

PEORIA REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY MINUTES
May 21, 2025

The regular stated meeting of the Peoria Regional Human Rights Authority (HRA) was called to order at 10:12 am Wednesday, May 21, 2025, at Princeton Area Chamber of Commerce 435 S. Main St. Princeton, Illinois 61356.

ROLL CALL

Present: Connie Hardy, Sharon Tear, Meri Tucker, Jim Runyon, and Tracy Knight

Absent: Shannon Dault, Heather Choi, Dianna Taylor Menses and Joan Rice

Staff: Erin Nowlan

Guests: None

Connie Hardy read the confidentiality statement: Illinois law protects the privacy of those persons with disabilities on whose behalf the Human Rights Authority conducts investigations. The Authority welcomes concerned citizens wishing to present information. We remind all citizens and guests that public reference to any name, description, or other information, which would identify an eligible person or the family without consent, is strictly prohibited.

Introductions were made.

The motion was made by Meri Tucker to enter closed session at 10:20am pursuant to Section 120/2 (c) (4) and (10) of the Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 20), Section 3955/10 of the Guardianship and Advocacy Act (20 ILCS 3955) and Section 110/5 of the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act (740 ILCS 110); the motion was seconded by Tracy Knight and carried as follows: Connie Hardy – yes, Meri Tucker – yes, Jim Runyon -yes, Tracy Knight – yes, , and Sharon Tear - yes. The purpose of the closed session was to discuss preliminary case activities and confidential aspects of case. Sharon Tear arrived during closed session at 10:19am. Board returned to Open session at 11:07am having taken no action in closed session. Executive minutes were recorded. A summary of closed session includes: Case acceptance details for 25-090-9012, 25-090-9013, 25-090-9014, 25-090-9015, 24-090-9016, 25-090-9017 and 25-090-9018. Case acceptance details to discuss a draft report for case #24-090-9010, #24-090-9013, and #24-090-9015, to discuss investigation information for Case #24-090-9005, 25-090-9004, 25-090-9005, and 25-090-9011, to review and discuss provider responses to Case #24-090-9006, #24-090-9009, #24-090-9012, #24-090-9018 and #24-090-9024 to consider case closure for Case #23-090-9012.

MINUTES

Motion to approve March 19, 2025, Open Board Meeting Minutes made by Jim Runyon. Seconded by Meri Tucker. Motion passes.

Ratifications:

None

New Cases:

25-090-9012 – Hospital ED – Rights violation, occurred when a patient was denied his choice for a behavioral health admission. Was informed by the ED Physician and RN that he didn't have any rights about where to go for admission and would be going where they sent him. Motion to close case due to no release of information made by Meri Tucker. Seconded by Jim Runyon. Motion carries.

25-090-9013 – Behavioral Health Unit – Right to privacy violation, allegedly occurred when a patient was admitted for behavioral health care and had asked that the hospital not let people know he was admitted. The patient had received a call from a family member and did not understand how when he asked to not receive calls. Motion to close case due to no release of information made by Meri Tucker. Seconded by Sharon Tear. Motion carries.

25-090-9014 – Inpatient Behavioral Health Unit, Inhumane care, allegedly occurred when a patient was yelled at by the attending physician in front of others violating the patient's confidentiality and being placed on a shower restriction which required the patient to shower in front of staff in the showering space violating privacy. Motion to table case opening, due to no release of information, and send a second letter made by Tracy Knight. Seconded by Sharon Tear. Motion carries.

25-090-9015 – Community Based Supported Living Program - Inadequate discharge planning, complaint alleges a facility is discharging their residents without helping them locate alternative housing arrangements. Motion to close case – informal resolution - made by Jim Runyon. Seconded by Meri Tucker. Motion carries.

25-090-9016 - Patient rights violation, allegedly occurred when a community-based crisis team did not attempt least restrictive interventions to prevent an involuntary behavioral health admission. The complaint alleges a recipient of services was not informed of the plan for involuntary admission. Motion to table case opening pending consent to release information and send a second letter made by Tracy Knight. Seconded by Sharon Tear. Motion carries.

25-090-9017 - Patient rights violation, allegedly occurred during an involuntary admission process and care was not provided in the least restrictive environment and the recipient received unknown emergency medications during ED treatment. Motion to table case opening pending consent to release information and send a second letter made by Tracy Knight. Seconded by Meri Tucker. Motion carries.

25-090-9018 – Community Integrated Living Arrangement, 1) Inadequate care and services, the complaint alleges the agency is not providing person-centered planning to support and accommodate specialized communication needs due to disabilities of a service recipient. Complaint alleges the provider has lost batteries to hearing aids, there is a lack of staff supervision such as a1:1 to prevent injury from another resident, not providing hygiene items such as toilet paper. The agency's Implementation plan does not meet the needs of the recipient after guardian requested changes. 2) Resident rights violation, the allegation states that a recipient's rights were violated when agency administration refused guardian's request for a camera to be placed in the resident's room due to safety concerns. The Agency failed to provide a key to the home for the recipient to use. Motion to open case made by Jim Runyon, seconded by Meri Tucker. Motion carries.

Draft Reports:

24-090-9010 - CityLink/CityLift Transdev Paratransit Service – motion to approve draft report with correction and send to provider made by Jim Runyon. Seconded by Tracy Knight. Motion carries.

24-090-9013 - Carle Methodist/Proctor Hospital – motion to approve draft report with correction made by Meri Tucker. Seconded by Sharon Tear. Motion carries.

24-090-9015 - OSF Healthcare – Peoria – motion to approve draft report with correction made by Sharon Tear. Seconded by Tracy Knight. Motion carries.

Case Closures:

23-090-9012 - Knox County Jail – motion to close case and send for informational purposes made by Meri Tucker. Seconded by Jim Runyon. Second motion to make the report public made by Meri Tucker. Seconded by Tracy Knight. Motions carry. Case closed.

24-090-9006 - Illinois River Correctional Facility – motion to table case closure pending second response made by Jim Runyon. Seconded by Tracy Knight. Motion carries.

24-090-9009 - Gateway at RiverCity – motion to table case closure pending second response made by Meri Tucker. Seconded by Sharon Tear. Motion carries.

24-090-9012 - Red Oak Memory Care Center – motion to close case and make report public made by Jim Runyon. Seconded by Meri Tucker. Motion carries. Case closed.

24-090-9018 - Carle Methodist Hospital – motion to table case closure and grant a 30-day extension made by Tracy Knight. Seconded by Sharon Tear. Motion carries.

24-090-9024 - OSF St. Elizabeth – Peru – motion to table case closure and grant a 30-day extension made by Meri Tucker. Seconded by Sharon Tear. Motion carries.

Other Business:

2025 Board trainings.

Joan Rice has been appointed to the Peoria HRA and will be attending the next scheduled board meeting.

Tracy Wright, is interested in returning to the board. The board reviewed her application and due to her previous involvement with the board having been off for one year the board voted to recommend her application to serve again. Motion to recommend the application of Tracy Wright made by Jim Runyon. Seconded by Tracy Knight. Motion carries.

ADJOURNMENT

Connie Hardy adjourned the meeting at 12:01pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Choi, Secretary