
**CHAMPAIGN COUNTY
MENTAL HEALTH BOARD
REGULAR MEETING**

*Minutes—January 21, 2026
This meeting was held
at the Scott M. Bennett Administrative Center, Urbana, IL
and with remote access.
5:45 p.m.*

MEMBERS PRESENT: Molly McLay, Tony Nichols, Elaine Palencia, Chris Miner, Emily Rodriguez, Jane Sprandel, Jon Paul Youakim

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Alejandro Gomez, Kyle Patterson

STAFF PRESENT: Kim Bowdry, Leon Bryson, Lynn Canfield, Stephanie Howard-Gallo, Shandra Summerville

OTHERS PRESENT: Jacinda Dariotis, UIUC; Brenda Eakins, GROW in Illinois; Cindy Crawford, Community Services Center of Northern Champaign County (CSCNCC); Jessie Heckenmueller, Champaign County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC); Jessica Smith, DSC; Josh Gavel, Uniting Pride

CALL TO ORDER:

CCMHB President McLay called the meeting to order at 5:50 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The agenda was approved.

CCDDB and CCMHB SCHEDULES:

Updated copies of CCDDB and CCMHB meeting schedules and CCMHB allocation timeline were included in the packet.

MOTION: Chair McLay moved to approve the CCMHB schedule as presented in the Board packet. Mr. Nichols seconded. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed.

ACRONYMS and GLOSSARY:

A list of commonly used acronyms was included for information.

CITIZEN INPUT / PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:

CCMHB Chair Molly McLay reviewed agenda items.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS:

Ms. Canfield announced Ms. Summerville has a 10-year anniversary with Champaign County.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes from the November 19, 2025 CCMHB meeting were included in the board packet for review.

MOTION: Ms. Rodriguez moved to approve the minutes of the CCMHB's meeting November 19, 2025. Mr. Nichols seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF VENDOR INVOICE LISTS:

The Vendor Invoice List was included in the packet.

MOTION: Chair McLay moved to accept the Vendor Invoice Lists as presented in the Board packet. Ms. Rodriguez seconded. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Delayed Audits and Reviews:

A Decision Memorandum presented detailed background information as context for possible actions to be taken by the CCMHB in relation to late audits and financial reviews. Agency requests from Greater Community Aids Project (GCAP) and Uniting in Pride were attached.

After the 12/30/25 deadline, staff notified six agencies that payments would be paused. Champaign County Christian Health Center (CCCHC) replied that their audit was completed before Christmas.

It was then sent to us January 7 and is to be approved by their board January 24. ECIRMAC/The Refugee Center did not reply. FirstFollowers indicated they “are still working through the audit, and I believe we are in a better position to complete it sooner in comparison to the previous years.” Women in Need (WIN) Recovery did not reply.

Board members discussed the history of late audits as well as the option of reviewing each agency individually based on their communications with the CCMHB.

MOTION: Ms. McLay moved to waive suspension of payments on GCAP's Program Year 2026 contract due to late financial review and to authorize CCMHB staff to release January and February payments as scheduled, with a request the agency provide a verbal update on their financial review at the February CCMHB meeting. Dr. Youakim seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Miner voted nay. All other members voted aye. The motion passed.

MOTION: moved to waive suspension of payments on Uniting Pride's Program Year 2026 contract due to late financial review and to authorize CCMHB staff to release January and February payments as scheduled, with a request the agency provide a verbal update on their financial review at the February CCMHB meeting. Ms. Rodriguez seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Miner voted nay. All other members voted aye. The motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Expo Activities for 2026:

A Decision Memorandum presented an update. Director Canfield reviewed the challenges of having an Expo this year because of various issues including the recent resignation of the Expo coordinators.

MOTION: Chair McLay moved to direct CCDD-CCMHB staff to form an Advisory Committee to plan and carry out Disability Resource Expo activities, which may include an in-person event and to authorize the Executive Director to pay for related services and products using approved budgeted funds. Ms. Palencia seconded. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

AIR Activities for 2026:

A Decision Memorandum presented an update. Ebertfest organizers have a final 2-day festival planned for April 2026.

MOTION: Ms. McLay moved to approve up to \$15,000 to sponsor an anti-stigma film in Roger Ebert's Film Festival 2026 and to authorize the Executive Director and staff to issue payment. Mr.

Nichols seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

REPORTS:

Staff Reports

Staff reports were included in the packet.

Evaluation Capacity Building Project Update

An oral update from Jacinda Dariotis was provided. See resources developed by the team at <https://www.familyresiliency.illinois.edu/resources/microlearning-videos>

Community Behavioral Health Needs Assessment Activities:

The Community Health Improvement Plan was included in the packet.

Comparison of PY2025 Agency Revenues:

A report on revenue sources for funded agencies was included in the Board packet.

disAbility Resource Expo Update:

See also <https://disabilityresourceexpo.org>

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND AGENCY INPUT:

Jessica Smith from DSC introduced herself and provided an update on the Family Development program.

BOARD TO BOARD REPORTS:

Ms. Palencia updated the Board on Champaign County Community Coalition activities. Ms. Sprandel reported on a project at Community Choices.

COUNTY BOARD INPUT:

Ms. Rodriguez stated the County Board is considering re-starting the Re-entry Council.

CCDDB INPUT:

The CCDDB will meet next week.

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INPUT:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Respectfully

Submitted by: Stephanie Howard-Gallo
CCMHB/CCDDB Operations and Compliance Coordinator

**Minutes approved by the CCMHB on February 18, 2026.*