



# WCCMHB

Winnebago County  
Community Mental  
Health Board

## Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board Minutes

**Date:** Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023

**Time:** 2:00 PM CST

**Location:** Region 1 Planning Council, 127 N Wyman Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 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, Wendy Larson-Bennett: Treasurer, Rev. Dr. K. Edward Copeland, Dr. Terry Giardini, Tim Nabors, Linda Sandquist

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

### Agenda:

**A. Call to Order:** Vice President Richard Kunnert called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM

### B. Roll Call

- Mary Ann Abate: Absent
- Dr. K. Edward Copeland: Absent at Roll Call, Arrived: 2:06, Left: 2:47, Returned: 2:50
- Dr. Terry Giardini: Present
- Dr. Bill Gorski: Present
- Richard Kunnert: Present
- Wendy Larson-Bennett: Present
- Tim Nabors: Absent
- Linda Sandquist: Absent
- Jason Holcomb: Present
- Guests:
  - Chelsey Glatz, Nicole Bennett: Region 1 Planning Council
  - Becky Gielow, Ebony Waller, Leandra Hudson, Brittany Szymanski, Stephanie Lynch: Youth Services Network
  - Erica Engler, Bridgett Coleman: Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling
  - Katie Lee: RAMP



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**C. Public Comment**

1. No Public Comment

**D. Presentations**

**1. Youth Services Network:**

- i. Presenter: Becky Gielow presented with Ebony Waller, Leandra Hudson, Brittany Szymanski, and Stephanie Lynch in attendance.
- ii. Notes: Ms. Gielow spoke on the YSN and the Youth Traum Clinic. Requirements to be a client, and what kind of trauma is happening. The goal of the Trauma Clinic and its staff. The most common diagnoses and what therapy is being used. Case management services staff and the services provided. Ms. Gielow covered her role as program director and her work. The services of the Trauma Clinic and the impact on the clients. How the WCCMHB funding has helped the program.
- iii. Board asked questions that the presenter answered about client numbers and trends. The after-hours and weekend requests needs have been minimal, and the Comprehensive Community-Based Youth Services (CCBYS) program handles the calls first and will refer them to the Trauma Clinic if it is a mental health need. The police refer to the staff when needed. They make referrals to other organizations for a higher level of care when needed. Early intervention connections were discussed with Children’s Home and Aid Doula and other programs.

**E. Monthly Activity Report – January & February 2023**

1. Jason Holcomb, WCCMHB Director, gave the January & February 2023 Activity Report.
  - i. Notes: We had 26 Abstracts, and Board Members reviewed them. Nicole Bennett has been leading the Grant management and site visits to the funded programs, which are about halfway through the programs. The first Mental Health Pathways Working Group, in partnership with Workforce Connections meeting, is scheduled with mental health providers and regional colleges and universities to build the workforce for mental health in Winnebago County. Chelsey Glatz initiated a proposal with Mr. Holcomb’s support to Mental Health America’s annual conference, “More Than an Event: Funding a Crisis-Response Ecosystem.” We were among about 26 selected of over 800 submissions, the top 3%. It will be in Washington, DC, in June and will be live-streamed.



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## F. Action Items

### 1. January 2023 Meeting Minutes

**Motion:** To approve the January 2023 Meeting Minutes.

- i. Raised by: Dr. Copeland
- ii. Seconded by: Dr. Gorski
- iii. Discussion: None
  - a. Motion **approved** by a unanimous vote of all Board Members present.
  - b. Absent Board Members: Mrs. Abate, Mr. Nabors, Mrs. Sandquist

### 2. Board Meeting Schedule Update

Changes allow for an opportunity to get together to spend more time talking about strategies and the future.

**Motion:** To approve the revised schedule for the year.

- i. Raised by: Dr. Gorski
- ii. Seconded by: Dr. Giardini
- iii. Discussion: None
  - a. Motion **approved** by a unanimous vote of all Board Members present.
  - b. Absent Board Members: Mrs. Abate, Mr. Nabors, Mrs. Sandquist

### 3. Board Member Manual

It was developed for future and current Board Members. Mr. Holcomb spoke that we learned about this at an ACMHAI conference. Madison County had a reference guide to help onboard new Board Members to understand the different statutory requirements, bylaws, and all the requirements. The staff thought this was best practice and developed a new manual for this Board. It was consulted with the legal council to meet their level of requirements. It should have everything a new Board Member would need to get up to speed with how we got where we are.

**Motion:** To approve the Board Member Manual.

- i. Raised by: Ms. Larson-Bennett
- ii. Seconded by: Dr. Giardini
- iii. Discussion: Before the motion.
  - a. Motion **approved** by a unanimous vote of all Board Members present.
  - b. Absent Board Members: Mrs. Abate, Mr. Nabors, Mrs. Sandquist



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**4. Resolution 2023-X: Resolution Authorizing the Winnebago County Mental Health Board Abstract Recommendations for Program Year 2023-2024**

Mr. Kunnert read the Resolution.

**Motion:** To approve the recommendations for the funding proposals.

- i. Raised by: Ms. Larson-Bennett
- ii. Seconded by: Dr. Gorski
- iii. Discussion: none.
  - a. Motion **approved** by a roll call vote.
    - Mary Ann Abate: Absent
    - Dr. K. Edward Copeland: Aye
    - Dr. Terry Giardini: Aye
    - Dr. Bill Gorski: Aye
    - Wendy Larson-Bennett: Aye
    - Tim Nabors: Absent
    - Linda Sandquist: Absent
    - Richard Kunnert: Aye



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**5. Resolution 2023-X: Resolution Authorizing Acceptance of Additional Evidence for Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling Program Year 2023-2024 Renewal Application**

Mr. Kunnert read the Resolution.

**Motion:** To approve the Resolution.

- i. Raised by: Dr. Gorski
- ii. Seconded by: Dr. Copeland
- iii. Discussion: Dr. Giardini asked for clarification. Mr. Holcomb explained that the application process this year allows for Board Members to make recommendations of eliminating funding for a continued program, maintaining funding at the current amount, reducing funding, or increasing funding. This is not to amend the application but allow for additional evidence to be considered with the application.
  - a. Motion **approved** by a roll call vote.
    - Mary Ann Abate: Absent
    - Dr. K. Edward Copeland: Aye
    - Dr. Terry Giardini: Aye
    - Dr. Bill Gorski: Aye
    - Wendy Larson-Bennett: Aye
    - Tim Nabors: Absent
    - Linda Sandquist: Absent
    - Richard Kunnert: Aye
- iv. Discussion: Mr. Larson-Bennett asked about discussing the potential amounts. Mr. Holcomb explained that the specific amounts are premature until the Board Members' feedback is received and compiled. Everything will be compiled in a big-picture scope of funding.



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**6. Resolution 2023-X: Resolution Authorizing Funded Programs' Budget Updates for Program Year 2022-2023**

Mr. Kunnert read the Resolution and explained the changes. Mr. Holcomb clarified that there is no change in the scope of work but reallocating funds to better meet the objectives of the grant.

**Motion:** To approve RAMP to make the budgetary changes.

- i. Raised by: Ms. Larson-Bennett
- ii. Seconded by: Dr. Giardini
- iii. Discussion: Dr. Gorski asked if Mr. Holcomb and Mrs. Bennett found the reallocation understandable. Both confirmed, and Mrs. Bennett identified the supporting documents that explain along with their budget.
  - a. Motion **approved** by a roll call vote.
    - Mary Ann Abate: Absent
    - Dr. K. Edward Copeland: Aye
    - Dr. Terry Giardini: Aye
    - Dr. Bill Gorski: Aye
    - Wendy Larson-Bennett: Aye
    - Tim Nabors: Absent
    - Linda Sandquist: Absent
    - Richard Kunnert: Aye



## G. Discussion Items

### 1. Publications

- i. Notes: Mr. Holcomb said we published the updated Annual Report. The Community Impact Report is for Board review. The Northwest Quarterly had a story about Criminal Justice and Mental Health in Winnebago County.

### 2. Site Visits

- i. Notes: Mrs. Bennett spoke about going on site visits to the funded programs. See the space, meet the staff, and hear from different individuals about the successes, barriers, and system concerns. Identifying the systems levels issues that the Mental Health Board could potentially assist with. Board Members stated how they liked the site visits and discussed the existing opportunities and engagement with the programs.

### 3. Application Reviews

- i. Notes: Dr. Gorski asked about the next review process. Mrs. Bennett will send all the Board Members their assignments in an email on March 6<sup>th</sup>, and they will be due on April 12<sup>th</sup>. There are holds for two by two discussions with different evaluators if that is necessary. All application updates based on the approved changes will be included for the evaluators.

## H. Other Matters

1. No Other Matters

## I. Adjournment

1. **Motion:** For Adjournment was carried. Adjourned at 3:00 PM
  - i. Raised by: Dr. Copeland
  - ii. Seconded by: Dr. Gorski
    - a. Motion **approved** by a unanimous vote of all Board Members present.
    - b. Absent Board Members: Mrs. Abate, Mr. Nabors, Mrs. Sandquist