



**PAIMI Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Via Zoom**  
**February 2, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.**

**Call to Order**

Chair Newman called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m.

**Attendance**

Present: Amanda Absher, Kevin Fischer, Chris Franklin, Davin Hemmila, Marie Jackson, Malkia Newman, Mark Reinstein, James Rye, Charles Scott, Lois Shulman

Absent: no one

Staff: Michelle Roberts, Theresa Diebolt, Kyle Williams, Mark McWilliams, Michele Brand

**Approval of Agenda**

Chair Newman requested a motion to approve the agenda. Marie Jackson so MOVED, and Chris Franklin seconded.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Absher, Fischer, Franklin, Hemmila, Jackson, Newman, Reinstein, Scott

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes**

Chair Newman asked for a motion to approve minutes from the November 17, 2020 and December 9, 2020 meetings. Marie Jackson so MOVED, and Amanda Absher seconded.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Absher, Fischer, Franklin, Hemmila, Jackson, Newman, Reinstein, Scott

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

### **PAIMI Advisory Council meetings – days and times**

Discussion was held amongst council members and it was decided to keep the regular meetings on the days and times as set.

### **Financial Report – Michele Brand**

Michele Brand referred to her written report and stated PAIMI is slightly overspent due to a lot of activity going on with people with mental illness in the state and DRM is working on their behalf.

Marie Jackson MOVED to receive and file the report and Kevin Fischer seconded.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Absher, Fischer, Franklin, Hemmila, Jackson, Newman, Reinstein, Scott

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

### **Grievance Update**

Grievance update was given by Theresa Diebolt stating three grievance forms were requested and no grievances have been filed since the last meeting. Out of the three forms requested only one was a PAIMI case.

### **Public Comment**

One member from the public provided a written comment and attended the meeting and gave a comment.

### **Legislative Update**

Legislative update was given by Mark McWilliams and he began by summarizing the kind of policy work he does on behalf of DRM and how members of the council can assist in supporting the agency. With the new state legislative session, bills that we have previously worked on came to an end and some of those have come back with new language. McWilliams went on to talk about some of the different advocacy groups DRM works with and a few of the topics being discussed. A bill we had success with is SB 813 which requires the state health department to investigate all deaths reported by private psychiatric hospitals in cases of suicide or unknown causes. It is not exactly what we wanted, but it's a starting point for death investigations. We are also pushing for the \$2.00 per hour increase for direct care workers to be permanent. McWilliams stated we are being proactive on some issues

including the bill that we hope will help regulate the use of restraint and seclusion in hospitals, HB 4057, which has some of the language from SB 826 from last year. We are also working on possible language to divert people out of the incompetent to stand trial process to try to keep them out of the criminal justice system.

McWilliams said there are some opportunities coming up for members to be involved including a disability caucus in the legislature that may be starting up. Contact Mark McWilliams if you are interested. We will be doing some outreach to legislators especially since we were not able to host our annual event at the Capitol this year. We will be sending congratulations letters and will follow up with folks to let them know who we are and try to get a sense of what their interests are.

A question was asked if HB 5832, in final form, is to keep a provision that these new crisis stabilization programs can hold someone against their will for up to 72 hours. The answer is yes, and that is the primary reason DRM opposed it. Is DRM considering challenging this? The answer is DRM will consider it, however, there have not been specific discussions about it yet. It was pointed out that only one physician is authorized to hold someone up to 72 hours. Further discussion was held regarding this bill.

### **Litigation Update**

Kyle Williams gave a summary of what kind of cases the legal team works on and explained their focus areas within the mental health treatment cycle and how it relates to the KB (client initials) case they are currently working on. He discussed the NGRI (not guilty by reason of insanity) case and how the proposed settlement will affect some of our clients and help them get back into the community. DRM assists several clients with mental illness and the legal department focuses mainly on systemic changes. Williams did share that they settled a case and will be receiving attorney fees that will replenish PAIMI funds. Further discussion was held with members.

### **Old Business**

1. Council membership - Michelle Roberts reminded council members that they are still in need of an attorney and a parent of a minor child receiving or having received mental health services.
2. Conferences/trainings/initiatives - Michelle mentioned that if members have attended any conferences or trainings, or spoke to a group about DRM, they should let Theresa Diebolt know so we can keep track of those for reporting on the annual Program Performance Review (PPR).
3. PAC Operating Procedures - Amanda Absher MOVED to discuss #2-4 at the next

regular meeting and Lois Shulman seconded.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**AYES:** Absher, Fischer, Franklin, Hemmila, Jackson, Newman, Reinstein, Scott

**NAYS:** None

Motion carried.

**New Business**

1. Council members held a discussion regarding the two new applications for acceptance to the council. The applicants are Trina Tocco and Kehli Henry.

Marie Jackson MOVED to accept both applications and Amanda Absher seconded.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**AYES:** Absher, Fischer, Franklin, Hemmila, Jackson, Newman, Reinstein, Scott

**NAYS:** None

Motion carried.

2. Members were asked if they will be attending any conferences and/or trainings to please let Theresa Diebolt know so she can track them.
3. Members were asked if they had any topics of interest they would like discussed at the next or a future meeting. Discussion was held and no specific topics were documented.

**Next meeting**

Tuesday, April 20, 2021

**Adjourn**

There being no further business, Chair Newman adjourned the meeting at 1:31 p.m.