

**GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BOARD**
1000 Pavilions Circle, Traverse City, MI 49684

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 30, 2025 MEETING

PRESENT: Mary Marois, Carol Crawford, Karen Griggs Board
Darrell Lavender, Dave Hautamaki, Kory Hansen, Darcey Gratton Staff
ABESENT: TJ Andrews Commission
GUESTS: Kristen Semeyn, Wellness Center Director

The regular meeting of the Grand Traverse County Department of Health and Human Services Board was called to order at 9:00am by Board Chair Mary Marois at Garfield Township Hall.

Roll Call - Marois - yes, Crawford – yes, Griggs – yes

First Public Comment – None.

County Liaison Report – Marois provided an update on behalf of Commissioner Andrews regarding Carol Crawford’s board seat. Crawford’s current term is nearing expiration, and she has submitted her application for reappointment. Interviews are scheduled for early October, with the goal of confirming a reappointment by the County shortly thereafter.

Approval of Agenda – Chair Marois asked if there were additions, changes or corrections to the agenda.

Motion was made by Crawford to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Griggs and carried unanimously.

The purpose of the Consent Calendar is to expedite business by grouping items to be dealt with by one Board motion without discussion. Any member of the Board or staff may ask that any item on the Consent Calendar be removed and placed elsewhere on the agenda for discussion. Such requests will be automatically respected.

REVIEW AND FILE

- (1) Draft Minutes of the 8/28/25 Board Meeting
- (2) August Resident Council Minutes

Motion was made by Griggs to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Seconded by Crawford and carried unanimously.

Items Removed From Consent Calendar – None.

Chairman Report – Chair Marois shared a personal experience involving a family member who received care at the Pavilions. She expressed her family’s deep appreciation for the quality and compassionate care provided by the staff at the Birch and Dogwood Pavilions.

Foundation Board Report – None

PACE North Board Report – Crawford reported that the PACE North Board is actively seeking new members, with interviews scheduled in the near future. Additionally, a strategic planning meeting is expected to be held by the end of October or early November.

Service Excellence Awards – Marois reviewed August's Service Excellence Awards.

Guest Presentation – Kristen Semeyn, Wellness Center Director – Semeyn provided an overview of the Wellness Center, including a review of current staff and their respective roles. She presented data on both inpatient and outpatient service averages and highlighted services such as aquatic classes and cottage therapy offerings. Semeyn also discussed billing processes and outlined strategic goals for 2026, which include enhanced marketing efforts and future staff training initiatives. She concluded by addressing questions from board members.

Chief Executive Officer Report – Lavender thanked Semeyn for her presentation and emphasized on the role that her department contributes to the Mission and Vision of the organization.

Lavender introduced Ann McMann as the new Director of Residential Services, replacing Melissa Gomez. Ann brings extensive leadership experience from her previous role as Executive Director at Boardman Lake Glens in Traverse City.

Lavender reported that census and occupancy levels remain stable. The accounts receivable remain elevated at 68 days. In September, eleven new employees were hired, bringing the total staff count to 361, positioning the organization to support the opening of the Aspen unit.

The Aspen Open House was reported as a successful and well-attended event. Lavender expressed appreciation to the GTP Facilities Team and all staff involved in the renovation and event coordination.

Lavender noted that new graphical elements have been added to the financial reports to better illustrate historical trends, current financial status, and projected outlook. These enhancements aim to support a clearer understanding of leading and lagging indicators impacting financial health.

A cross-functional working group has identified five project proposals aligned with the application criteria for the Grand Traverse County Marihuana Funds program. Input was asked by the Foundation Board Members, the DHHS Board, and the County Liaison to guide final submissions.

BUSINESS

- (1) **Financial Report** – Hansen presented the financial operations report for August 2025 and answered board members' questions.

Motion made by Crawford to accept the financial operations report as presented.
Seconded by Griggs and carried unanimously. Roll call Marois – yes, Crawford – yes, Griggs – yes.

- (2) **Resident Care Policies and Facility Assessment** – Hautamaki requested approval of the Facility Assessment that the board received prior to the board meeting. The board reviews the Resident Care Policies annually as well as the Facility Assessment per the regulations

of Requirements of Participation as part of the Quality Assurance Performance Improvement (QAPI) program.

Motion was made by Crawford to approve the Resident Care Policies and the Facility Assessment as presented, seconded by Griggs and carried unanimously.

MEDICAL STAFF

- (1) **Consulting Privileges** - Marois reviewed the request for Kathryn Bazzett, AuD from Mobile Medical Support to have consulting privileges as recommended by Medical Director Dr. April Kurkowski, DO.

Motion was made by Crawford to approve consulting privileges for Kathryn Bazzett, AuD as presented to the board. Motion was seconded by Griggs and carried unanimously.

- (2) **Consulting Privileges** - Marois reviewed the request for Guiselly Erazo-Romero, NP from Sound Physicians, to have consulting privileges as recommended by Medical Director Dr. April Kurkowski, DO.

Motion was made by Griggs to approve attending privileges for Guiselly Erazo-Romero, NP as presented to the board. Motion was seconded by Crawford and carried unanimously.

- (3) **Consulting Privileges** - Marois reviewed the request for Patrick Washington, NP from Sound Physicians, to have consulting privileges as recommended by Medical Director Dr. April Kurkowski, DO.

Motion was made by Crawford to approve attending privileges for Patrick Washington, NP as presented to the board. Motion was seconded by Griggs and carried unanimously.

Grand Traverse Pavilions Announcements

- (1) Next Regular Board Meeting – Thursday, October 30, 2025 @ 9:00am

Second Public Comment – None

Meeting adjourned at 9:53 am

Signatures:

Mary Marois – Chair
Grand Traverse County Department of Health and Human Services Board

Date: October 30, 2025 Approved
Corrected and Approved