

VERMILION COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH 708 BOARD

Meeting Minutes – January 27, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT: Natalya Bourn, Jeff Fauver, Curt Girouard, Jerry Hawker, Russell Hiatt, Teri Huchel, Betty Seidel, Mary Surprenant

MEMBERS ABSENT: All board members present

IN ATTENDANCE: Beth Bray Knecht, Michael Remole, Lisa Rhodes, Michelle Nelson, Rachel Kloth, Todd Seabaugh, Kimberly David, Abby Boen, Brittany Morris, Marcie Sheridan, Jennifer Modest, Lisa Martin

STAFF PRESENT:

Jim Russell - Executive Director
Jeri Spezia – Complex Services Planner
Wendy Lambert – ROSC Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Russ Hiatt called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. Eight members responded to roll call.

ADOPTION OF/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved with no changes.

CITIZEN INPUT

None.

MINUTES

Mary Surprenant moved to approve the October 28, 2024 minutes as presented. Jeff Fauver seconded the motion. Betty Seidel abstained. The motion was approved by acclamation.

CHAIRMAN COMMENTS

Chairman Hiatt read a thank you letter from Crosspoint Human Services for the end of year allotment funding provided by the 708 Board.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Reports are attached to the minutes.

AGENCY UPDATES

Project Success – Kimberly David and Abby Boen gave an update on social worker stats and shared an event flyer. They stated the year-end allotment will be used to fund more social workers during the summer months and one full-time social worker starting August 1st.

WorkSource – Todd Seabaugh introduced their new Director of Program Development Rachel Kloth. He also gave an update on survey results. Lisa Martin gave an update on the placement program. Todd stated he will email Jim with information on what the year-end

allotment will be used for.

Hoopston Multi-Agency – Beth Knecht gave an update on HMA stats. She also thanked the board for the year-end allotment that will be used for several things, including a new freezer for the food pantry, utility assistance program, and building repairs.

Survivor Resource Center – Marcie Sheridan gave an update on SRC stats. She also gave an update on SRC programs. The year-end allotment will be used for musical instruments for the music program.

Crosspoint Human Services – Michelle Nelson gave an update on recent hirings. She also stated part of the year-end allotment will be used for hosting “That’s What Teens Say” in March. Brittany gave an update on the Resiliency Project that will also be funded with the year-end allotment.

Complex Services Planner – Jeri gave an update on the Resource List and requested all the agencies to check their information to make sure everything is correct.

Gateway Family Services – Michael Remole shared with the board the year-end allotment will be used to finish space on the sensory room. He also gave an update on recent events and fundraisers, including Christmas in the Barn, Fall in Fridays, and the grand opening of the behavioral health clinic.

Rosecrance – Melissa Pappas was absent.

New Directions – Jennifer Modest thanked the board for their support. She stated the year-end allotment will be used for building repairs. She also shared a client success update.

ROSC- Wendy shared the ROSC annual report. She also gave an update on upcoming ROSC events.

FINANCIAL REPORT: The financial reports for October, November, and December 2024 were included in the packet for review.

MH Fund Balance as of October 31, 2024: \$122,759.21; Monthly Interest as of October 31, 2024: \$85.23; Yearly Interest as of October 31, 2024: \$1,428.15; MH Fund Balance as of November 30, 2024: \$100,255.96; Monthly Interest as of November 30, 2024: \$30.45; Yearly Interest as of November 30, 2024: \$1,148.60; MH Fund Balance as of December 31, 2024: \$1,216,993.83; Monthly Interest as of December 31, 2024: \$290.07; Yearly Interest as of December 31, 2024: \$1,748.67

MOTION: Jeff Fauver moved to approve the October, November, and December 2024 financial reports. Curt Girouard seconded the motion. The following board members voted yes:

Jeff Fauver
Curt Girouard
Natalya Bourn
Jerry Hawker

Russell Hiatt
Teri Huchel
Mary Surprenant

Discussion ensued. Request was made to break down the interest on the annual report in the future. Betty Seidel abstained. Motion was approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

No old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

FY '23-24 ANNUAL REPORT: Jim presented the FY '23-24 annual report for approval. Jerry Hawker made the motion to accept the FY '23-24 annual report as presented. Jeff Fauver seconded the motion.

The following board members voted yes:

Jerry Hawker
Jeff Fauver
Natalya Bourn
Curt Girouard
Russell Hiatt
Teri Huchel
Betty Seidel
Mary Surprenant

Motion was approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES: Jim asked for a motion on deciding if the executive session minutes should be released to the public or kept closed. Discussion ensued. Jerry Hawker made the motion to keep the executive session minutes closed. Mary Surprenant seconded the motion. The motion was approved by acclamation.

DIRECTOR/BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS: Jerry Hawker expressed concern about the tax rate for the Mental Health Board in the future. Discussion ensued. Chairman Hiatt thanked Jerry for his continued support for the Mental Health Board.

Executive Session – Pursuant to Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) “The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity.”

Mary Surprenant made the motion to exit the regular session. Jeff Fauver seconded the motion. Motion was approved by acclamation. Regular session ended at 6:17 pm.

Mary Surprenant made the motion to enter the regular session. Curt Girouard seconded the motion. Motion was approved by acclamation. Regular session was entered at 6:27 pm.

ADJOURNMENT: Jeff Fauver made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Curt Girouard seconded the motion. Motion was approved by acclamation. Meeting adjourned at 6:28 pm.

(Board Secretary) Minutes prepared by Jeri Spezia

