

Chairperson: Joy Tapper
Research Analyst: Kate Flynn Post, (414) 257-7473
Committee Coordinator: Jessica Iggen, (414) 257-7606

**MILWAUKEE COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Thursday, August 21, 2025 - 8:00 A.M.
Marcia P. Coggs Human Services Center
1230 West Cherry Street, Room 104/105
Milwaukee, WI 53205

MINUTES

PRESENT: *Joy Tapper, Mary Neubauer, Jon Lehrmann Kweku Amoasi, Dennise Lavrenz*
ALSO PRESENT: *Kenneth Ginlack (appeared virtually), Staci O'Dell, Shirley Drake, Katharine Bottoni**
*(*appeared during Item #5)*

SCHEDULED ITEMS:

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

1.	Welcome. Chairperson Tapper welcomed everyone to the August 21, 2025 Milwaukee County Mental Health Board Finance Committee Meeting. Board Members and staff present introduced themselves.
2.	Approval of the Minutes from the July 10, 2025 Finance Committee Meeting. No comments, questions, or revisions. Minutes approved.
3.	2025 Fee for Service Agreements. Matt Fortman, Fiscal Administrator, presented the one youth services Fee for Service Agreement for Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, Inc. for \$400,000. The Finance Committee agreed to recommend approval of this item and the corresponding report to the Mental Health Board at their August 21, 2025 meeting.
4.	2025 Purchase of Service Agreements. Matt Fortman, Fiscal Administrator, presented the one adult services Purchase of Service Agreement for Trempealeau County Health Care Center for \$450,000. Mike Lappen, BHS Administrator, made statements regarding use of Trempealeau County. Questions and discussion ensued regarding services, discharge, and advocacy for youth PRTF (Psychiatric Residency

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

	<p>Treatment Facility) status. Chair Tapper requested an update as to advocacy regarding PRTF at a future meeting.</p> <p>The Finance Committee agreed to recommend approval of this item and the corresponding report to the Mental Health Board at their August 21, 2025 meeting.</p>
5.	<p>2026 Requested Budget Amendments.</p> <p>Matt Fortman, Fiscal Administrator, presented 2026 Requested Budget Amendments. BHS requested reinstating \$250,000 in funding for youth services from reserves, appreciating that the changes in Wraparound will be phased during the calendar year. Chair Tapper asked clarifying questions regarding reserve amount and budget amendment process. Fiscal Administrator Fortman indicated that the Mental Health Board has earmarked slightly over one million dollars in reserve funds. BHS is projecting a ten-million-dollar operating loss for 2025 that will bring reserves down to 35 million dollars.</p> <p>Questions and discussion ensued regarding use of reserve and reserve policy. Chair Tapper noted that the BHS funding mechanisms are volatile, and a clear process should be followed rather than setting a target rate. She also reiterated the need to invest the allowable reserve as a source of future BHS revenue and indicated Cooperation Counsel has been asked to provide guidance on that investment process.</p> <p>Board Member Neubauer pointed out an error in the budget amendment report. Fiscal Administrator Fortman verbally updated the language as to the Phonetic Skill Development and Training. This language was inserted into Revised Item #5.</p> <p>Chair Tapper requested an updated 2026 budget be provided inclusive of these amendments. She also requested an in-depth analysis of the job duties of the BHS Treatment Director function and any impacts to the budget based on the reassignment of duties.</p> <p>The Finance Committee agreed to recommend approval of this item and the Revised corresponding report (noted as Revised Item #5) to the Mental Health Board at their August 21, 2025 meeting. The Revised Item #5 has been added as a separate item on CLIC.</p>
6.	<p>Receipt of Revenue.</p> <p>Jennifer Alfredson, BHS Grant Director, presented the 7 requests for receipt of revenue. She indicated that the first 4 requests are Opioid Settlement Funds and provided descriptions as to the specific projects related to these requests. These funds last through 2028.</p> <p>She presented Request #5: a revenue agreement between Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services and Milwaukee County Wraparound Department; Request #6: Coordinated Specialty Care Grant; and Request #7: Injection Drug Use Prevention Grant. She noted that request #7 is still pending, but this Board can approve this request in pending status. Fiscal Administrator Matt</p>

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

	<p>Fortman provided historical context as to approving a pending award. Any changes to this award will be brought back to the Board.</p> <p>Chair Tapper requested an update as to the Grant Process at a future meeting. She also asked whether these grants are included in the budget. Fiscal Administrator Fortman noted that these will be presented in a fund transfer report once the funds are received.</p> <p>The Finance Committee agreed to recommend approval of this item and the corresponding report to the Mental Health Board at their August 21, 2025 meeting.</p>
7.	<p>Request for Change of Address for Behavioral Health Services.</p> <p>Jennifer Alfredson, BHS Grant Director, presented the request for change of address for Behavioral Health Services.</p> <p>The Finance Committee agreed to recommend approval of this item and the corresponding report to the Mental Health Board at their August 21, 2025 meeting.</p>
8.	<p>Lease Agreement Outreach Community Health Center. (Items #8 and #9 heard together)</p> <p>Michael Lappen, BHS Administrator presented the Lease Agreement for Outreach Community Health Center and the Lease Agreement for Sixteenth Street Community Health Center. He noted these are extensions of these leases. These leases have been included in the budget.</p> <p>The Finance Committee agreed to recommend approval of this item and the corresponding report to the Mental Health Board at their August 21, 2025 meeting.</p>
9.	<p>Lease Agreement Sixteenth Street Community Health Center. (Items #8 and #9 heard together)</p> <p>These items were presented together; however, a separate motion was taken for approval for items #8 and #9.</p> <p>The Finance Committee agreed to recommend approval of this item and the corresponding report to the Mental Health Board at their August 21, 2025 meeting.</p>
10.	<p>Update on Investment of Reserve.</p> <p>Matt Fortman, Fiscal Administrator provided an update as to the investment of the reserve and indicated that the comptroller is working with corporation counsel and the treasurer to provide guidance to the Finance Committee and MHB, ideally by its next meeting.</p> <p>This item was informational.</p>

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

11.	<p>Update on State and Federal Budget in Relation to Behavioral Health Services' Finance.</p> <p>Matt Fortman, Fiscal Administrator indicated that the rate that counties are required to pay for youth placed in state corrections decreased to \$500/day per youth; this may increase during the next budget cycle.</p> <p>At the federal level, citizenship requirements are being pushed for federal human services grants which represents a larger administrator burden to continue to provide services.</p> <p>This item was informational.</p>
12.	<p>Behavioral Health Services and County Budget Update.</p> <p>Matt Fortman, Fiscal Administrator indicated the County Executive will provide his recommended budget to the County Board in October. He noted that he has not heard of any suggested changes to the BHS recommended budget. Any changes would need to be brought back to the MHB for review and approval.</p> <p>Michael Lappen, BHS Administrator, noted that there is a budget presentation meeting at Independence First that is being held today.</p> <p>This item was informational.</p>
13.	<p>Adjournment.</p> <p>Chair Tapper adjourned the meeting.</p>

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

Length of meeting: 8:01 a.m. to 9:01 a.m.

Adjourned,

Jessica Iggens

Jessica Iggens
Committee Coordinator
Milwaukee County Mental Health Board

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

**The next meeting for the Milwaukee County Mental Health Board Finance Committee is
Thursday, September 4, 2025 @ 1:30 p.m.**

**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.