

Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at 2:30 p.m., Chairperson Mark Stauber called the meeting to order. The meeting was held in conjunction with Dickinson County Board of Commissioners and Menominee County Board of Commissioners at the Dickinson County Fairgrounds – John Degenauer Jr. Building. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken with the following members present; Chairperson Mark Stauber, Commissioners Mike Stafford, Ean Bruette. Absent was Patti Peretto and Jake Conery.

Also present: Administrator Lynette Lorenz, Steve Tinti, Clerk/Register Amy Donati.

Approval of the Agenda: Moved by Stafford, supported by Bruette, to approve the agenda with a change of Iron County Concerns to have discussion, followed by Menominee County Concerns.

Public Comments Regarding Agenda Items Only (5 minutes max):

Maria Nerat offered clarification on Emergency Services that Northpointe Behavioral Health offers.

Chad Niemi works with Northpointe in the Behavior Home Health Program and gave an explanation on the services that program offers.

Christi Harvey explained how Northpointe is expanding into local schools to support students with mental health.

Lilly Paulsen Kennedy expressed that she was thankful this meeting was happening. She expressed concern about the recent Northpointe bonus program and has concerns about management.

Norm and Lisa Clark opened an adult foster care program and expressed their appreciation of the support they received from Northpointe.

Melissa Buffinton works with Northpointe as a Behavior Specialist and expressed her appreciation for the support Northpointe has given her.

Karen Thompson stated that she appreciates Jennifer Cescolini guidance and leadership.

Bob Robarge stated that he is on the Northpointe Board and that a recent survey showed high rates of employee satisfaction.

April McCarthy expressed her support for Jennifer Cescolini.

Michelle Rexses expressed her support for the Northpointe Administration.

Wendy Bottea expresses her concerns with the Northpointe Board.

Kevin Pirlot expressed his support for Northpointe and proud of all the Services that are provided by Northpointe.

Donna Rabloin expressed her support for Jennifer Cescolini and the administration of Northpointe.

Millie Hofer expressed her support for the programs that are offered but expressed concern with the evaluations and outcome results.

Judy Wicklund thanked Northpointe for the services they provide and thanked all the Northpointe employees.

New Business:

Discussion and Possible Action Upon:

Northpointe Behavioral Health Discussion was had about concerns with unused funding that Northpointe sent back to the State of Michigan. Also, concerns were raised on programs available in Iron County, specifically why the Gathering Point in Iron County was closed when funding was being sent back to the State of Michigan.

Northpointe staffing was also discussed regarding Iron County Sheriff Deputies being taken off road patrol to maintain security at Aspirus while waiting on Northpointe to arrive and complete the screening process of individuals with a mental health crisis. Costs associated with transporting these individuals to distant mental health facilities was also discussed.

Discussion was had on requiring Northpointe to submit financial updates to the Iron County Board of Commissioners. Financial reports have not been given to the County Board since 2018 and the County Board would like quarterly updates but at the bare minimum yearly financial updates from Northpointe. Possible discussion to take place with the Iron County Board of Commissioners on holding disbursements funds in escrow with the County Treasurer until matters are resolved.

Lastly, discussion was had on bringing a possible action plan with a vote of no confidence concerning Jennifer Cescolini, CEO of Northpointe, to the Iron County Board of Commissioners.

Motion to Adjourn: Moved by Bruette, supported by Stafford, to adjourn the meeting, All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 4:27 p.m.

Chairperson, Mark Stauber

Clerk/Register Amy Donati