

**Chairperson:** Mary Neubauer  
**Vice-Chairperson:** Ken Ginlack  
**Secretary:** Shirley Drake  
**Research Analyst:** Kate Flynn Post, (414) 257-7473  
**Board Liaison:** Jessica Iggens, (414) 257-7606

## MILWAUKEE COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

Thursday, June 12, 2025 - 9:00 A.M.  
Marcia P. Coggs Human Services Center  
1230 West Cherry Street, Room 104/105  
Milwaukee, WI 53205

### MINUTES

**PRESENT:** *Kweku Amoasi, Katharine Bottoni, Shirley Drake, Kenneth Ginlack, Jon Lehmann, Staci O'Dell, Amy Ridley-Meyers, Joy Tapper, Mary Neubauer*

**EXCUSED:** *Rachel Forman, LaNelle Ramey, Dennise Lavrenz*

#### SCHEDULED ITEMS:

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

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| 1. | <p><b>Welcome.</b></p> <p>Chairwoman Neubauer welcomed everyone to the June 12, 2025 Mental Health Board Meeting. Roll was taken and quorum was established. At roll call there were 8 voting members present and 1 non-voting member present.</p>   |
| 2. | <p><b>New Board Member Welcome.</b></p> <p>Chairwoman Neubauer welcomed new board member Joy Tapper who will also chair the finance committee.</p>   |
| 3. | <p><b>Approval of the Minutes from the April 24, 2025 Milwaukee County Mental Health Board Meeting.</b></p> <p>Chairwoman Neubauer noted that for Item #12 the presenter was Mary Zorn and Committee Coordinator Iggens was directed to make this change.</p> <p><b>MOTION BY:</b> (Ginlack) <i>Approve the Minutes from the April 24, 2025 Milwaukee County Mental Health Board Meeting with the Necessary Correction. 8-0</i></p> <p><b>MOTION 2<sup>ND</sup> BY:</b> (Ridley-Meyers)</p> <p><b>AYES:</b> <i>Amoasi, Bottoni, Drake, Ginlack, O'Dell, Ridley-Meyers, Tapper, Neubauer - 8</i></p> <p><b>NOES:</b> 0</p> <p><b>ABSTENTIONS:</b> 0</p> |

**SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):**

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| 4. | <p><b>2025 Fee for Service Agreements.</b></p> <p>The Board was informed the Finance Committee agreed to recommend approval of this item to the Board.</p> <p><b>MOTION BY:</b> (Tapper) Approve Item #4, the 2025 Fee for Service Agreement Listed in the Corresponding Report. 8-0</p> <p><b>MOTION 2<sup>ND</sup> BY:</b> (Ginlack)</p> <p><b>AYES:</b> Amoasi, Bottoni, Drake, Ginlack, O'Dell, Ridley-Meyers, Tapper, Neubauer - 8</p> <p><b>NOES:</b> 0</p> <p><b>ABSTENTIONS:</b> 0</p> <p>A recess was taken at 9:13. Meeting Recalled at 9:14. Roll was taken and quorum was maintained with 8 voting members present and 1 non-voting member present.</p>                                      |
| 5. | <p><b>2025 Professional Service Agreements.</b></p> <p>The Board was informed the Finance Committee agreed to recommend approval of this item to the Board.</p> <p><b>MOTION BY:</b> (Tapper) Approve Item #5, the 2025 Professional Service Agreement Listed in the Corresponding Report. 7-0-1</p> <p><b>MOTION 2<sup>ND</sup> BY:</b> (Neubauer)</p> <p><b>AYES:</b> Amoasi, Bottoni, Ginlack, O'Dell, Ridley-Meyers, Tapper, Neubauer - 7</p> <p><b>NOES:</b> 0</p> <p><b>ABSTENTIONS:</b> Drake - 1</p>   |
| 6. | <p><b>2025 Purchase of Service Agreements.</b></p> <p>It was noted that the agenda erroneously listed this request as a request for youth services and this request is correctly listed as an adult service request in the corresponding report.</p> <p>The Board was informed the Finance Committee agreed to recommend approval of this item to the Board.</p> <p><b>MOTION BY:</b> (Tapper) Approve Item #6, the 2025 Purchase of Service Agreement Listed in the Corresponding Report. 8-0</p> <p><b>MOTION 2<sup>ND</sup> BY:</b> (Ginlack)</p> <p><b>AYES:</b> Amoasi, Bottoni, Drake, Ginlack, O'Dell, Ridley-Meyers, Tapper, Neubauer - 8</p> <p><b>NOES:</b> 0</p> <p><b>ABSTENTIONS:</b> 0</p> |
| 7. | <p><b>Receipt of Revenue.</b></p>  |

**SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):**

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|     | <p>The Board was informed the Finance Committee agreed to recommend approval of this item to the Board.</p> <p><b>MOTION BY:</b> (Tapper) Approve Item #7, the Receipt of Revenue Listed in the Corresponding Report. 8-0</p> <p><b>MOTION 2<sup>ND</sup> BY:</b> (Amoasi)</p> <p><b>AYES:</b> Amoasi, Bottoni, Drake, Ginlack, O'Dell, Ridley-Meyers, Tapper, Neubauer - 8</p> <p><b>NOES:</b> 0</p> <p><b>ABSTENTIONS:</b> 0</p>   |
| 8.  | <p><b>Employment Agreement.</b></p> <p>The Board was informed the Finance Committee agreed to recommend approval of this item to the Board.</p> <p><b>MOTION BY:</b> (Tapper) Approve Item #8, the Employment Agreement Listed in the Corresponding Report. 8-0</p> <p><b>MOTION 2<sup>ND</sup> BY:</b> (Bottoni)</p> <p><b>AYES:</b> Amoasi, Bottoni, Drake, Ginlack, O'Dell, Ridley-Meyers, Tapper, Neubauer - 8</p> <p><b>NOES:</b> 0</p> <p><b>ABSTENTIONS:</b> 0</p>  |
| 9.  | <p><b>Bylaws Proposed Revisions.</b></p> <p>The Board was informed the Governance Committee agreed to recommend approval of this item to the Board.</p> <p>Kate Flynn Post, Research Analyst, outlined the proposed Bylaws revisions.</p> <p><b>MOTION BY:</b> (Ginlack) Approve Item #9, the Bylaws Proposed Revisions. 8-0</p> <p><b>MOTION 2<sup>ND</sup> BY:</b> (Ridley-Meyers)</p> <p><b>AYES:</b> Amoasi, Bottoni, Drake, Ginlack, O'Dell, Ridley-Meyers, Tapper, Neubauer - 8</p> <p><b>NOES:</b> 0</p> <p><b>ABSTENTIONS:</b> 0</p>   |
| 10. | <p><b>Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors Update.</b></p> <p>Marcelia Nicholson, County Board Chairperson provided a verbal update to the Mental Health Board. She emphasized need for a line a communication between the County Board of Supervisors and the Mental Health Board. She referenced County Board Supervisor File 24-81 as a vehicle for collaboration and information sharing. She provided an overview of the Committee on Health Equity, Human Needs and Strategic Planning. She also spoke about the county jail audit and offered support to uplift different efforts of the Mental Health Board. She concluded with an overview of state statutes and continued to emphasize collaboration and communication.</p> |

**SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):**

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|     | <p>This item was Informational.</p>   |
| 11. | <p><b>MHEC Update.</b></p> <p>Dr. Julie Owen Milwaukee Mental Health Emergency Center Chief Medical Officer provided an update on the Mental Health Emergency Center. She provided an overview of the center, presented CY2024 data, and provided 2025 Q1 data. She highlighted monthly intake volume, average length of stay, and both adult and children discharge locations. She also updated the board on other operational highlights including Milwaukee County BHS collaboration, physician recruitment, clinical care coordination team, and training capacities at the facility.</p> <p>Questions and discussion ensued about various topics including financial metrics, services available in the jail, readmission rates, peer specialist positions and connecting clients that present at MHEC to other services within the community.</p> <p>This item was Informational.</p> |
| 12. | <p><b>State of the County Finances.</b></p> <p>Joe Lamers, Director of Strategy, Budget, and Performance provided an update on the state of the county finances. He spoke about the budget process and timelines. He provided the 2026 budget projections and detailed the expenditures and revenue changes. He also spoke about strategies to close the gap and provided an update on cost to continue, levy targets, salary and overtime costs, healthcare and state budget possibilities. He explained different revenue sources including property taxes, sales tax and the vehicle registration fee.</p> <p>Questions and discussion ensued. Matt Fortman, Fiscal Administrator, made statements regarding challenges BHS is facing with the 2026 budget. Discussion ensued regarding reserve funds.</p> <p>This item was Informational.</p>   |
| 13. | <p><b>Suicide Prevention Report.</b></p> <p>Dr. Ken Cole, Outpatient Clinical Program Director, Clare Martell, Suicide Prevention Administrative Coordinator, and Adriana Smith, Public Health Data Analyst presented the suicide prevention report. They spoke about suicide prevention at behavioral health services and the zero suicide vision and mission. They provided data regarding suicide deaths in Milwaukee County from 2020-2024, noting that 2024 data is not yet finalized. They analyzed the data using different metrics including sex, ethnicity, age, means, and zip codes. They also highlighted the work groups and surveys which led to additional training throughout behavioral health services and within the community.</p> <p>Questions and discussion ensued.</p> <p>This item was Informational.</p>  |

**SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):**

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| 14. | <p><b>Update Regarding June 10, 2025 Budget Public Comment Hearing.</b></p> <p>Chairwoman Neubauer updated the board as to the public comment hearing held on Tuesday, June 10. She indicated that community agencies will be receiving cuts in the upcoming budget. Board member Amoasi stressed the importance of board attendance at public comment hearings and spoke about creating a system to rank the needs of agencies being impacted to see where help is needed the most. Board member O'Dell made comments about keeping people in the community. Board member Lehrmann made comments regarding funds that have been utilized for other service areas such as housing. Matt Fortman, Fiscal Administrator, noted that housing funds were not included within the BHS budget.</p> <p>Joy Tapper, Chair of the finance committee made statements to the board regarding the budget process. She highlighted the importance of understanding mandated services within BHS and suggested a further discussion about reserves. She also requested further information about programs that are receiving cuts to provide a better cost analysis of the programs. Administrator Lappen suggested that this information be included within the amendment process. Discussion ensued regarding the timeline of amendments and the budget. Matt Fortman made comments regarding mandated services and the tax levy. He also spoke about how the new Coggs building was funded through a one-time federal grant and the costs savings of this building. Board member Tapper made comments regarding next steps.</p> <p>This item was Informational.</p> |
| 15. | <p><b>Chair Updates.</b></p> <p><b>MOTION BY:</b> (Neubauer) Table Items 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 to be called at the will of the chair. 7-0</p> <p><b>MOTION 2<sup>ND</sup> BY:</b> (Bottoni)</p> <p><b>AYES:</b> Amoasi, Bottoni, Ginlack, O'Dell, Ridley-Meyers, Tapper, Neubauer - 7</p> <p><b>NOES:</b> 0</p> <p><b>ABSTENTIONS:</b> 0</p>  |
| 16. | <p><b>Governance Committee Update from the May 14, 2025 Meeting.</b></p> <p><b>MOTION BY:</b> (Neubauer) Table Items 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 to be called at the will of the chair. 7-0</p> <p><b>MOTION 2<sup>ND</sup> BY:</b> (Bottoni)</p> <p><b>AYES:</b> Amoasi, Bottoni, Ginlack, O'Dell, Ridley-Meyers, Tapper, Neubauer - 7</p> <p><b>NOES:</b> 0</p> <p><b>ABSTENTIONS:</b> 0</p>  |
| 17. | <p><b>Quality Committee Update from the June 4, 2025 Meeting.</b></p>  |

**SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):**

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|  | <p><b>MOTION BY:</b> (Neubauer) Table Items 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 to be called at the will of the chair. 7-0</p> <p><b>MOTION 2<sup>ND</sup> BY:</b> (Bottoni)</p> <p><b>AYES:</b> Amoasi, Bottoni, Ginlack, O'Dell, Ridley-Meyers, Tapper, Neubauer - 7</p> <p><b>NOES:</b> 0</p> <p><b>ABSTENTIONS:</b> 0</p> |
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| 18. | <p><b>Finance Committee Update from June 12, 2025 Contracts Meeting.</b></p> <p><b>MOTION BY:</b> (Neubauer) Table Items 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 to be called at the will of the chair. 7-0</p> <p><b>MOTION 2<sup>ND</sup> BY:</b> (Bottoni)</p> <p><b>AYES:</b> Amoasi, Bottoni, Ginlack, O'Dell, Ridley-Meyers, Tapper, Neubauer - 7</p> <p><b>NOES:</b> 0</p> <p><b>ABSTENTIONS:</b> 0</p> |
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| 19. | <p><b>Board Member Announcement.</b></p> <p><b>MOTION BY:</b> (Neubauer) Table Items 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 to be called at the will of the chair. 7-0</p> <p><b>MOTION 2<sup>ND</sup> BY:</b> (Bottoni)</p> <p><b>AYES:</b> Amoasi, Bottoni, Ginlack, O'Dell, Ridley-Meyers, Tapper, Neubauer - 7</p> <p><b>NOES:</b> 0</p> <p><b>ABSTENTIONS:</b> 0</p> |
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**CLOSED SESSION:**

*Pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Section 19.85(1)(c), the Board may adjourn into Closed Session for the purpose of considering employment or performance evaluation data for public employees over which the Board has jurisdiction and exercises responsibility.*

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| 20. | <p><b>BHS Administrator Evaluation Survey Results.</b></p> <p><b>MOTION BY:</b> (Tapper) To Adjourn in to Closed Session to take up Item #20 Pursuant to Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(c) 7-0</p> <p><b>MOTION 2<sup>ND</sup> BY:</b> (Ridley-Meyers)</p> <p><b>AYES:</b> Amoasi, Bottoni, Ginlack, O'Dell, Ridley-Meyers, Tapper, Neubauer - 7</p> <p><b>NOES:</b> 0</p> <p><b>ABSTENTIONS:</b> 0</p> |
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*At the conclusion of the closed session, the Board may reconvene in open session to take whatever action(s) it may deem necessary on the aforesaid matter(s).*

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**SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):**

**21. Adjournment.**

Following closed session, the board reconvened. It was noted again that items #15, 16, 17, 18, and 19 were tabled and can be taken up at the call of the chair. Item #20 was heard in closed session and no actions took place following closed session. Chairperson Neubauer adjourned the meeting at 12:35 pm.

This meeting was recorded. The official copy of these minutes and subject reports, along with the audio recording of this meeting, are available on Milwaukee County's Legislative Information Center website, which can be accessed by clicking the link below.

Length of meeting: 9:07 a.m. to 12:35 p.m.

Adjourned,

*Jessica Iggens*

Jessica Iggens

Board Liaison

Milwaukee County Mental Health Board

**To View All Associated Meeting Materials,  
Visit the Milwaukee County Legislative Information Center at:  
[Milwaukee County - Calendar \(legistar.com\)](https://legistar.com)**

**Visit the Milwaukee County Mental Health Board Web Page at:  
<https://county.milwaukee.gov/EN/DHHS/About/Governance>**

***ADA accommodation requests should be filed with the Milwaukee County Office for Persons with Disabilities, 278-3932 (voice) or 711 (TRS), upon receipt of this notice.***

The June 12, 2025, 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.



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Shirley Drake, Secretary  
Milwaukee County Mental Health Board

Milwaukee County Mental Health Board  
June 12, 2025