Mental Health – Crisis Response Officer	Alcona	$66,993.51
5.	Catholic Human Services	Students Leading Students Program	Alpena	$8,800
6.	Centra Wellness Network	Benzie Area Youth (BAY) Initiative	Benzie	$20,000
7.	Bay Area Substance Education Services (BASES)	Charlevoix County Jail Groups	Charlevoix	$22,000
8.	Catholic Human Services	Prevent 2 Protect Drug-Free Coalition	Cheboygan	$81,918
9.	Catholic Human Services	Generations Ahead	Grand Traverse	$80,377
10.	Catholic Human Services	Addiction & Recovery Council	Grand Traverse	$77,411
11.	Catholic Human Services	Jail Based SUD Program	Grand Traverse	$62,898
12.	Catholic Human Services	Medication for OUD and AUD	Grand Traverse	$301,116
13.	Catholic Human Services	Iosco Substance Free Coalition	Iosco	$37,950
14.	Catholic Human Services	Leelanau Coordinated Youth SUD Prevention	Leelanau	$36,740
15.	North Country Community Mental Health Authority	Bridge to Mental Health – Crisis Response Officer	Antrim	$99,834
16.	Catholic Human Services	Ogemaw Drug Free Coalition	Ogemaw	$11,000
17.	Health Department of Northwest Michigan	RISE Otsego Substance Free Coalition	Otsego	$83,881
18.	Catholic Human Services	Roscommon Drug Free Coalition	Roscommon	$14,300
19.	Catholic Human Services	Roscommon Jail SUD Clinical Services	Roscommon	$45,470
20.	Catholic Human Services	Substance Free Coalition of Northwest Michigan Prevention and Medication Safety Campaign	Grand Traverse	$155,000
21.	Catholic Human Services	Wexford Jail SUD Program – Medication for OUD and AUD	Wexford	$51,116
22.	Catholic Human Services	Wexford Jail Based SUD Treatment	Wexford	$131,216
23.	District Health Department #10	Deterra Medication Disposal and Lockbox Project	Missaukee, Wexford	$10,000

24.	Michigan Rehabilitation Services	Employment Support Services	Divided Among All 21 Counties	$10,000
25.	Northern Michigan Children's Assessment Center	Prevention, Advocacy, and Educational Support	Crawford, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego	$48,862.93
26.	Health Department of Northwest Michigan	SAFE in Northern Michigan Youth Coalition	Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet	$128,727
27.	Centra Wellness Network	SafeNet Prevention Program	Multi	$76,219
TOTAL				**$1,896,302.44**

MOTION BY CHUCK VARNER TO APPROVE THE FISCAL YEAR 2027 LIQUOR TAX REQUESTS RECOMMENDED BY THE NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON SEPTEMBER 14, 2026, IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF ONE MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED NINETY-SIX THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED TWO DOLLARS AND FORTY-FOUR CENTS ($1,896,302.44); SUPPORT BY JAY O'FARRELL. ROLL CALL VOTE.

"Yea" Votes: R. Adrian, D. Freedman, E. Ginop, R. Iseler, E. Lawson, T. Markey, M. Newman, J. O'Farrell, R. Pilon, M. Surbrook, D. Tanner, C. Varner

"Nay" Votes: Nil

MOTION CARRIED.

County Overviews

The impact of the liquor tax requests approved on this date on county fund balances was reported as:

	Projected FY27 Balance	Amount Approved September 14, 2026	Projected Remaining Balance
Alcona	$76,741.56	$76,741.56	$0.00
Alpena	$308,757.38	$9,363.10	$299,394.28
Antrim	$273,019.92	$136,579.03	$136,440.89
Benzie	$292,157.00	$52,362.03	$239,794.97
Charlevoix	$167,318.80	$63,231.71	$104,087.09
Cheboygan	$171,589.02	$82,416.27	$89,172.75
Crawford	$142,074.89	$10,288.54	$131,786.35
Emmet	$417,435.56	$261,461.71	$155,973.85
Grand Traverse	$781,075.43	$694,497.20	$86,578.23
Iosco	$233,655.89	$38,441.61	$194,114.28
Kalkaska	$92,296.84	$349.45	$91,947.39
Leelanau	$125,480.97	$37,174.42	$88,306.55
Manistee	$292,294.01	$44,694.64	$247,599.37
Missaukee	$64,920.99	$3,400.06	$61,520.93
Montmorency	$95,885.77	$178.30	$95,707.47
Ogemaw	$165,198.54	$26,544.86	$138,653.68
Oscoda	$72,119.36	$6,140.15	$65,979.21

Otsego	$128,079.79	$102,076.84	$26,002.95
Presque Isle	$112,00.62	$252.89	$111,747.73
Roscommon	$570,441.35	$60,226.98	$510,214.37
Wexford	$282,955.64	$189,881.09	$93,074.55
Total		**$1,896,302.44**	

The "Projected Remaining Balance" reflects funding available for projects while retaining a fund balance equivalent of one year's receivables.

Proposed FY27 NMRE Budget
Ms. Yockey presented the proposed FY27 NMRE Budget to the Board.

Because no rates have been received and are not expected until the end of September, the NMRE calculated FY27 revenue by using YTD FY26 revenue with an assumption for September and added $3M.

Significant assumptions and key points:
1. Medicaid and HMP revenue projections based on FY26 actual
   - ISF anticipated to be fully funded at close of FY26
2. Medicaid and HMP expenses: SUD costs based on projected current year utilization
3. Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant: Revenue based on current year actual MDHHS allocation
   - Block grant allocation is broken down into separate programs with distinct allowable uses (treatment and prevention)
   - All services expected to be provided through NMRE's provider network
4. Public Act 2 (liquor tax) funding: revenue anticipated to stay consistent with current year
   - PA2 funds must be used in the county from which they originated for prevention or treatment but may not be used on administration
5. Affiliate local match and local match drawdown: Based on actual historical amounts

Total Operating Revenue	Total Operating Expenses	Projected Surplus
$289,758,175	$282,852,764	$6,905,411

CMHSP Contracts were presented as:

Vendor	Contract Type	Medicaid	HMP	Total
Northeast Michigan	Service – MH	$35,794,606	$2,136,308	$37,930,914
North Country	Service – MH	$58,632,951	$4,666,822	$63,299,773
Northern Lakes	Service – MH	$71,921,970	$6,368,772	$78,290,742
Wellvance	Service – MH	$34,203,980	$2,365,001	$36,568,981
Centra Wellness	Service – MH	$19,394,421	$1,388,916	$20,783,337
Total		**$219,947,928**	**$16,925,819**	**$236,873,747**

Mr. Kurtz noted that a cost-of-living adjustment for NMRE staff of up to 3% was built into the budget but likely will not be implemented until January 2027 based on the actual revenue received.

MOTION BY DON TANNER TO APPROVE THE NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY'S BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2027; SECOND BY MARK SURBROOK.

Discussion: Mr. Freedman asked whether the budget went through a public hearing process. Mr. Kurtz responded that no, general operating budgets for PIHPs are not statutorily mandated to go through formal public budget hearings under state law.

ROLL CALL VOTING TOOK PLACE ON MR. TANNER'S MOTION.

"Yea" Votes: R. Adrian, D. Freedman, E. Ginop, R. Iseler, E. Lawson, T. Markey, M. Newman, J. O'Farrell, R. Pilon, M. Surbrook, D. Tanner, C. Varner

"Nay" Votes: Nil

MOTION CARRIED.

FY27 Meeting Schedule

The proposed meeting schedule for fiscal year 2027 was included in the meeting materials. It was noted that the Board often opts to forego the November and December meetings as they conflict with the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays and, instead, hold a combined meeting between the two dates. The decision was made to not hold a meeting in November and move the December meeting date to December 2, 2026.

MOTION BY CHUCK VARNER TO COMBINE THE NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2026 MEETINGS AND HOLD A SINGLE MEETING ON DECEMBER 2, 2026, AND TO APPROVE THE REMAINDER OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2027 NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING SCHEDULE AS PRESENTED. SUPPORT BY BOB ADRIAN. MOTION CARRIED.

The FY27 meeting schedule was posted on the NMRE website.

OLD BUSINESS

CMHSP Updates

Ms. Sork announced that Northeast Michigan CMHA received a Health Endowment fund grant in the amount of $663K to expand its court ordered Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) model for rural communities. The program has led to a 40% - 60% reduction in recidivism rates. Once sustainable rural and frontier best practices have been identified, it is hoped that this model can be replicated for other rural and frontier regions as an evidence-based practice.

Ms. Otremba stated that Wellvance was approved for a 236 transfer of General Funds to Northern Lakes CMHS in the amount of $200K.

Mr. Johnston reported that Centra Wellness was awarded Rural Health Transformation Program funding in the amount of $763K to advance the Bridge to Mental Health Program in Alcona, Antrim, Benzie, and Manistee Counties. Mr. Johnston will remain involved in the project following his retirement at the end of the month.

Dr. Cummins responded regarding Northeast Michigan CMHA's AOT program, noting that he is meeting with Medical Director Anastasia Banicki-Hoffman to learn more.

Ms. Pilon added that Northern Lakes held its annual Public Healing on September 10th.

PIHPs V State
A mediation session in State of Michigan Court of Claims Case No. 24-000198-MZ (NorthCare Network, Northern Michigan Regional Entity, Region 10 PIHP, and Community Mental Health Partnership of Southeast Michigan vs. the State of Michigan, MDHHS, and Director Elizabeth Hertel) took place in Detroit on September 3rd.

Mr. Kurtz indicated that next steps would be compiling names for depositions.

PRESENTATION
NMRE Three-Year Strategic Plan for Substance Use Disorder Services (FY27 – FY29)
NMRE Chief Clinical Officer, Bea Arsenov, explained that PIHPs are required to create three-year strategic plans for substance use disorder (SUD) services that follow guidelines from MDHHS under Section 274 of Public Act 500. The full plan was included in the electronic version of the Board packet.

The NMRE contracts with the following prevention providers within the region:

Provider	Counties	Services	Grants
Catholic Human Services	16	Prevention Services Coalitions DYTUR	SABG, Liquor Tax, MIPAC, SOR
Health Department of Northwest Michigan	3	Prevention Services Coalitions	SABG, Liquor Tax
District Health Department #10	2	Prevention	SABG, Liquor Tax
District Health Department #2	4	DYTUR	SABG

The NMRE contracts with the following treatment providers within the region:

Treatment Provider	ASAM Level of Care	Service Type	# of Locations	Specialty Services
Addiction Treatment Services (ATS)	.5, 1.00, 2.1, 3.5, 3.1, 3.2WM, 3.7WM	Outpatient, Residential, Withdrawal Management	4	SUDHH
Bay Area Substance Education Services (BASES)	1.0	Outpatient	1	
Bear River Health	.5, 1.0, 2.1, 3.1, 3.2WM, 3.7WM	Outpatient, Residential, Withdrawal Management	6	SUDHH
Catholic Human Services	1.0	Outpatient	13	SUDHH
GRACE Center	1.0	Outpatient	1	
Harbor Hall	.5, 1.0, 2.1, 2.5, 3.1, 3.5, 3.2WM, 3.7WM	Outpatient, Residential, Withdrawal Management	2	SUDHH
Michigan Therapeutic Consultants (MTC)	1.0	Outpatient	2	OTP
Munson	1.0	Outpatient	1	SUDHH
NMSAS	1.0	Outpatient	1	OTP

Sunrise Centre	.5, 1.0, 2.1, 3.1, 3.5, 3.2WM, 3.7WM	Outpatient, Residential, Withdrawal Management	1	

Prevention Goals:
1. Reduce Underage Drinking
2. Reduce Marijuana Use in Youth and Young Adults
3. Reduce Prescription Drug Misuse, Including a Reduction in the Misuse of Opioids for Non-medical Purposes
4. Increase Prevention Services for Adults Aged 55 and Older
5. Reduce Youth Access to Tobacco

Treatment Goals:
1. Increase Access to Medication Assisted Treatment Services; Methadone Specific OTP Services
2. Expand Behavioral Health and Primary Care Services for Individuals Who are at Risk for, or Experiencing, Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder
3. Increase Access to Treatment and Harm Reduction for Individuals Living with an Opioid Use Disorder
4. Increase Access to Treatment and Care Coordination for Criminal Justice Involved Population Returning to Communities
5. Increase Access to Trauma Responsive Services
6. Reduce in the Percentage of Substance Exposed Birth/Infants
7. Increase Access to Treatment Services for Adults Aged 55 and Older

Recovery Support Goals:
1. Enhance Coordination of Prevention, Follow-up, and Continuing Care in the Recovery Process
2. Expand Treatment Services to Include Ongoing Support and Multiple Coordinated Strategies to Support Recovery
3. Increase in Access to Recovery Services that Promote Life Enhancing Recovery and Wellness for Individuals and Families

Coordination of Services:

Prevention	Treatment	Recovery Supports
Continue the Drug Free Northern Michigan Coalition Alliance Meetings. Continue to collaborate with other Prevention partners.	Increase coordination of care for individuals receiving Substance Use Disorder Treatment Services with Public and Private Service Delivery Systems.	Increase coordination of care for individuals receiving Recovery Support Services with Public and Private Service Delivery Systems.

It was noted that supportive goals were used in place of SMART goals in areas where data didn't support needs identified by MDHHS.

MOTION BY DON TANNER TO APPROVE THE NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY'S THREE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN FOR SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SERVICES BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2026 AND CONTINUING THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2029; SUPPORT BY TIM MARKEY. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMENTS

Board

Mr. Freedman noted that the September SUD Oversight Committee meeting proceeded smoothly despite the number of liquor tax requests presented for approval.

Mr. Freedman also acknowledged the challenge of developing a fiscal-year budget without having received rate information.

Mr. Tanner expressed frustration that the public does not show greater concern for the public mental health system.

Staff/CMHSP CEOs

Ms. Sork recognized Mr. Johnston for his contributions to the public mental health system over the last 37 years (19 as Centra Wellness Network's CEO) and presented him with a gift.

Ms. Otremba echoed Ms. Sork's sentiments regarding Mr. Johnston and his lack of fear to do the right thing for individuals served.

Mr. Johnston thanked his colleagues for their remarks, noting that he will continue to be involved in the system in a variety of ways. He noted the collegial nature of the region and the NMRE Board and remarked on how far it has come since its formation.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the NMRE Board of Directors was scheduled for 10:00AM on October 28, 2026.

ADJOURN

Let the record show that Mr. Ginop adjourned the meeting at 11:34AM.