

## Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board Minutes

**Date:** Wednesday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025

**Time:** 2:00 PM CT

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

**Called by:** Mary Ann Abate: President

**Members:** Richard Kunnert: *Vice President*, Dr. Bill Gorski: *Secretary*, Dr. Terry Giardini: *Treasurer*, Andrell Bragg-Shaw, Rev. Dr. K. Edward Copeland, Tim Nabors, Jeff Nielsen, Dr. Amanda Penney, Mohammad Yunus

**Director:** Jason Holcomb, Region 1 Planning Council

### Agenda:

**A) Call to Order:** President Mary Ann Abate called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM

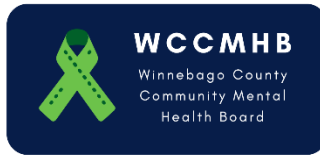
### B) Roll Call

- Mary Ann Abate: Present
- Andrell Bragg-Shaw: Present
- Dr. K. Edward Copeland: Absent at roll call. Arrived at 2:01 PM.
- Dr. Terry Giardini: Present
- Dr. Bill Gorski: Absent
- Richard Kunnert: Present
- Tim Nabors: Present
- Jeff Nielsen: Present
- Dr. Amanda Penney: Absent
- Mohammad Yunus: Absent
- Jason Holcomb: Present
- Guests:
  - **R1 Planning:** Alex McCann, Emily Kate, Patricia Moton, Amy Salamon
  - **Rosecrance:** Amy Young, Carrie Schafman
  - **Second First Church:** Karen Hill
  - **City of Rockford:** Mary Trujillo
  - **UICOMR:** Kathleen Monteleone, Joseph Garry
  - **Rockford Park District:** Jessica Steinberg
  - Susan Rotello (No organization)



[r1planning.org/community-impact/wccmhbb](http://r1planning.org/community-impact/wccmhbb) | [infoementalhealth.wincoil.gov](http://infoementalhealth.wincoil.gov) | [bit.ly/m/WCCMHB](https://bit.ly/m/WCCMHB)





**C) Public Comment**

**1) Carrie Schafman, Rosecrance**

- Notes: Ms. Schafman shared a success story with the Mental Health Board. A veteran patient was admitted for detox at Rosecrance's Ware Center. This patient is currently making great progress, securing housing and taking positive personal steps while remaining substance-free.

**D) Presentations**

**1) No Presentation**

**E) Monthly Activity Report – June 2025**

**1) Jason Holcomb, WCCMHB Director, gave the June 2025 Activity Report.**

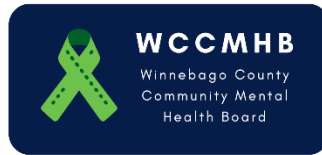
- Notes: The Board has completed site visits on all core programs. Mr. Holcomb asked for Board feedback whether they would like to continue conducting site visits annually or if that timeframe could be extended. Ms. Bragg-Shaw commented that she thinks yearly site visits are valuable in order to see firsthand how the agencies run their organization and that she learned something at each.
- Accelerator Awards: All funds have been awarded.
- HIPAA rideshare now operational with 15 agencies signed on.

**F) Action Items**

**1) June 2025 Meeting Minutes**

**Motion:** To approve the June 2025 Meeting Minutes.

- Raised by: Mr. Nabors
- Seconded by: Ms. Bragg-Shaw
- Discussion: None
  - Motion **approved** by a unanimous vote of all Board Members present.
  - Absent Board Members: Dr. Gorski, Dr. Penney, Mr. Yunus
  - Abstained Board Member: None



## 2) Fiscal Year 2026 Budget

Mr. Holcomb gave a presentation on the 2026 budget. Expended funds are now trending up, meeting revenue. He recommends reviewing funds to identify additional surplus. FY26's budget is similar to those of recent years.

Dr. Giardini underscored that the allotted administrative costs for R1 has remained at 2% — well below comparable mental health boards across the state and nation. Mr. Holcomb said that by approving the budget as presented, it also renews the contract with R1 to provide administrative services for another 12 months.

**Motion:** To approve the FY26 budget

- Raised by: Mr. Kunnert
- Seconded by: Mr. Nielsen
- Discussion: There was a discussion regarding concerns from Winnebago County Board on the R1/Mental Health Board intergovernmental agreement. General Board consensus was that R1 provides valuable services, is responsible with taxpayer dollars, and is conducting activities legally and transparently.
- Ms. Bragg-Shaw requested that Mr. Nabors return to the Winnebago County Board and communicate that anyone with concerns about the R1/Mental Health Board intergovernmental agreement attend a future meeting and Board members are willing to discuss specific concerns.

- Motion **approved** by a roll call vote.

- |                           |        |
|---------------------------|--------|
| • Andrell Bragg-Shaw:     | Aye    |
| • Dr. K. Edward Copeland: | Aye    |
| • Dr. Terry Giardini:     | Aye    |
| • Dr. Bill Gorski:        | Absent |
| • Richard Kunnert:        | Aye    |
| • Tim Nabors:             | Aye    |
| • Jeff Nielsen:           | Aye    |
| • Dr. Amanda Penney:      | Absent |
| • Mohammad Yunus:         | Absent |
| • Mary Ann Abate:         | Aye    |



**G) Discussion Items**

**1) Annual visits**

- Ms. Bragg-Shaw recommended that annual site visits continue so the Board and R1 can create better relationships with the funded agencies, which site visits encourage. Mr. Kunnert agreed, saying he wants as much cooperation and coordination with the agencies as possible. Mr. Nielsen and Dr. Giardini were also in agreement with continuing annual visits.

**H) Other Matters**

**1) Executive Session pursuant to 5ILCS 120/2(c)(11), litigation**

**Motion:** Enter executive session. Board went into executive session at 2:36 PM.

- Raised by: Mr. Nabors
- Seconded by: Dr. Giardini
- Discussion: None
  - Motion **approved** by a unanimous vote of all Board Members present.
  - Absent Board Members: Dr. Gorski, Dr. Penney, Mr. Yunus.

**Motion:** Return to open session at 3:07 PM.

- Raised by: Mr. Nabors
- Seconded by: Mr. Nielsen
- Discussion: No action taken during executive session.
  - Motion **approved** by a unanimous vote of all Board Members present.
  - Absent Board Members: Dr. Gorski, Dr. Penney, Mr. Yunus.

**I) Adjournment**

**1) Motion:** For Adjournment was carried. Adjourned at 3:09 PM.

- Raised by: Mr. Kunnert
- Seconded by: Mr. Nabors
  - Motion **approved** by a unanimous vote of all Board Members present.
  - Absent Board Members: Dr. Gorski, Dr. Penney, Mr. Yunus.