

Chippewa, Luce, Mackinac DHHS TRI-COUNTY BOARD MEETING

Date: 3-19-2026 (Board meeting re-scheduled for all three counties for March to hold Tri-County Meeting, with MCSSA presentation – Notice posted on all doors)

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Place: MDHHS Conference Room -Chippewa
MDHHS Conference Room – Luce
Mackinac office is closed due to facility issues.

**Director Rose called for nominations for
Chairperson of the Tri-County Board Meeting:**

Karen Bontrager, Luce County motioned that Lynn Dake, Luce County chair the tri-county board meeting, supported by Christy Curtis, Chippewa County. Motion carried.

Meeting called to order at 10:01 a.m.

Roll Call:

Board Members Present in Luce: Lynn Dake, Karen Bontrager, P Nancy Barkat (Luce County Board Members) DeWayne Evans (Mackinac County Board Member)

Board Members Present in Chippewa: Christy Curtis, Tom Boger (Chippewa Board Members), Ronda Engle (Mackinac Board Member)

Board members absent: Ron Tamlyn (Mackinac); Terri Bush (Chippewa)

Other members present:

Luce: Tom Gendron, Fiscal Liaison

Chippewa: Charles Rose, Director, Leann Thompson, Executive Secretary
Clay J (Guest of Christy Curtis)

Approval of Agenda:

P. Nancy Barkat, Luce County member, motioned to approve the agenda, supported by Tom Boger, Chippewa County member. Motion carried.

Presentation:

Danielle Sirianni, Frederick Group, Executive Director – MCSSA

Rebecca Pasko – Monroe County MDHHS Board Member and Vice President, MCSSA

Discussion was held on the following:

- Allowable board budget spending/guidelines per what MDHHS legal is telling us vs. Chippewa County Administrator.
 - Funding Food Banks with board money:
 - MCSSA will reach out to the Department/Directors/Erin Frisch regarding the concerns.
 - If it is illegal to fund food banks, how can MCSSA help to make it legal.

- Danielle requested that Director Rose forward her the email from legal.
- Bylaws
 - Rebecca Pasko stated Monroe County Board is also working on their Bylaws
 - Danielle stated MCSSA will investigate what is available for the boards.
- Board Training
 - It was stated that in the past there was a board training for new board members that was developed by Brad Williams (2018-2019), is it available?
 - Danielle will look into
- What does MCSSA do?
 - Statewide, non-profit organization
 - Educates county board members
 - Advocates on social services issues,
 - Lobbies for DHHS.
 - Holds Annual Legislative Conference /Annual Conference & Business Meeting
 - At conferences connects board members with other board members and legislative representatives, educational topics are presented
 - Board members are reimbursed for attending for all fees.
 - MCSSA is given \$100,000 from the State to provide reimbursement and encourage more involvement from the county boards.
 - September's Legislative Conference is at the Bavarian Inn, Frankenmuth
- MCSSA Dues
 - Ronda Engle, Mackinac Board Member, stated with dues being determined by tax base is a concern, as St. Ignace is a tourist town, after tourist season is over, the population declines and so does the revenue.
 - Danielle stated if counties are experiencing hardship they can put in a request to have their dues capped
 - Send proposal to MCSSA with what the board can afford and why.
 - Proposals will be taken to the MCSSA board for discussion and determination.
 - Luce County dues are already capped.

Approval of Minutes of February 2026:

Chippewa Minutes 2-5-2026 – Tom Boger motioned to approve the minutes from February; supported by Christy Curtis. Motion carried.

Luce Minutes 2-10-2026 – P. Nancy Barkat motioned to approve the minutes from February, supported by Karen Bontrager. Motion carried.

Mackinac Minutes 2-3-2026-DeWayne Evans motioned to approve the minutes from February, supported by Ronda Engle. Motion carried.

Public Comments:

None

Contracts:

None

Old Business

None

New Business

County Board Member information on MDHHS Website – per email received by BSC1 that Director Rose shared with the board.

It was discussed that member's home addresses are shown as contacts on the public MDHHS website and asked if they would like to revise to use the office addresses in which they sit on the board.

All county members present stated that they would like to use the county office addresses in lieu of their home address on the county website.

This information will be changed and updated by Leann Thompson.

County Budget

February budget for: Chippewa reviewed.
Luce reviewed.
Mackinac reviewed.

Board Comments.

None

Director Update:

The following was discussed:

- Teaming Module is also known as Pods, but will refer to them as teams
 - CLM will have 4 teams.
 - Launching all by April 1st.
 - Consists of:
 - Supervisor
 - 2 CPS Investigators
 - 1 CPS ongoing
 - 1 Foster Care
 - 1 Family Resource Specialist
 - 1 Family Team Specialist
 - Once set up, potentially could do board presentation.
- Mackinac Office update:
 - Facility issues – sewer backup
 - The office has been closed since March 9
 - Timeline of completion – hoping March 24th/25th.
 - Working with DTMB, Lessor/restoration company/DHHS construction crew to get the building back in safe condition.
 - Looking at timeline from 3/19 – 3/24, 3/25.
 - Ronda Engle, Mackinac County – inquired on when the lease is up for that

building. Will reach out to the property analyst to ask.

- o Stats –
 - o Each board member received a copy of the stats for AP, CW, NAOW, APS to review from their counties.

Next meeting scheduled:

Next meeting scheduled for:

- o Chippewa – 4-2-2026 10:00 a.m.
- o Luce 4-14-2026 10:00 a.m.
- o Mackinac 4-7-2026 9:00 a.m.

Christy M. Curtis 4/2/26
Christy Curtis, Chairperson – Chippewa County Date

Ronda Engle 4/7/26
Ronda Engle, Chairperson – Mackinac County Date

Lynn Dake 4-14-26
Lynn Dake, Chairperson-Luce County Date

Leann Thompson 4.14.26
Prepared by: Leann Thompson Date