

EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY MINUTES
January 9th, 2025

The regular stated meeting of the East Central Regional Human Rights Authority (HRA) was called to order at 3:02 pm on Thursday, January 9th, 2025, at the State Office Building Conference Room B, 2125 South First Street, Champaign, IL 61820.

ROLL CALL

Present: Ingrid Wheeler, Janet Manning, Sandra Dixon, Dan McCarthy, Paulette Brock, Mary Auth, and LaVeda Weidner-Cravens.

Absent: Adam Casario and Allison Frees-Williams.

Staff: Lara Davis

Guests: None

Ingrid Wheeler stated that there was a quorum present.

Ingrid Wheeler read the confidentiality statement reminded everyone that personally identifiable information should not be presented in public meetings to protect the privacy of those persons with disabilities on whose behalf the HRA conducts investigations.

INTRODUCTIONS

None

COMMUNICATION:

None

MINUTES

The September 2024 HRA Board Meeting Minutes were reviewed. Mary Auth motioned that the minutes be approved. LaVeda Weidner-Cravens seconded, and the motion carried.

The September 2024 HRA Board Executive Meeting Minutes were reviewed. Sandra Dixon motioned that the minutes be approved. Janet Manning seconded, and the motion carried.

The November 2024 HRA Board Meeting Minutes were reviewed. Paulette Brock motioned that the minutes be approved. Mary Auth seconded, and the motion carried.

The November 2024 HRA Board Executive Meeting Minutes were reviewed. Sandra Dixon motioned that the minutes be approved. LaVeda Weidner-Cravens seconded, and the motion carried.

The July, September, and November 2024 HRA Board Executive meeting Minutes were reviewed. Mary Auth motioned to keep the minutes confidential. Dan McCarthy seconded, and the motion carried.

New Business:

A. Ratifications:

1. New Complaint Ratifications:

25-060-9003 (School District) – School district failed to provide effective communication by denying a person with a disability an ADA accommodation. (Emergency case opening ratification).

Paulette Brock motioned to ratify the emergency case opening. LaVeda Weidner-Cravens seconded, and the motion carried.

25-060-9001 (Hospital Psych Unit)-Inadequate treatment including inappropriately restraining a patient. (Accepted)

LaVeda Weidner-Cravens motioned to ratify case opening. Mary Auth seconded, and the motion carried.

25-060-9004 (Hospital Psych Unit)- Inadequate admission and discharge process (Not Accepted)

Mary Auth motioned to ratify not accepting the case due to lack of a release. LaVeda Weidner-Cravens seconded, and the motion carried.

25-060-9005 (Hospital Psych Unit)- Inadequate treatment and inadequate discharge process. (Not Accepted)

Mary Auth motioned to ratify not accepting the case due to lack of a release. LaVeda Weidner-Cravens seconded, and the motion carried.

25-060-9006 (School district)- School District failed to provide effective communication by denying a person with a disability an ADA accommodation (Accepted)

Dan McCarthy motioned to ratify case openings. Sandra Dixon seconded, and the motion carried.

25-060-9007 (Jail)- Inadequate Mental Health and Medical Care. Inadequate treatment including unsanitary conditions. (Accepted)

Dan McCarthy motioned to ratify case openings. Sandra Dixon seconded, and the motion carried.

25-060-9008 (Hospital)- Inadequate treatment including failing to provide medical treatment. Inappropriate restriction of rights including administering forced emergency medication. (Tabled)

Dan McCarthy motioned to ratify tabling case openings and wait for a release. Janet Manning seconded, and the motion carried.

25-060-9009 (CILA)- Inadequate treatment planning including moving a recipient to an apartment that is not ADA compliant. (Tabled)

Sandra Dixon motioned to ratify tabling case openings and wait for a release. Ingrid Wheeler seconded, and the motion carried.

25-060-9010 (CILA)- Inadequate treatment including failing to keep residents free from abuse from a peer. (Not accepted-Handled informally)

Mary Auth motioned to ratify not accepting the case due to handling informally. Sandra Dixon seconded, and the motion carried.

25-060-9011 (Hospital)- Inadequate restriction of rights including administering forced emergency medication. (Tabled)

LaVeda Weidner-Cravens motioned to ratify tabling case openings and wait for a release. Janet Manning seconded, and the motion carried.

25-060-9012 (Developmental Center)- Inadequate treatment including lack of dental care. (Accepted)

Dan McCarthy motioned to ratify case opening. Sandra Dixon seconded, and the motion carried.

2. Accepted Reports Ratifications:

24-060-9032- Champaign Unit 4 School District

LaVeda Weidner-Cravens motioned to ratify report acceptance. Ingrid Wheeler seconded, and the motion carried.

3. Case Closure Ratifications:

24-060-9031- Champaign Unit 4 School District

Sandra Dixon motioned to ratify case closures. Janet Manning seconded, and the motion carried.

24-060-9034- Effingham County Jail

Dan McCarthy motioned to ratify case closures. Ingrid Wheeler seconded, and the motion carried.

4. Table Case Closure Ratification:

24-060-9022- Champaign Unit 4 School District

Mary Auth motioned to ratify tabling of case closure. Sandra Dixon seconded, and the motion carried.

5. New Complaints:

25-060-9008 (Hospital Psychiatric Unit) Complaint Summary: The complaint alleges the individual arrived at the facility with a head injury that the hospital failed to treat. Allegedly, the individual was made to believe he would be discharged if he agreed to give blood and urine however, the facility instead admitted the individual to the psychiatric unit. The complaint alleges the individual was injected with two shots without consent. Allegedly, the individual is not aware what medication he was given but when he woke up, he was in the psychiatric unit. Mary Auth made a motion to not accept the complaint due to lack of a release. The motion was properly seconded by Sandra Dixon. Motion carried.

25-060-9009 (CILA) Complaint Summary: The complaint alleges the individual was moved from a CILA home to an apartment with 24 hour care by facility staff. Allegedly, the individual has physical limitations, and the apartment is not ADA accessible. Allegedly, staff are now saying the apartment is not suitable for the individual and wants to move the individual back into the CILA. Mary Auth made a motion to not accept the complaint due to lack of a release. The motion was properly seconded by Dan McCarthy. Motion carried.

25-060-9011 (Hospital psychiatric unit) Complaint Summary: The complaint alleges the individual was given medication without consent. Allegedly, staff injected the individual with medication because the individual complained to staff about her food tray. Dan McCarthy made a motion to not accept the complaint due to lack of a release. The motion was properly seconded by Sandra Dixon. Motion carried.

25-060-9013 (Hospital psychiatric unit) Complaint Summary: The complaint alleges the individual was given medication without consent. Allegedly, staff injected the individual with medication that the individual is allergic to. The complaint alleges the facility is not providing medical care. Allegedly, the individual has a UTI (urinary tract infection) and an ear infection, and the facility refuses to provide medication or medical care to treat the infections. Sandra Dixon made a motion to table case opening and wait for a release. The motion was properly seconded by Ingrid Wheeler. Motion carried.

25-060-9014 (Hospital psychiatric unit) Complaint Summary: The complaint alleges the individual came to the hospital for medical care and instead the individual was involuntary admitted into the behavioral health unit. Allegedly, the individual was never seen or treated for a hip injury that brought the individual to the hospital. The complaint alleges, the individual was involuntary admitted into the hospitals behavioral health unit without cause. Allegedly, after 24 hours, the facility forced the individual to agree to voluntary admission. Paulette Brock made a motion to table case opening and wait for a release. The motion was properly seconded by Dan McCarthy. Motion carried.

25-060-9015 (CILA) Complaint Summary: The complaint states the facility developed a visitor plan for the individual without the individual or guardians input or consent. Allegedly, the plan did not allow for the individual to have her bedroom door closed while she had company. Allegedly, the guardian requested and scheduled a treatment plan meeting to set up visitor guidelines with the individual's input, but staff refused to attend the meeting. Mary Auth made a motion to accept the complaint. The motion was properly seconded by LaVeda Weidner-Cravens. Motion carried.

25-060-9016 (State Developmental Center) Complaint Summary: The complaint states the facility is failing to maintain the elevators in the building. Allegedly, the elevators have been regularly out of order for 3-4 months. Allegedly, the elevators will be fixed for a day but then be out of order again. Additionally, the complaint alleges one elevators control board is difficult needing to hold down the "down" button in order for the elevator to go up. LaVeda Weidner-Cravens made a motion to accept the complaint. The motion was properly seconded by Sandra Dixon. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

LaVeda Weidner-Cravens made a motion to enter executive session at 3:18pm pursuant to Section 120/2 (c) (4) and Section 120/2 (C) (10) to discuss preliminary case activities of the Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 20). Section 3955/21 of the Guardianship and Advocacy Act (20 ILCS 3955) allows for closed session discussion to protect the confidentiality of eligible persons and Section 110/5 of the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act (740 ILCS 110) further protects the confidentiality of persons receiving mental health and developmental disability services; the motion was seconded by Ingrid Wheeler and carried as follows: Paulette Brock – Yes; Janet Manning – Yes; Mary Auth– Yes; Dan McCarthy – Yes; Sandra Dixon – Yes. The purpose of the closed session was to discuss preliminary and confidential aspects of cases. The HRA returned to open session at 3:41pm having taken no action in closed session. Executive minutes were recorded. A summary of closed session includes case acceptance details for Case #25-060-9015 and #25-060-9016; to discuss a draft report for Case #25-060-9001, #25-060-9003, and #25-060-9006; to discuss investigation information for Case #24-060-9030, #25-060-9012, and #25-060-9002; to review and discuss provider responses to Case #24-060-9022; and to consider case closure for Case #24-060-9032.

A. Draft Report:

25-060-9003 – Champaign Unit #4 School District– Paulette Brock motioned to approve the draft report. The motion was properly seconded by Sandra Dixon. Motion carried.

25-060-9001 – OSF– Paulette Brock motioned to approve the draft report. The motion was properly seconded by Mary Auth. Motion carried.

25-060-9006 – Mahomet-Seymour School District– Mary Auth motioned to approve the draft report. The motion was properly seconded by Janet Manning. Motion carried.

B. Case Closures:

24-060-9022 – Champaign Unit #4 School District – Paulette Brock motioned to table the complaint and wait for proof of staff training. The motion was properly seconded by Mary Auth. Motion carried.

24-060-9032 – Champaign Unit #4 School District –Dan McCarthy motioned to close the case and make the report apart of the public record. The motion was properly seconded by Ingrid Wheeler. Motion carried.

C. Other Business

ADJOURNMENT

Sandra Dixon motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was properly second by Ingrid Wheeler Motion carried.

Ingrid Wheeler adjourned the meeting at 3:44pm

Respectfully Submitted,


Secretary