

METRO EAST REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY MINUTES

October 24, 2024

The regular stated meeting of the Metro East Regional Human Rights Authority (HRA) was called to order at 5:09p.m., Thursday, October 24th, 2024 by Karen Kelly.

This meeting was held at the Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission Metro East location.

HRA Members Present: Karen Kelly, Andrea Frazier and Georgia Rands

HRA Members Absent: Catherine Goebel, Diane Borawski, Emily Bruegge-Klein, Denise Bradley, and Felicia Voelkel. Marie Krysnoski was in attendance via Webex and not counted as present.

Guests: John Huelskamp, Executive Director of Community Link.

Staff Present: Jo Ann (Jodi) Russell-Baum. Gene Seaman was in attendance via Webex.

INTRODUCTIONS

Karen Kelly recognized that a quorum was not present.

Karen Kelly read the confidentiality statement that indicates that personally identifiable information should not be presented in public meetings in order to protect the privacy of those persons with disabilities on whose behalf the HRA conducts investigations.

Karen Kelly asked for any changes in the agenda and there were none.

MINUTES

The Open Meeting Minutes of the stated meeting of August 8, 2024 were reviewed for correction. No changes noted.

The Closed Meeting Minutes of the stated meeting of August 8, 2024, were reviewed for correction. No changes noted.

No changes noted. No vote was taken to approve minutes due to the lack of a quorum.

COMMUNICATIONS

OneNet Trainings are due.

NEW BUSINESS

Guest, John Huelskamp, was given the opportunity to speak about the Community Link substantiated report. He voiced his opposition to the substantiated findings and was given the option to submit a new response that voices his opposition. The guest was dismissed and the meeting continued in open session.

RATIFICATIONS

None

NEW COMPLAINTS: The HRA considered the following cases for acceptance:

25-070-9006 – hospital – restriction of rights

Member, Karen Kelly, made a motion to accept the complaint. Georgia Rands seconded the motion and the motion carried. Case accepted. Due to the lack of a quorum, additional votes were obtained after the meeting from Felicia Voelkel, Diane Borawski, Denise Bradley and Marie Krysnoski.

25-070-9007 – hospital – appeals/grievance process

Member, Karen Kelly, made a motion to accept the complaint. Andrea Frazier seconded the motion and the motion carried. Case accepted. Due to the lack of a quorum, additional votes were obtained after the meeting from Felicia Voelkel, Diane Borawski, Denise Bradley and Marie Krysnoski.

25-070-9008– hospital – rule 50

Member, Karen Kelly, made a motion to accept the complaint. Andrea Frazier seconded the motion and the motion carried. Case accepted. Due to the lack of a quorum, additional votes were obtained after the meeting from Felicia Voelkel, Diane Borawski, Denise Bradley and Marie Krysnoski.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The board did not enter closed session due to the lack of a quorum.

CLOSED SESSION CASE PROGRESS REPORTS REVIEWED:

17-070-9015 – Alton Mental Health Center – privilege level (report in progress)

18-070-9007 --Alton Mental Health Center – inadequate treatment/discharge planning (report in progress. Have not received additional info. that was requested)

21-070-9013 – DD Homes Network – adequate treatment/guardian notification (ready for report)
23-070-9003 -- Bryan Manor – adequate care/treatment planning (ready for report)
23-070-9006 – Gateway Regional Medical Center – ROR/Advocacy (needs policy review)
24-070-9009 -- Villas of Holly Brook – adequate and humane care (needs site visit & ROI)
25-070-9001 – Vista Care – adequate and humane care/restriction of rights/guardian notification (site visit needed)
25-070-9002 – Alton Mental Health Center – guardian notification/informed consent (site visit needed)
25-070-9006 – Alton Mental Health Center – restriction of rights
25-070-9007 – Alton Mental Health Center – appeals/grievance process
25-070-9008– Alton Mental Health Center – rule 50

CLOSED SESSION DISCUSSIONS OF DRAFT REPORT REVIEWS:

20-070-9006 – Wood River School District – special education services
23-070-9007 – Murray Center – adequate and humane care
Report is not ready to review. Additional masked records requested.
23-070-9008 -- Alton Mental Health Center– adequate and humane care

CLOSED SESSION DISCUSSION OF CASE CLOSURES:

20-070-9003 – Alton Mental Health Center -- censorship/property/restriction of rights
21-070-9004 – Alton Mental Health Center– adequate and humane care
24-070-9005 – Community Link – adequate and humane care/ROR/grievance policy
The board discussed the possibility of tabling case closure to give the agency a chance to send an additional response.
24-070-9007 – Community Link – adequate and humane care/ROR/grievance policy
The board discussed the possibility of tabling case closure to give the agency a chance to send an additional response.

MOTIONS REGARDING REPORT APPROVALS:

20-070-9006 – Wood River School District – special education services
Member, Karen Kelly, made a motion to accept case closure. Andrea Frasier seconded the motion and the motion carried. Due to the lack of a quorum, additional votes were obtained after the meeting from Felicia Voelkel, Diane Borawski, Denise Bradley and Marie Krynsoski.

23-070-9007 – Murray Center – adequate and humane care
Report is not ready for approval. Additional records requested. No vote taken.

23-070-9008 -- Alton Mental Health Center– adequate and humane care (not ready)
Report is not ready for approval. No vote taken.

MOTIONS REGARDING CASE CLOSURE:

20-070-9003 – Alton Mental Health Center -- censorship/property/restriction of rights
Member, Andrea Frazier, made a motion to accept case closure. Georgia Rands seconded the motion and the motion carried. Due to the lack of a quorum, additional votes were obtained after the meeting from Felicia Voelkel, Diane Borawski, Denise Bradley and Marie Krysnoski.

21-070-9004 – Alton Mental Health Center– adequate and humane care
Member, Karen Kelly, made a motion to accept case closure. Georgia Rands seconded the motion and the motion carried. Due to the lack of a quorum, additional votes were obtained after the meeting from Felicia Voelkel, Diane Borawski, Denise Bradley and Marie Krysnoski.

24-070-9005 & 24-070-9007-- Community Link – ROR/right to appeal
Member, Karen Kelly, made a motion to Table case closure to give Community Link the opportunity to submit a new response. Andrea Frazier seconded the motion and the motion carried. Due to the lack of a quorum, additional votes were obtained after the meeting from Felicia Voelkel, Diane Borawski, Denise Bradley and Marie Krysnoski.

OTHER BUSINESS

NONE

ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMENTS and ADJOURNMENT:

The HRA is looking for additional community outreach opportunities.

The next scheduled meeting is on December 12th, 2024 at 5:00pm at the Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission Edwardsville office.

Members agreed to adjourn meeting at 6:37 p.m.