

**Region 7E Governing Board Meeting
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
January 12th, 2026; 11:00am – 1:00pm**

Attendees:

Governing Board Member	Affiliation	Present IP or V
Kelly Ihrke, 2025 GB Vice Chair	Chisago County	IP
Robert Benson	Chisago County	IP
Jolene Thorsen	Chisago County	IP
Emily Hawkins, Member & Fiscal Host	Isanti County	IP
Jodi Donnay	Isanti County	IP
Katie Heacock	Kanabec County	Not present
Chuck Hurd	Kanabec County	Not present
Char Kohlgraf	Mille Lacs County	IP
Jessica Andrich	Mille Lacs County	IP
Rebecca Foss	Pine County	Not present
Barbara Schmidt	Pine County	IP
Stacy Johnstone	Consumer Rep	IP
Michelle Ochsendorf	Consumer Rep	V

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Meeting ID: 231 060 651 619 23

Passcode: oz7Bu9UH

CALL to Order at 11:00AM

- **Approval of the agenda**
 - Approved
- **Document Review:**
 - The Board reviewed the cover letter and original funding request from Dr. Beth Good & Associates (dated 9/8/2025).
- **Discussion Items:**
 - **Website Transparency:** The Board addressed inquiries regarding the online publication of meeting minutes. It was clarified that 2025 minutes are posted to adultmentalhealth.org following formal approval. Historical meeting minutes and approved funding proposals remain available upon request.
 - **Provider Application Review:** The Board reviewed the funding application that included a compliance critique of a current provider. Discussion focused on recent shifts in DHS guidance and AMHI legislation which continue to influence program oversight and administration.
 - The Board acknowledged the provider's 20-year history of service alongside the current points of discussion. It was noted that, historically, the Board's funding decisions have been guided by the Region 7E philosophy of flexibility to meet regional needs.
 - The Board was informed that contract negotiations for both outpatient medication management providers are ongoing; no agreements have been finalized at this time.
- **Next steps**
 - Planner will draft a standard operating procedure for complaints and bring back to the Board. Pine will send their complaint process for reference.

- **Adjournment**

MOTION: Mille Lacs made a motion to adjourn, Chisago seconded. All ayes, meeting adjourned at 11:42am

2026 Governing Board and Regional LAC Meeting Schedule

Governing Board Meetings: 9:00am – 12:00pm: 4th Monday each month except May and December

Regional LAC Meeting: 1:00-2:00pm – every other month as scheduled below

In Person at Isanti County Family Services, Conference Room A and virtual via Zoom

January 26 – 1:00pm Regional LAC Meeting	July 27 – 1:00pm Regional LAC Meeting
February 23	August 24
March 23 – 1:00pm Regional LAC Meeting	September 28 - 1:00pm Regional LAC Meeting
April 27	October 26
May 18 – 1:00pm Regional LAC Meeting ONE WEEK EARLY	November 23 - 1:00pm Regional LAC Meeting
June 22	December 21 GB ONE WEEK EARLY