



# WCCMHB

Winnebago County  
Community Mental  
Health Board

## Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board Minutes

**Date:** Wednesday, April 5<sup>th</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, 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
- Dr. K. Edward Copeland: Present
- Dr. Terry Giardini: Absent
- Dr. Bill Gorski: Present
- Richard Kunnert: Present
- Wendy Larson-Bennett: Absent at Roll call Arrived at 2:00
- Tim Nabors: Present
- Linda Sandquist: Present
- Mohammad Yunus: Present
- Jason Holcomb: Present
- Guests:
  - Chelsey Glatz: Region 1 Planning Council
  - Danielle Angileri, Christina Valdez: NAMI Northern Illinois (Audio)



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**C. Public Comment**

1. No Public Comment

**D. Presentations**

1. No Presentation

**E. Monthly Activity Report - March 2023**

1. Jason Holcomb, WCCMHB Director, gave the March 2023 Activity Report.
  - i. Notes: Almost done with site visits with two left. Spoke at an Association of Community Mental Health Authorities of Illinois Forum for new boards. The Mental Health event potentially planned for May will be covered later. Finalizing grant reviews for the May Board Meeting for renewal decisions.

**F. Action Items**

**1. March 2023 Meeting Minutes**

Motion: To approve the March 2023 Meeting Minutes.

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



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Community Mental  
Health Board

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

Mr. Holcomb summarized the Resolution that NAMI Northern Illinois, from their original budget, is on target to spend less on personnel due to the time-lapse to hire and for occupancy. They are in Stepping Stone's building which is now waiving the rent. The Communications Working Group is planning a mental health education and awareness event in May, which is mental health awareness month. NAMI has been able to secure a national speaker to come on May 5<sup>th</sup> at UW Sports Factory and the Park District as agreed to allow for the facility to be used for this event. There will be an opportunity for each of the funded agencies to have a booth to learn more about them. The request change will be to fund the speaker, rental equipment, and supplies that would be procured through NAMI as part of their program.

Ms. Larson-Bennett asked if this is required for the programs. Mr. Holcomb said the current contracts do not require attendance, but attendance will be strongly encouraged and could be required in future years.

Danielle Angileri and Christina Valdez of NAMI Northern Illinois were available for questions.

**Motion:** To approve the suggested changes in the budget to allow for the support for the event.

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



## G. Discussion Items

### 1. Crisis Response

- i. Notes: The 911 center has the new software and is changing how calls are handled.

### 2. Request for Quote status

- i. Notes: The reviews have been conducted for the requested items. The decision should be finalized in the next several weeks.

### 3. Workforce Shortage

- i. Notes: Board Members discussed the shortage of clinicians and the challenges of the workforce issue. The Mental Health Pathways Work Group progress was discussed and crisis peer recovery specialist training programs. The Board discussed various ways to try and address this issue. Adding a line item for special projects that could fill workforce gaps in the FY24 budget was discussed.

### 4. Promotion and Awareness

- i. Notes: The Board discussed various ways to support promotion and awareness of mental health. Board members discussed adding a line item in the budget for promotion and awareness for the FY24 budget. It was also noted that communications requirements for funded agencies have been added to contracts beginning in Program Year 2023-2024. A contracted communications specialist will develop co-branding requirements to assist with funded programs communications about programs funded with the ½ cent sales tax for mental health.

## H. Other Matters

- 1. No Other Matters

## I. Adjournment

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

- i. Raised by: Mr. Kunnert
- ii. Seconded by: Dr. Copeland
  - a. Motion **approved** by a unanimous vote of all Board Members present.
  - b. Absent Board Members: Dr. Giardini