Community
MENTAL HEALTH
CLINTON • EATON • INGHAM

SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS
HYBRID MEETING
MINUTES
Wednesday, July 8, 2026
4:00 pm
Community Mental Health Authority - CEI
812 E. Jolly Road, G11-C
Lansing, MI 48910

Staff Present (Via Zoom)

Staff Present (In-Person)
Jana Baylis
Aleshia Echols
Morgan McKittrick

Public Present (In-Person)
Michelle LaLone, CAC Member

Public Present (via Zoom)
None.

Union Representation
None.

Call to Order:
The meeting was called to order by Board Chair, Dale Copedge at 4:00 pm.

Roll Call:
Dale Copedge, Dwight Washingon, Tim Hanna, Dianne Holman, Lisa Alicea, Daniel Arnold, Jeanne Pearl-Wright, Maxine Thome, Jason White, Paula Yensen, Allen Way

Board Member(s) Attending via Zoom
None.

Excused:
Ryan Sebolt

Adoption of Revised Meeting Agenda:
ACTION:
MOVED by Tim Hanna and SUPPORTED by Jeannie Pearl-Wright that the Board of Directors of Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties (CMHA-CEI) approve the July 8, 2026 Special Meeting Agenda as written.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Public Comment
None.

Dale Copedge, board chair shared that the board interviewed 4 very exceptional candidates for this position. Of the 4, 2 were internal candidates and both did an outstanding job. The committee felt that either candidate would have met the requirements and needs of the organization. However, of the two candidates Dianne Holman shared that Gwenda provided more in-depth information regarding her experience and went into more complex detail when answering the questions. Board member Al Way expressed the importance of having skillset across various levels (internal, local and across the state).

Board member, Lisa Alicea gave a shout out to CEO, Sara Lurie for the work she has done on the back end to mentor and prepare two very outstanding invaluable candidates from the existing Directors Group.

Writing Assignments
Morgan McKittrick, HR Manager distributed copies of the writing assignments for all 4 candidates were distributed to the full board for review. Upon review, the Chair asked if there was any feedback that any of the members would like to share. There was none.

CEO Search Committee Recommendation
Action:
MOVED by Maxine Thome and SUPPORTED by Tim Hanna that the Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties accept the recommendation of internal candidate #2, Gwenda Summers.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

CEO Salary Schedule
ACTION:
MOVED by Tim Hanna and SUPPORTED by Paula Yensen that the Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties approve the Chief Executive Officer Suggested Salary Grade effective July 4, 2026 for the current and future Chief Executive Officer position.

Grade	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7
CEO	$81.22	$85.96	$90.70	$95.44	$100.17	$104.91	$109.65

It should also be noted that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services restrictions on executive-level pay were adopted by the State of Michigan and may be applicable and limit the pay range maximum for this position. However, our survey results do not indicate universal compliance with any such legal restriction within the Community Mental Health System.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Public Comment
CHRO, Jana Baylis thanked members of the board for their commitment to the process and for making time for this difficult process and decision.

Board member, Paula Yensen, thanked Jana for helping to make this an easy and user friendly process and for all of the great work that was done.

Board Chair, Dale Copedge thanked Jana, Morgan and Aleshia for their work during this process commenting that we were able to make a selection that we believe will help CEI accomplish goals that have been set before us.

Announcements
None.

Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Minutes Submitted by:
Aleshia Echols, Executive Administrative Assistant