



Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board Minutes

Date: Wednesday, March 5th, 2025

Time: 2:00 PM CST

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, Margie Lindmark, 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: Present
- Dr. Terry Giardini: Present
- Dr. Bill Gorski: Present
- Richard Kunnert: Present (Left at 2:15 PM, Returned at 2:16 PM)
- Margie Lindmark: Absent
- Tim Nabors: Present (Left at 2:46 PM, Returned at 2:47 PM)
- Jeff Nielsen: Present
- Dr. Amanda Penney: Absent
- Mohammad Yunus: Absent at Roll Call (Arrived at 2:15 PM)
- Jason Holcomb: Present Present
- Guests:
 - Region 1 Planning Council: Chelsey Glatz, Alex McCann, Emily Kate
 - Rockford Barbell: Elliot Gannet, Chris Quinn
 - Rockford Fire Department: Jon Larson
 - Live4Lali: Will Crandall
 - University of Illinois College of Medicine Rockford: Kathleen Monteleone, Joe Garry
 - Rockford Park District: Jessica Steinberg



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C) Public Comment

- 1) No Public Comment

D) Presentations

- 1) No Presentations

E) Monthly Activity Report – February 2025

- 1) Jason Holcomb, WCCMHB Director, gave the February 2025 Activity Report.
 - Notes: Mr. Holcomb highlighted the Rockford Area Case Management Initiative and its Case Management Training, stating that Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board President Mary Ann Abate would attend the upcoming session on March 7th, 2025. Mr. Holcomb expressed his appreciation of the Statewide Behavioral Health Administrator, Scott Block, who gave a Sequential Intercept Map presentation at the Learning Network Collaborative #3 on February 20th, 2025.

F) Action Items

- 1) **February 2025 Meeting Minutes**

Motion: To approve the February 2025 Meeting Minutes.

- Raised by: Mr. Nabors
- Seconded by: Mr. Kunnert
- Discussion: None
 - Motion **approved** by a unanimous vote of all Board Members present.
 - Absent Board Members: Margie Lindmark, Dr. Amanda Penney, Mohammad Yunus

- 2) **Resolution 2025-X: Resolution Authorizing Audit Waiver for Program Year 4**

Mr. Holcomb explained the audit waiver for Rockford Barbell, noting that an organization representative was present to answer questions. Dr. Gorski asked the Rockford Barbell representative a question, which they answered.

Motion: To approve the Audit Waiver

- Raised by: Mr. Nielsen
- Seconded by: Dr. Giardini:
- Discussion: none
 - Motion **approved** by a unanimous vote of all Board Members present.
 - Absent Board Members: Margie Lindmark, Dr. Amanda Penney, Mohammad Yunus



3) Resolution 2025-XX Authorizing the Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board Funding and Allocation of Special Project Funds for Accelerator Award Applications

Mr. Nielsen asked a question about the Winnebago County Juvenile Detention Counseling Center project, welcoming additional Board feedback. Mr. Nielsen then motioned to amend Resolution 2025-XX to remove the project.

Motion: To amend Resolution 2025-XX and to separate the Detention Center from the Rosecrance Empowerment Hub

- Raised by: Mr. Nielsen
- Seconded by: Mrs. Bragg-Shaw
- Discussion: none
 - Motion **approved** by a unanimous vote of all Board Members present.
 - Absent Board Members: Margie Lindmark, Dr. Amanda Penney, Mohammad Yunus

Motion: To approve Resolution 2025-XX, only for Rosecrance’s Empowerment Hub project

- Raised by: Dr. Gorski
- Seconded by: Mr. Kunnert
- Discussion: none
 - Motion **approved** by a roll call vote.
 - Andrell Bragg-Shaw: Nay
 - Dr. K. Edward Copeland: Aye
 - Dr. Terry Giardini: Aye
 - Dr. Bill Gorski: Aye
 - Richard Kunnert: Aye
 - Margie Lindmark: Absent
 - Tim Nabors: Aye
 - Jeff Nielsen: Aye
 - Dr. Amanda Penney: Absent
 - Mohammad Yunus: Absent
 - Mary Ann Abate: Aye



4) Winnebago County Juvenile Detention Counseling Center Accelerator Awards Application

Mr. Nielsen clarified that there is no doubt they need the space but wants to discuss before allocating funding. Mr. Nabors indicated his belief in safe allocations since the Board distributes funds based on actual expenses submitted for reimbursement; if the money is not spent, they do not receive it. Mr. Kunnert asked Mr. Nielsen to clarify his inquiries, to which Mr. Nielsen reiterated them. Mr. Gorski asked a question about the Accelerator Awards timeline that Mr. Holcomb answered. Mr. Nielsen expressed an interest in the Juvenile Detention Counseling Center space study. Mr. Kunnert and Dr. Giardini indicated their interest in supporting the project, and Mr. Nielsen reiterated his inquiries about the project cost. Mrs. Abate asked Mr. Nielsen why he believed the project would cost less than the amount requested. Mr. Nielsen said he would like to review renovation estimates from local architects before funding the project. Mr. Nabors stated that the overall project is structured in phases, and the amount requested reflects initial stages. Dr. Gorski noted that he believed no Board Members doubted the project’s necessity, and that an additional presentation on it may be beneficial in the decision making process.

Motion: To table the Winnebago County Juvenile Detention Counseling Center Accelerator Awards Application Decision

- Raised by: Dr. Gorski
- Seconded by: Mr. Nielsen
- Discussion: The Board clarified next steps with Region 1 Planning Council staff.
 - Motion **approved** by a roll call vote.
 - Andrell Bragg-Shaw: Aye
 - Dr. K. Edward Copeland: Aye
 - Dr. Terry Giardini: Aye
 - Dr. Bill Gorski: Aye
 - Richard Kunnert: Aye
 - Margie Lindmark: Absent
 - Tim Nabors: Aye
 - Jeff Nielsen: Aye
 - Dr. Amanda Penney: Absent
 - Mohammad Yunus: Aye
 - Mary Ann Abate: Aye

Mr. Holcomb asked for clarification on how the Board would like him to proceed. It was decided to ask the Juvenile Detention Center to present for a second time at the April Board Meeting on the status of the site study. The Board Members asked about the other applications. Mr. Holcomb will follow up with the applicants.



G) Discussion Items

1) Publication of Annual Report Fiscal Year 2024

- Notes: Mr. Holcomb and Miss Glatz invited Board feedback on the drafted Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2024. Mr. Nielsen commended Region 1 Planning Council staff on the report.

2) Strategic Plan 2.0 Updates

- Notes: Mr. Holcomb presented on the Strategic Plan 2.0., referencing an incoming heuristic feedback device utilized in developing its successor. Mr. Yunus asked a question about site visit policies, and Mr. Holcomb answered using previous organization feedback. Dr. Gorski asked a question about reported metrics, which Miss Glatz answered.

3) Supported Housing Needs Assessment

- Notes: Mr. Holcomb spoke about the Guidehouse consultancy project, funded by an Accelerator Award. Dr. Gorski asked a question about data collection, and Mr. Holcomb answered.

H) Other Matters

- 1) No Other Matters

I) Adjournment

- 1) **Motion:** For Adjournment was carried. Adjourned at 3:04 PM

- Raised by: Mr. Kunnert
- Seconded by: Dr. Giardini
 - Motion **approved** by a unanimous vote of all Board Members present.
 - Absent Board Members: Margie Lindmark, Dr. Amanda Penney