



Peabody Plaza, 701 Market St., Suite 200, St. Louis, MO 63101
 (314) 535-6964

*** MEETING MINUTES ***

City of St. Louis Mental Health Board of Trustees
 Minutes of the April 17, 2025, Hybrid Board Meeting

Trustee	Attendance	Trustee	Attendance
Donna Schmitt, Chair	Zoom	Ronald Griffin	Zoom
Robert Poirier, Vice Chair	In-person	Mario Hamell	Zoom
Julia López, Sec./Treas.	Zoom	Marcia Hayes-Harris	Absent
Andi Blaylock	Zoom	Carolyn Jackson	In-person
Terrell Carter	Absent	Cassandra Pinkston	In-person
Vander Corliss	In-person	Janice Thomas	Zoom
Linda Grayson	Zoom		

Others Attending:
 Matthew McBride, General Counsel
 Cassandra Kaufman, Executive Director
 Serena Muhammad, Deputy Director
 MHB Staff

Call to Order – The regular meeting of the City of St. Louis Mental Health Board of Trustees (MHB) was called to order at 5:46 p.m. by Board Chair Donna Schmitt.

Community Comments – James Turner of STEM on Wheels, Dr. Marvetta Butler of The Dr.'s Touch, and Darlene Sowell of Unleashing Potential each addressed the Board thanking MHB for its investment in their respective programs.

Approval of the March 2025 Board Minutes – The motion to approve the March 20, 2025, meeting minutes was made by Rob Poirier, seconded by Carolyn Jackson, and passed unanimously.

Installation of Board Officers – In accordance with MHB by-laws, officers are installed to begin their one-year terms at the annual meeting each April. Trustees approved the following slate of officers to serve one-year terms beginning April 17, 2025, through April 16, 2026:

Chair – Donna Schmitt (2nd term)
 Vice Chair – Rob Poirier (2nd term)
 Secretary/Treasurer – Julia López (2nd term)

Resolution to Update Performance Period for Multi-Year Medical Respite Funding Award – Program Committee Member Julia López presented the resolution and made the motion to update the performance period for the medical respite project’s multi-year funding award. Vander Corliss seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Funded Partner Challenges, Emerging Issues, and Trends – MHB Program Staff shared a presentation on challenges, emerging issues, and trends identified in Q2 reporting and at annual site visits with the Board.

Staff Report – Director of Prevention Partnerships Lisa Potts gave a brief overview of the Sidewalk Talk event to be held in May for Mental Health Awareness Month. Executive Director Cassandra Kaufman provided a written report on the major activities and accomplishments of the staff covering the period from March 21, 2025 – April 17, 2025. The report was posted to the Trustee Portal following the meeting.

FY26 – 28 Early Childhood Social Emotional Development Grant Discussion – Board Chair Donna Schmitt made the motion to closed a closed session for the purpose of discussing sealed bids and proposals, and related documents, or documents related to a negotiated contract , pursuant to Section 610.021(12), Revised Statutes of Missouri. Ronald Griffin seconded the motion and Chair Schmitt conducted a roll call vote to close the meeting:

<u>Trustee</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Andi Blaylock	Yes
Terrell Carter	Absent
Vander Corliss	Yes
Marcia Hayes-Harris	Absent
Linda Grayson	Yes
Ronald Griffin	Yes
Mario Hamell	Yes
Carolyn Jackson	Yes
Julia López	Yes
Cassandra Pinkston	Yes
Rob Poirier	Yes
Donna Schmitt	Yes
Janice Thomas	Yes

Deputy Director Serena Muhammad facilitated the Trustee grant review discussion for the FY26 – 28 Community Children’s Services – Early Childhood Social Emotional Development Competitive Grants. Following the meeting Trustees were to be given access to applications they originally did not review based upon their Joint Review Team assignments, so that they can ask questions and seek additional clarification at the May 15 Board Meeting. Trustees will determine which grants will be recommended for FY26 funding at the May 15 Board meeting.

Board Chair Donna Schmitt made the motion to end the closed session, seconded by Cassandra Pinkston. Chair Schmitt conducted the roll call to end the closed session:

<u>Trustee</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Andi Blaylock	Yes
Terrell Carter	Absent
Vander Corliss	Yes
Marcia Hayes-Harris	Absent
Linda Grayson	Yes

<u>Trustee</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Ronald Griffin	Yes
Mario Hamell	Yes
Carolyn Jackson	Yes
Julia López	Yes
Cassandra Pinkston	Yes
Rob Poirier	Yes
Donna Schmitt	Yes
Janice Thomas	Yes

Adjournment – There being no further business before the Board, Carolyn Jackson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Rob Poirier. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting of the City of St. Louis Mental Health Board of Trustees adjourned at 7:20 p.m.