

**NORTHWEST MICHIGAN COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY, INC.**  
**Board of Directors Meeting – September 15, 2022**

**PRESENT:**

Karen Bargy  
Marna Robertson  
Art Jeannot  
Grace Ronkaitis  
Larry Levensgood (remote)  
Rev. Gerald Cook  
Lindsey Walker  
Gwenne Allgaier  
Peachy Rentenbach  
Sam Getsinger  
Pam Niebrzydowski (remote)  
Brian Alexander  
Marc Milburn  
Chuck Corwin  
Phillip Haner

**ABSENT:**

Tonya Schroka (E)  
Shirley Roloff (E)  
David White (E)  
Bryce Hundley  
Anthony Ansorge (E)  
Brandy Keeney (E)  
Truman Bicum (E)  
Kat Byers (E)  
Debbie Bishop (E)  
Jeff Miller  
Bethany Parent

The meeting was called to order at 12:35 P.M. by Chairperson Peachy Rentenbach. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was established.

**AGENDA**

Peachy Rentenbach requested approval for the meeting Agenda.

Motion by Jerry Cook, supported by Marna Robertson, that the meeting agenda be approved as presented. Motion carried.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the August 18, 2022, NMCAA Board of Directors meeting were presented for Board action.

Motion by Chuck Corwin, supported by Gwenne Allgaier, that the minutes of the August 18, 2022, NMCAA BOD meeting be approved as presented. Motion carried.

**MEMBERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

None.

**POLICY COUNCIL REPORT**

Shannon Phelps, Child Family Development Director, presented the Policy Council minutes from the meeting held on September 8, 2022.

Motion by Sam Getsinger supported by Philip Haner, that the minutes of the September 8, 2022, Policy Council meeting be approved as presented. Motion carried.

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### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT**

Kerry Baughman reviewed the Diaper Program. The current MDHHS Diaper Program is ending on 9/30/2022. There is currently \$4,404,400 currently available in the FY 23 State Budget to continue this program and NMCAA's allocation would be \$550,550.

The Celica Pilot Program provided 50 low-income households that have received weatherization services with nine solar panels per household. The goal is to reduce participating household's electricity usage and lower their burden by putting them on a path towards energy self-sufficiency. Funding is available to expand to 10 additional households that have participated in NMCAA's Weatherization Program.

The School Success Partnership Program implementation is on track for a January 2023 target start date. Hiring for School Success Liaisons for 3-5 Traverse City Area Public Schools is set to take place early November with training and mentorship support being offered by Northeast Michigan Community Service Agency.

Motion by Sam Getsinger supported by Gwenne Allgaier, to accept the Executive Director's report as presented. Motion carried.

### **BUSINESS**

#### **FINANCIAL UPDATES**

Meredith Gafill, Controller, presented the August Financial Updates. These updates are sent out with the Board packet each month for follow up discussion and questions during the Board meeting. Last month a mileage increase of .10/mile was proposed to the Board for approval. A motion was made to assess the budgetary impact of a policy that would align the NMCAA Mileage Reimbursement Rate with the IRS Reimbursement Rate, currently at .625/mile. A chart outlining the costs per program was shared with the Board prior to the meeting.

Motion by Art Jeannot, supported by Grace Ronkaitis, to align the NMCAA Mileage Reimbursement Rate with the IRS Mileage Reimbursement Rate beginning October 1, 2022. Motion carried.

#### **HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT GRANTS (HUD)**

Sarah Hughes, Homeless Prevention Program Manager, presented the HUD grants for October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024. The HUD Adult Rapid Rehousing Project for the greater Grand Traverse Area will have a project total of \$102,934 and the total for the HUD Coordinated Entry and Supportive Services Project for the Balance of State is \$125,000. For youth programs, there is \$98,318 for Coordination Entry and Diversion, \$270,052 for Individual Youth Rapid Rehousing, and \$176,638 for Pregnant and Parenting Rapid Rehousing.

Motion by Phil Haner, supported by Gwenne Allgaier, to accept the 2023-2024 HUD Project grants in anticipation of receipt if these grants at the presented amounts. Motion carried with Grace Ronkaitis abstaining.

#### **FY 2023 HEAD START CONTINUATION GRANT**

Shannon Phelps presented the Head Start FY 2023 Head Start Continuation Grant Application. The baseline grant is completed once every five years with a yearly continuation grant submitted to provide annual updates to the baseline grant. The NMCAA Head Start Self-Assessment Report will be submitted with the grant. The planned budget is for \$7,151,710 for Head Start and \$4,521,461 for Early Head Start. A non-federal match waiver is also being requested for \$780,507 for Head Start and \$292,839 for Early Head Start. Alicia Temple, Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment and Attendance (ERSEA) & Health Manager reviewed updates made to the

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Eligibility Priority Criteria which involve merging what was previously separate criteria documents for the Head Start and Early Head Start programs into a single set of priority criteria and to minimize any subjectivity in the process of assigning points for eligibility.

Motion by Grace Ronkaitis, supported by Phil Haner, to approve the NMCAA Head Start Self-Assessment Report and Fiscal Year 2023 Continuation Grant, including non-federal match waiver as presented. Motion carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

State Priorities

Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Enabling Act: Still waiting for the bill language that is being drafted by the legislative service bureau.

Federal Priorities

CSBG Program Eligibility- Need to make sure 200% Federal Poverty Line eligibility is including in a continuing resolution.

CSBG Reauthorization- Permanently increases eligibility to 200% Federal Poverty Line.

Department of Energy Weatherization Program- Need more Weatherization Readiness Funding, increase Average Cost Per Unit amount, simplify regulations.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:59 PM.

Next meeting will be:

NMCAA Annual Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, October 20, 2022

Luncheon at Noon

Respectfully Submitted

Grace Ronkaitis, Secretary

Betsy Rees, Recording Secretary