

EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY MINUTES
September 11th, 2025

The regular stated meeting of the East Central Regional Human Rights Authority (HRA) was called to order at 3:03 pm on Thursday, September 11th, 2025, at the State Office Building Conference Room B, 2125 South First Street, Champaign, IL 61820.

ROLL CALL

Present: Janet Manning, Sandra Dixon, Allison Frees-Williams, Adam Casario, LaVeda Weidner-Cravens, and Paulette Brock

Absent: Ingrid Wheeler, Dan McCarthy, and Mary Auth.

Staff: Gene Seaman

Guests: None

Adam Casario stated that there was a quorum present.

Adam Casario 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:

2025 HRA training was due on September 1st. Please get in proof of training asap.

MINUTES

The July 2025 HRA Board Meeting Minutes were reviewed. Sandra Dixon motioned that the minutes be approved. LaVeda Weidner-Cravens seconded, and the motion carried.

The July 2025 HRA Board Executive Meeting Minutes were reviewed. Paulette Brock motioned that the minutes be approved. Janet Manning seconded, and the motion carried.

New Business:

A. Ratifications:

1. Ratifications:

None

2. New Complaints:

26-060-9001 (CILA) – Complaint Summary: The complaint states an individual at the CILA was injured on July 4th due to lack of staff supervision resulting in the individual needing to be treated at a local hospital. Allegedly, staff are engaging in inappropriate relationships at work resulting in the lack of supervision. Allison Frees-Williams made a motion to not accept the case due to lack of information and lack of release. The motion was properly seconded by Sandra Dixon. Motion carried.

26-060-9002 (Psychiatric Hospital) – Complaint Summary: The complaint states the facility is failing to provide the necessary treatment to the patient. Allegedly, the physician does not listen to the patient's needs and threatened involuntary admission unless the patient lied about the treatment needed. The complaint alleges the facility requires patient to fill out a discharge form in order to request discharge. Allegedly, the patient asked for the discharge request from twice before staff provided it to him. Allegedly, the facility does not explain the discharge process or how to request discharge to patients. Paulette Brock made a motion to not accept the case due to lack of release. The motion was properly seconded by Adam Casario. Motion carried.

26-060-9003 (Developmental Center) – Complaint Summary: The complaint alleges the facility harassed, intimidated and retaliated against a resident for allegedly filing a complaint. Allegedly, staff falsely accused the individual of an unauthorized absence and fighting and would not allow the individual to go to work as a form of retaliation. Allegedly, the individual no longer feels safe at the facility. The complaint further alleges staff would not allow the individual to call her guardian to report the harassment and intimidation. The complaint alleges during a meeting to discuss the incident staff kept the door open for others to hear. Allegedly, staff not a part of the individuals treatment team would come in and out of the meeting listening to the individuals private health information. Sandra Dixon made a motion to accept the case. The motion was properly seconded by Janet Manning. Motion carried.

26-060-9004 (Developmental Center) – Complaint Summary: The complaint alleges the facility failed to notify the guardian of the individuals unauthorized absence. Allegedly, the individual left the unit and was later found by security. Allegedly, staff did not notify the guardian of this incident, and the guardian found out from a peer of the individuals. Sandra Dixon made a motion to accept the case. The motion was properly seconded by LaVeda Weidner-Cravens. Motion carried.

26-060-9005 (Nursing Home) – Complaint Summary: The complaint alleges the facility failed to notify guardians when residents are taken to the hospital. Allegedly, staff also fail to notify the guardian when residents die. Allison Frees-Williams made a motion to accept the case. The motion was properly seconded by LaVeda Weidner-Cravens. Motion carried.

26-060-9006 (Psychiatric Hospital) – Complaint Summary: The complaint states staff would not allow the individual to request discharge due to the individual being a minor. Allegedly, when the individual asked if the guardian could request discharge staff stated no. The complaint alleges staff would not allow the individual to call her guardian LaVeda Weidner-Cravens made a motion to accept the case. The motion was properly seconded by Adam Casario. Motion carried.

26-060-9007 (School District) – Complaint Summary: The complaint alleges staff failed to provide a draft copy of an IEP within 3 days of an IEP meeting. Allegedly, the guardian had to request a copy of the draft IEP on Sunday for a Monday IEP meeting. Additionally, the complaint alleges the draft IEP was not updated with current information. Adam Casario made a motion to table case acceptance and wait for a release. The motion was properly seconded by LaVeda Weidner-Cravens. Motion carried.

26-060-9008 (School District After School Program) – Complaint Summary: The complaint alleges the childcare program does not provide ADA accommodations to children with disabilities. Allegedly, the program does not allow students needing 1 on 1 support to attend the program. Allison Frees-Williams made a motion to accept the case. The motion was properly seconded by Adam Casario. Motion carried.

26-060-9009 (Psychiatric Hospital) – Complaint Summary: The complaint alleges the facility did not include the individual in treatment planning or allow the individual to make decision about her treatment. Allegedly, the physician refused to listen to the individual regarding medications and refused to provide a PRN. The complaint alleges staff forced the individual to agree to voluntary admission. Allegedly, staff informed them individual she had to agree to voluntary admission because staff did not want to go to court. LaVeda Weidner-Cravens made a motion to table case opening and wait for a release. The motion was properly seconded by Adam Casario. Motion carried.

26-060-9010 (Developmental Center) – Complaint Summary: The complaint alleges the facility is failing to take residents on community outings. Allegedly, the individual was not able to purchase cigarettes because staff refused to take the individual out in the community. Adam Casario made a motion to accept the case. The motion was properly seconded by Allison Frees-Williams. Motion carried.

26-060-9011 (Developmental Center) – Complaint Summary: The complaint alleges the facility is failing to follow the individuals treatment plan. Allegedly, the individual treatment plan stated the individual is to have 1 on 1 supervision for 7 days however, staff continued with the supervision after the 7 days. Paulette Brock made a motion to not accept the case due to the complaint being handled informally. The motion was properly seconded by LaVeda Weidner-Cravens. Motion carried.

26-060-9012 (Psychiatric Hospital) – Complaint Summary: The complaint alleges the individual was forced to agree to voluntary admission. Allegedly, when the individual was given the voluntary application, someone had forged his signature and staff had to use white out so the individual could actually sign the application. The complaint alleges staff refused to provide medical care for the individuals infected foot. Allegedly, staff refused to provide the individual with his medication including insulin. Paulette Brock made a motion to table case opening and wait for a release. The motion was properly seconded by Sandra Dixon. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

Allison Frees-Williams made a motion to enter executive session at 3:37pm 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 Adam Casario and carried as follows: Janet Manning– Yes; Allison Frees-Williams – Yes; Sandra Dixon – Yes; Adam Casario– Yes; Paulette Brock – Yes; LaVeda Weidner-Cravens- Yes. The purpose of the closed session was to discuss preliminary and confidential aspects of cases. The HRA returned to open session at 4:39pm having taken no action in closed session. Executive minutes were recorded. A summary of closed session includes case acceptance details for Case #26-060-9003, #26-060-9004, #26-060-9005, #26-060-9006, #26-060-9008, and #26-060-9010; to discuss a draft report for Case #25-060-9028, #25-060-9029, #25-060-9037, #25-060-9038, and #25-060-9040; and to review and discuss provider responses to Case #24-060-9030, #25-060-9002, #25-060-9014, #25-060-9017, #25-060-9018, #25-060-9020, #25-060-9024, #25-060-9027, #25-060-9030, and #25-060-9032.

A. Draft Report:

25-060-9028 – Riverside Hospital - LaVeda Weidner-Cravens motioned to approve the draft report. The motion was properly seconded by Sandra Dixon. Motion carried.

25-060-9029 – Pavilion -Sandra Dixon motioned to approve the draft report. The motion was properly seconded by Janet Manning. Motion carried.

25-060-9037 – Pavilion -Paulette Brock motioned to approve the draft report. The motion was properly seconded by Sandra Dixon. Motion carried.

25-060-9038 – Sarah Bush Hospital -Sandra Dixon motioned to approve the draft report. The motion was properly seconded by Adam Casario. Motion carried.

25-060-9040 – HRC -Janet Manning motioned to approve the draft report. The motion was properly seconded by Allison Frees-Williams. Motion carried.

B. Case Closures:

24-060-9030 – Champaign Unit #4 School District – Adam Casario motioned to close the case and send for an enforcement referral. The motion was properly seconded by Paulette Brock. Motion carried.

25-060-9002 – Champaign Unit #4 School District – Paulette Brock motioned to close the case and make the report a part of the public record. The motion was properly seconded by Sandra Dixon. Motion carried.

25-060-9014 – St Mary’s Hospital – Janet Manning motioned to accept the response, close the case and make the report a part of the public record. The motion was properly seconded by Adam Casario. Motion carried.

25-060-9017 – Marion County Horizon - LaVeda Weidner-Cravens motioned to accept the response, close the case and make the report a part of the public record. The motion was properly seconded by Sandra Dixon. Motion carried.

25-060-9018 – St Mary’s Hospital – Sandra Dixon motioned to accept the response, close the case and make the report a part of the public record. The motion was properly seconded by LaVeda Weidner-Cravens. Motion carried.

25-060-9020 Shapiro Adam Casario motioned to accept the response, close the case and make the report a part of the public record. The motion was properly seconded by Janet Manning. Motion carried.

25-060-9024 – Shapiro– Paulette Brock motioned to accept the response, close the case and make the report a part of the public record. The motion was properly seconded by LaVeda Weidner-Cravens. Motion carried.

25-060-9027 – Pavilion - LaVeda Weidner-Cravens motioned to table case closure and send a letter requesting the facility follow the recommendation. The motion was properly seconded by Adam Casario. Motion carried.

25-060-9030 – Riverside Medical Cetner – Paulette Brock motioned to accept the response, close the case and make the report a part of the public record. The motion was properly seconded by Janet Manning. Motion carried.

25-060-9032 – Shaprio Center- Sandra Dixon motioned to table case closure and send a letter requesting the facility provide a response. The motion was properly seconded by LaVeda Weidner-Cravens Motion carried.

C. Other Business

ADJOURNMENT

Paulette Brock motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was properly second by Adam Casario. Motion carried.

Adam Casario adjourned the meeting at 4:53pm

Respectfully Submitted,


Secretary