

METRO EAST REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY MINUTES

August 14, 2025

The regular stated meeting of the Metro East Regional Human Rights Authority (HRA) was called to order at 5:02p.m., Thursday, April 10th, 2024 by Catherine Goebel.

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

HRA Members Present: Catherine Goebel, Karen Kelly, Georgia Rands, Diane Borawski, Marie Krysnoski, Emily Bruegge-Klein, Felicia Voelkel and Andrea Frazier.

HRA Members Absent: Denise Bradley.

Guests: None

Staff Present: Jo Ann (Jodi) Russell-Baum and Gene Seaman.

INTRODUCTIONS

Catherien Goebel recognized that a quorum was present.

Catherien Goebel 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.

Catherien Goebel asked for any changes in the agenda and there were none.

MINUTES

The Open Meeting Minutes of the stated meeting of April 10, 2025 were reviewed for correction. No changes noted.

Karen Kelly made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Felicia Voelkel seconded the motion and the motion carried. Minutes approved.

The Closed Meeting Minutes of the stated meeting of April 10, 2025 were reviewed for correction. No changes noted.

Karen Kelly made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Felicia Voelkel seconded the motion and the motion carried. Minutes approved.

The Open Meeting Minutes of the stated meeting of June 12, 2025 were reviewed for correction. No changes noted.

Karen Kelly made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Diane Borawski seconded the motion

and the motion carried. Minutes approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

OneNet Trainings are due by the end of the year. 2025 trainings are available in paper form and online.

NEW BUSINESS

RATIFICATIONS

NONE

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

26-070-9001 – hospital– ROR

Georgia Rands made a motion to table the complaint. Karen Kelly seconded the motion and the motion carried. Case tabled.

26-070-9002 Cila/ICF-DD – ROR/Person Centered Planning

Karen Kelly made a motion to accept the complaint. Marie Krysnoski seconded the motion and the motion carried. Case accepted.

26-070-9003 ICF-DD – personal property

Diane Borawski made a motion to table the complaint. Karen Kelly seconded the motion and the motion carried. Case tabled for further discussion.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Vote to change the October 9th meeting to October 16th due to a scheduling conflict.

Members voted by consensus to change the meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Upon a motion by Felicia Voelkel, seconded by Emily Bruegge-Klein, members, Catherine Goebel, Karen Kelly, Georgia Rands, Diane Borawski, Marie Krysnoski and Andrea Frazier, unanimously voted to enter closed session at 5:20p.m. pursuant to Section 21 of the Guardianship and Advocacy Act and Section 42 of the Open Meetings Act to discuss case progress and reports of finding.

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)

21-070-9013 – DD Homes Network – adequate treatment/guardian notification (ready for report)

23-070-9003 -- Bryan Manor – adequate care/treatment planning (waiting on additional records, ready for report)

23-070-9006 – Gateway Regional Medical Center – ROR/Advocacy (needs policy review)

23-070-9008 -- Alton Mental Health Center– adequate and humane care (report in progress)

24-070-9009 -- Villas of Holly Brook – adequate and humane care (requested additional policies)

25-070-9001 – Vista Care – adequate and humane care/restriction of rights/guardian notification (ready for report, discussed possible in person site visit)

25-070-9006 – Alton Mental Health Center – restriction of rights (ready for report)

25-070-9007 – Alton Mental Health Center – appeals/grievance process (ready for report)

25-070-9008 – Alton Mental Health Center – rule 50 (requested records)

25-070-9010 -- Alton Mental Health Center – rule 50 (schedule site visit and combine report)

25-070-9011 – Patterson House – Personal Needs Allowance (needs site visit)

CLOSED SESSION DISCUSSIONS OF DRAFT REPORT REVIEWS:

None

CLOSED SESSION DISCUSSION OF CASE CLOSURES:

23-070-9007 – Murray Center – adequate and humane care

Response was inadequate. No action taken in closed session.

25-070-9002 – Alton Mental Health Center – guardian notification/informed consent

Response lacked supportive documentation, extension requested. No action taken in closed session.

Open session reconvened at 6:05 p.m. with no action being taken in this session.

MOTIONS REGARDING REPORT APPROVALS:

None

MOTIONS REGARDING CASE CLOSURE:

23-070-9007 – Murray Center – adequate and humane care

Karen Kelly made a motion to table case closure. Andrea Frazier seconded the motion and the motion carried.

25-070-9002 – Alton Mental Health Center – guardian notification/informed consent

Felicia Voelkel made a motion to table case closure. Georgia Rands seconded the motion and the motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMENTS and ADJOURNMENT:

The HRA is looking for additional community outreach opportunities.

The next scheduled meeting has changed to October 16th, 2025 at 5:00pm at the Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission Edwardsville office.

Members agreed to adjourn meeting at 6:09p.m.