



WCCMHB

Winnebago County
Community Mental
Health Board

Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board Minutes

Date: Wednesday, February 2nd, 2022

Time: 2:00 PM CST

Location: Region 1 Planning Council, 127 N Wyman Street, 1st Floor, Rockford, IL 61101 or virtual at [Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board YouTube Page](#)

NOTICE: Consistent with [State of Illinois Executive Order 2020-07](#) to prevent the spread of COVID-19, Committee Members are permitted to participate in this meeting by conference call.

Called by: Mary Ann Abate: President

Members: Richard Kunnert: Vice President, Rev. Dr. K. Edward Copeland: Treasurer, Dr. Bill Gorski: Secretary, Dr. Terry Giardini, Tim Nabors, Linda Sandquist, Wendy Larson-Bennett

Advisory Members: Jay Ware, Jeanette Towns

Director: Jason Holcomb, Region 1 Planning Council

Agenda:

A. Call to Order: President Mary Ann Abate called the meeting to order at 2:03 PM

B. Roll Call

- Mary Ann Abate: Present
- Richard Kunnert: Present
- Dr. K. Edward Copeland: Present
- Dr. Bill Gorski: Present
- Dr. Terry Giardini: Present (Arrived at 2:07)
- Tim Nabors: Present
- Linda Sandquist: Present (Left at 2:45)
- Wendy Larson-Bennett: Present
- Jay Ware: Absent
- Jeanette Towns: Present
- Jason Holcomb: Present
- Guests: Chelsey Glatz, Region 1 Planning Council; Sargent Anthony Ponte, Winnebago County Sheriff's Office; Sue Schroeder, Stepping Stones.



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C. Public Comment

1. No Public Comment

D. Presentations

1. No Presentation

E. Monthly Activity Report

1. Jason Holcomb, WCCMHB Director, gave the January 2022 Activity Report.
 - i. Notes: Grant application has closed on January 31st, 2022 for Program Year 2022 – 2023; funding will be June 1st, 2022 – May 30th, 2023. We received 34 applications in total; many of the applications were collaborative applications involving multiple agencies and included renewal applications from Program Year 2021 – 2022 funded programs. The total funding request was \$18.3 million, and we have up to \$15 million to award.

F. Action Items

1. January 2022 Meeting Minutes

Motion: To approve the January 2022 Meeting Minutes was carried.

- i. Raised by: Mr. Nabors
- ii. Seconded by: Mr. Kunnert
 1. Mary Ann Abate: Aye
 2. Richard Kunnert: Aye
 3. Dr. K. Edward Copeland: Aye
 4. Dr. Bill Gorski: Aye
 5. Dr. Terry Giardini: Aye
 6. Tim Nabors: Aye
 7. Linda Sandquist: Aye
 8. Wendy Larson-Bennett: Aye
- iii. Discussion: None





2. August 2021 Meeting Minutes Updated

Motion: To approve the August 2021 Meeting Minutes was carried.

- i. Raised by: Mr. Kunnert
- ii. Seconded by: Mrs. Larson-Bennett
 - 1. Mary Ann Abate: Aye
 - 2. Richard Kunnert: Aye
 - 3. Dr. K. Edward Copeland: Aye
 - 4. Dr. Bill Gorski: Aye
 - 5. Dr. Terry Giardini: Aye
 - 6. Tim Nabors: Aye
 - 7. Linda Sandquist: Aye
 - 8. Wendy Larson-Bennett: Aye
- iii. Discussion: The update was the addition of voting for the Anti-Retaliation Policy adopted by the Board.





3. PY21-22 Funded Program Budget Amendments

i. Sherriff's Office (Tabled from January Board meeting)

Motion: To approve the Sherriff's Office PY21-22 Funded Program Budget Amendments was carried.

- i. Raised by: Mr. Kunnert
- ii. Seconded by: Mr. Nabors
 - 1. Mary Ann Abate: Aye
 - 2. Richard Kunnert: Aye
 - 3. Dr. K. Edward Copeland: Aye
 - 4. Dr. Bill Gorski: Aye
 - 5. Dr. Terry Giardini: Aye
 - 6. Tim Nabors: Aye
 - 7. Linda Sandquist: Aye
 - 8. Wendy Larson-Bennett: Aye
- iii. Discussion: Sargent Ponte presented to the Board and answered questions. The Sherriff's Office requested that two separate line items under contractual services be combined into one. Second, move \$85,220 from the contractual services to a new line for the mental health administrator. The position is up to \$55,000 with the addition of fringe benefits. They saved money on the cost of equipment. The independent person would oversee the entire program and report to Sargent Ponte. This position would help to ensure the program becomes a "Gold Standard Facility." This person would be responsible for making sure items for the mental health board are being tracked, making sure there is communication between the jail program, CCRT, the public defender's office, pre-trial services, and the courts on the discharge planning portion with the community; and making sure services are getting to the inmates prior to them leaving. Between 400-600 people have been assessed in the month of January. They are in the process of starting to follow the Ohio-based risk assessments that are going to be implemented in the next few weeks. The assessment screens everyone coming into the facility based on their risk of recidivism, and then they will recommend to the courts certain programs, discharge that folds into discharge planning and into specialty courts.





ii. Stepping Stones

Motion: To approve Stepping Stones PY21-22 Funded Program Budget Amendments was carried.

- i. Raised by: Mrs. Sandquist
- ii. Seconded by: Dr. Gorski
 - 1. Mary Ann Abate: Aye
 - 2. Richard Kunnert: Aye
 - 3. Dr. K. Edward Copeland: Aye
 - 4. Dr. Bill Gorski: Aye
 - 5. Dr. Terry Giardini: Aye
 - 6. Tim Nabors: Aye
 - 7. Linda Sandquist: Aye
 - 8. Wendy Larson-Bennett: Aye
- iii. Discussion: Sue Schroeder presented to the Board and answered questions. When doing their last walk-through with the realtor, they learned that there had been a lot of standing water and mold issues. They were able to find and purchase a building on Murray Drive with no other counseling centers in that area. The contract to remodel the building was signed, and they did a final walk-through last Thursday. Temporary occupancy or limited occupancy was granted so that furniture could be put in. Electrical work needs to be completed. The second therapist was hired, and the current therapist, when not seeing clients, has been in the community handing out flyers at different organizations. They will not be able to meet the goal of hiring eight therapists and 2 case managers by the end of the budget year. The budget has money available to provide medications for people who don't have a way to pay for them and for services that people don't have the ability to pay for. They have a contracted telepsychiatrist to be able to provide telepsychiatry. They request that the budgeted amount in these areas be moved to a direct occupancy area to help pay for building and remodeling.





4. PY21-22 Funded Program Special Conditions Met

Motion: To approve the Special Conditions Met was carried.

- i. Raised by: Mr. Kunnert
- ii. Seconded by: Mr. Nabors
 - 1. Mary Ann Abate: Aye
 - 2. Richard Kunnert: Aye
 - 3. Dr. K. Edward Copeland: Aye
 - 4. Dr. Bill Gorski: Aye
 - 5. Dr. Terry Giardini: Aye
 - 6. Tim Nabors: Aye
 - 7. Linda Sandquist: Aye
 - 8. Wendy Larson-Bennett: Aye
- iii. Discussion: Family Counseling Services fulfilled their special condition of developing a client satisfaction survey. Remedies Renewing Lives developed fidelity measures for outcomes with their substance abuse programming.

5. New Board Member Recommendation (Tabled from January Board Meeting)

Motion: To approve the previous recommendation of Jeanette Towns as the Board Member was carried.

- i. Raised by: Dr. Gorski
- ii. Seconded by: Ms. Larson-Bennett
 - 1. Mary Ann Abate: Aye
 - 2. Richard Kunnert: Aye
 - 3. Dr. K. Edward Copeland: Aye
 - 4. Dr. Bill Gorski: Aye
 - 5. Dr. Terry Giardini: Aye
 - 6. Tim Nabors: Aye
 - 7. Linda Sandquist: Absent
 - 8. Wendy Larson-Bennett: Aye
- iii. Discussion: There are no further recommendations for the vacancy as the application has gone out to the public. Jeanette Towns was the previous Board recommendation, and she has applied through Chairman's office.





6. PY22-23 Grant Review and Decision Timeline

Motion: To modify the original Grant Review and Decision Timeline to continue funding program decisions made at the April Board Meeting and new applications decisions made at the May Board meeting was carried.

- i. Raised by: Mr. Kunnert
- ii. Seconded by: Mr. Nabors
 - 1. Mary Ann Abate: Aye
 - 2. Richard Kunnert: Aye
 - 3. Dr. K. Edward Copeland: Aye
 - 4. Dr. Bill Gorski: Aye
 - 5. Dr. Terry Giardini: Aye
 - 6. Tim Nabors: Aye
 - 7. Linda Sandquist: Absent
 - 8. Wendy Larson-Bennett: Aye
- iii. Discussion: The timeline has been adjusted to manage the number of applications appropriately. Each Board Member will have to do 20 reviews. It was recommended that the applications be sequenced to do the renewals first because the programs are already operating and staff is already in place. The Board Members will have the packet of compliance information for each program. Summary packets of new applications will be created for assistance in reviews. It was recommended that the first review period be three weeks for renewals with one week of flexibility that we can have conversations with Board Members to clarify any comments. Then for new applications, we enter four weeks of reviews. There are 2-3 weeks of flexibility after that to put together a funding packet and clarify with Board Members any comments and scores made. The original timeline had all decisions happening at the April Board Meeting will be changed to stagger the decisions of renewal programs at the April Board Meeting and new programs at the May Board Meeting.





G. Discussion Items

1. Funded Program Q2 Outcomes Reports

- i. Notes: Q1 had 12 completed outcomes, whereas Q2 had 37 in aggregate. Thirty-one delayed down to 8 and 88 are in progress, up from 65. Only 19 have not started. A common challenge remains in the workforce shortage and hiring. The equivalent of 85 full-time positions was created, and 30.5 have been filled roughly 1/3 fulfillment. About 20-25% awarded funded has been spent. We would expect this to be higher in future years because this being the first round, programs were not fully operational on June 1st.

H. Other Matters

- 1. No Other Matters

I. Adjournment

- 1. Motion: For Adjournment was carried. Adjourned at 3:27 PM
 - i. Raised by: Mr. Kunnert
 - ii. Seconded by: Dr. Giardini
 - 1. Mary Ann Abate: Aye
 - 2. Richard Kunnert: Aye
 - 3. Dr. K. Edward Copeland: Aye
 - 4. Dr. Bill Gorski: Aye
 - 5. Dr. Terry Giardini: Aye
 - 6. Tim Nabors: Aye
 - 7. Linda Sandquist: Absent
 - 8. Wendy Larson-Bennett: Aye

