

## **VERMILION COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH 708 BOARD**

### **Meeting Minutes – August 26, 2024**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Natalya Bourn, Jeff Fauver, Curt Girouard, Jerry Hawker, Russell Hiatt

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mark Kracht, Teri Huchel, Mary Surprenant

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Lisa Rhodes, Michelle Nelson, Jennifer Modest, Abby Thompson, Beth Knecht, Michael Remole, Lisa Martin, Abby Boen, Kimberly David, Amy Boyer

#### **STAFF PRESENT:**

**Jim Russell - Executive Director**

**Wendy Lambert – ROSC Coordinator**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Russ Hiatt called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Five members responded to roll call. Three members were absent. Chairman Hiatt read a written statement from absent staff member Jeri Spezia regarding her current health issue.

#### **ADOPTION OF/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

The agenda was approved with no changes.

#### **CITIZEN INPUT**

None.

#### **CHAIRMAN COMMENTS**

Chairman Hiatt thanked the agencies for attending the meeting and would like to send prayers up for Jeri concerning her health issue.

#### **MINUTES**

Jerry Hawker moved to approve the June 24, 2024 minutes as presented. Natalya Bourn seconded the motion. Minutes were approved by acclamation.

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Reports are attached to the minutes.

#### **AGENCY UPDATES**

**Project Success** – Kimberly David gave an update on social worker involvement with Project Success. She also introduced social worker Amy Boyer who gave an update on the Summer program and where she will be located for the school year.

**WorkSource** – Lisa Martin gave vocational update.

**Hoopeston Multi-Agency** – Beth Knecht gave an update on HMA stats. She also stated their

building was recently repainted and looks great.

**Survivor Resource Center** – Abby Thompson gave an update on SRC stats. She also shared a success story with the board and stated SRC is almost fully staffed after recently hiring a male counselor.

**Crosspoint Human Services** – Michelle Nelson gave an update on crisis intervention calls. She also states they are currently in need of five more counselors. Lisa Rhodes gave an update on shelter stats.

**Complex Services Planner** – Jeri was absent.

**Gateway Family Services** – Michael Remole gave an update on the Mustang Summit. He also gave an update on staffing and client stats.

**Rosecrance** – Melissa Pappas gave an update on staffing. She also states Rosecrance has increased their residential treatment bed capacity from 16 to 18.

**New Directions** – Jennifer Modest shared a success story with the board. She also stated New Directions is under-staffed but has recently received two resumes so they are hopeful to fill their counselor position.

**ROSC-** Later in meeting, Wendy gave an update about upcoming ROSC events.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** The financial reports for June and July 2024 were included in the packet for review.

MH Fund Balance as of June 30, 2024: \$184,236.71; Monthly Interest as of June 30, 2024: \$84.41; Yearly Interest as of June 30, 2024: \$1080.21; MH Fund Balance as of July 31, 2024: \$171,731.62; Monthly Interest as of July 31, 2024: \$145.14; Yearly Interest as of July 31, 2024: \$1225.35

Discussion ensued.

**MOTION:** Curt Girouard moved to approve the June and July 2024 financial reports. Jeff Fauver seconded the motion. The following board members voted yes:

Curt Girouard  
Jeff Fauver  
Talya Bourn  
Jerry Hawker  
Russell Hiatt

Motion was approved.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

No old business.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**FY '24-25 BUDGET:** Jim made the recommendation to the board that the agencies/individuals currently funded by the VCMHB will be allowed to increase their funding requests by 5% for FY 25. Jeff Fauver made the motion to accept the recommendation as presented. Natalya Bourn seconded the motion. Discussion ensued.

The following board members voted yes:

Jeff Fauver  
Natalya Bourn  
Curt Girouard  
Jerry Hawker  
Russell Hiatt

Motion was approved.

**IT'S IN YOUR HEAD FUNDING REQUEST:** Jim made the recommendation that It's In Your Head be provided with \$20,000 in one-time funding from the FY 24 budget, contingent upon getting the additional needed funds by October 28, 2024. Discussion ensued. Jerry Hawker made the motion to accept the It's In Your Head Funding Request as presented. Natalya Bourn seconded the motion.

The following board members voted yes:

Jerry Hawker  
Natalya Bourn  
Jeff Fauver  
Curt Girouard  
Russell Hiatt

Motion was approved.

**DIRECTOR/BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Jim gave an update to the board regarding the upcoming "That's What Teens Say" program.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Curt Girouard made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Jeff Fauver seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 pm.

---

(Board Secretary) Minutes prepared by Jeri Spezia

