

**LYONS TOWNSHIP MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
May 22, 2023**

The Regular Board Meeting was held on Monday, May 22, 2023 at the Township of Lyons, Community Room, 6404 Joliet Road., Countryside, IL 60525. Meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by Anthony Przeklasa.

President Anthony Przeklasa asked for the Roll Call.

Commissioner(s) Present: Anthony Przeklasa, Rev. Jeffrey Clemons, Sophia Mallis, Hon. Russell Hartigan, Al Dorobiala, and Lou Gale.

Commissioner(s) on Phone: None.

Commissioner(s) Absent: Steve Palmer.

Staff Present: Ron Melka, Executive Director; and Jazmin Lopez, Administrative Assistant.

Agency Director(s) Present: Alan Morales, The LeaderShop; Angela Curran, Pillars Community Health; Bill Dwyer, Helping Hand; Diane Farina White, Community Support Services.

Guest(s) Present: Brian Miller, Attorney, Del Galdo Law Group, LLC.; April Dislers, Vice President of Programs, Helping Hand; Erika Vavrik, Vice President of Advancement, Helping Hand; Yvette Williams, Vice President of Programs, Community Support Services; Kez, Caseworker, Community Support Services; Tracey, Respite Worker, Community Support Services; Client S and client's mother.

Guest(s) on Phone: None.

AMENDMENTS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

A **MOTION** was made by Hartigan and seconded by Dorobiala to approve the Agenda. Roll Call: Russell Hartigan, Al Dorobiala, Anthony Przeklasa, Jeffrey Clemons, Sophia Mallis, and Lou Gale. Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Hearing no Nays, the Agenda was approved.

REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The Minutes of the Board Meeting held on April 17, 2023 were reviewed.

A **MOTION** was made by Dorobiala and seconded by Mallis to approve the Minutes of April 17, 2023. Roll Call: Al Dorobiala, Sophia Mallis, Anthony Przeklasa, Jeffrey Clemons, Russell Hartigan, Al Dorobiala, and Lou Gale. Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Hearing no Nays, the Minutes were approved.

PRESENTATION BY COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

Diane Farina White, President & CEO; Yvette Williams, Vice President of Programs; Kez, Caseworker; and Tracey, Respite Worker gave a wonderful presentation on their programs and services offered. It was a pleasure meeting Client S and the client's mother and the Commission

is thankful the family shared the positive impact Community Support Services has on their family.

[Elyse Hoffenberg joined the meeting at 5:40 p.m.]

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Ron reported Aging Care Connections' Aging Well Month is through the end of May. The Coalition is planning next year's prevention activities. HB 475 changes to the Mental Health Authority Act, passed the Senate after negotiations and modifications with Township Officials of Illinois and other county associations. It is now in the House of Reconciliation and is supported by our Association. Last Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, we had our Trauma-Informed & Mental Health Justice Summit which was planned by Jazmin, who will share some information.

Jazmin Lopez reported that the inaugural Trauma-Informed & Mental Health Justice Summit took place May 17 through May 19. Day 1 had 59 attendees, Day 2 had 39 attendees, and Day 3 had 41 attendees. Some attendees participated in-person; however, most were virtual. Some attendees included representatives from BEDS Plus Care, Inc. and Helping Hand, the Lisle Township Mental Health Board, Lyons Township High School, Nazareth Academy, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Naperville Police Department, Illinois State Attorney's Office, Lake County State Attorney's Office, Unitarian Church of Hinsdale. There were attendees from agencies in multiple states, including New Jersey, North Dakota, Minnesota, Texas, California, New York, Pennsylvania, Wyoming. Over fifteen social workers were awarded continuing education units provided and sponsored by the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign's School of Social Work. The event was a success, and we are excited about next year's event.

Ron has not found a more affordable auditor, and our current auditor's rates remain relatively the same; therefore, he recommends continuing with their services.

[William Seith joined the meeting via telephone at 6:00 p.m.]

AGENCY REPORTS:

Diane Farina, White Community Support Services reported they are working on state contracts. The State Budget has not been approved yet and are fighting over a billion-dollar deficit. There are rate increases for DD. They are still advocating and are asking for a \$4.00 DSP increase but will probably land on \$3.00. They are working on their FY2024 Budget.

Alan Morales, The LeaderShop reported that they are preparing to move forward with the FAST program at District 104, and once funding comes in, they will be in full swing next fall. They are presenting their FY2024 Budget to their Board next Thursday. There is a significant deficit, but they do have monies in reserve, and they hope to continue to maintain the same level of operation. They raised just over \$96,000.00 at their Party 4 Youth annual fundraiser, which is more than last year.

Angela Curran, Pillars Community Health reported they have a contract with DHS for their West Cook Transformation Project, a 25-partner project around care coordination, connecting clients/patients with food, housing support, employment, and enhancing behavioral health services in the West Cook area. They are still waiting to see if the state will come up with additional funding to support the huge cut in sexual assault funding. There is a huge deficit because of the lack of Medicaid for immigrant adults. They have two employees, Becky Anton

and Stephen Steberl who were chosen for the West Suburban Chamber of Commerce's 30 under 40 award.

April Dislers, Vice President of Programs, Helping Hands reported that they've made some great community connections where their clients are learning about practicing their employment skills by running concession stands for LaGrange Little League games. They placed all their Project Search interns into employment at the beginning of May, which is really significant because they do not graduate until May 26. Usually about 70-75% of students are placed, and they have already hit 100% placement. They also participated in a Project Search Series on the topic of "What Happens After Project Search?" They had parents with questions and fear about their adult children going out into the world and the team did a great job working with these families.

Erika Vavrik, Vice President of Advancement, Helping Hands thanks everyone who attended their annual Gala. The funds raised will be used for their courtyard playground that will be used by clients and clients' family members, such as the siblings. They are half-way to their goal.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE WHOLE REPORT

Resolution No. 2023-01 Approving the Fiscal Year 2024 Agency Program Grants, Comprehensive Budget and Operations Budget for Lyons Township Mental Health Commission, County of Cook, Illinois.

A **MOTION** was made by Dorobiala, seconded by Seith to approve Resolution No. 2023-01 Approving the Fiscal Year 2024 Agency Program Grants, Comprehensive Budget and Operations Budget for Lyons Township Mental Health Commission, County of Cook, Illinois. Roll Call: Al Dorobiala, William Seith, Anthony Przeklasa, Jeffrey Clemons, Sophia Mallis, Russell Hartigan, Elyse Hoffenberg, and Lou Gale. Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Hearing no Nays, Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Appointment of Nominating Committee for Slate Officers

President Przeklasa recommended that a nominating committee is not necessary; thus, nominations and elections will take place at the next month's Regular Board Meeting.

Policy on Support of Agency Fundraisers

This item was on the Agenda per William Seith. Discussion was made as to whether a revision needs to be made. The Commissioners determined that no revisions need to be made on the Policy on Support of Agency Fundraisers.

TREASURER'S REPORTS:

Treasurer Sophia Mallis presented the Treasurer Report dated May 22, 2023 as follows:

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|---|----------------|
| Beginning Balance as of March 31, 2023: | \$2,501,724.41 |
| Receipts during April 2023: | \$1,078,364.41 |
| Disbursements during April 2023: | \$ 336,746.21 |
| Ending Balance as of April 30, 2023: | \$3,243,342.61 |

A **MOTION** was made by Dorobiala, seconded by Clemons to approve the Treasurer's Reports dated May 22, 2023, as presented. Roll Call: Al Dorobiala, Jeffrey Clemons, Anthony Przeklasa, Sophia Mallis, Russell Hartigan, William Seith, Elyse Hoffenberg, and Lou Gale. Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Hearing no Nays, Motion Carried.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MONTHLY PAYABLES:

Sophia Mallis presented a list of Twenty-Six (26) Payables totaling \$337,290.80 dated May 22, 2023.

A **MOTION** was made by Mallis and seconded by Gale to approve the Monthly Payables dated May 22, 2023, as presented. Roll Call: Ayes: Sophia Mallis, Lou Gale, Anthony Przeklasa, Jeffrey Clemons, Russell Hartigan, William Seith, Al Dorobiala, and Elyse Hoffenberg. Nays: None. Motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

NONE

ADJOURNMENT:

A **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting was made at 6:26 p.m. All in favor. Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Meeting was adjourned.

Anthony Przeklasa, PhD
Commission President

Hon. Russell W. Hartigan
Secretary