



**Champaign County Children's Advocacy Center  
Governing Board  
Special Meeting  
Thursday, April 5, 2007  
1601 E. Main Street  
Urbana, Illinois**

***Minutes***

Members Present: State's Attorney Julia Rietz, Chair  
(In Person) Dr. Kathleen Buetow, Secretary/Treasurer, Carle Clinic  
Ms. Lisa Benson, Intensive Outreach Services Manager, Mental Health Center  
Lt. Joe Gallo, Champaign Police Department  
Chief Jerry Gamble, Mahomet Police Department  
Tara Gilman, Supervisor, Illinois Department of Children & Family Services  
Mr. Joseph Gordon, Director, Probation & Court Services Department  
Superintendent Judy Pacey, Regional Office of Education  
Lt. Bryant Seraphin, Urbana Police Department  
Dr. Deborah Townsend, Champaign County Mental Health Board (joined the meeting in progress at 9:20 a.m.)

Members Absent: Champaign County Sheriff's Office  
Rantoul Police Department  
University of Illinois Police Department

Others Attending: Sgt. Dan Morgan, Urbana Police Department  
Michael Williams, Executive Director, CAC

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**Call to Order**

After finding a quorum present, Ms. Rietz called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m.



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CHILDREN'S  
ALLIANCE®

ACCREDITED  
MEMBER

## **Public Participation**

There was no public participation.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Dr. Buetow offered a motion to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2007 Regular Meeting of the Governing Board. The motion was seconded by Chief Gamble. There was no further discussion. Motion approved.

## **Discussion on Relocation of the Children's Advocacy Center**

Ms. Rietz and Mr. Williams gave a report on the relocation of the Children's Advocacy Center. Ms. Rietz reported that she, Mr. Williams, Lt. Gallo and Lt. Seraphin toured space at the County Plaza in Urbana (across from the Courthouse) on March 22, 2007. The rent on that space is considerably higher than what we are now paying. Ms. Rietz also reported that she was contacted by C. Pius Wiebel, who is Chairman of the Champaign County Board and who also serves on the Board of the Champaign-Urbana Public Health District (CUPHD). At Mr. Wiebel's urging, Ms. Rietz and Mr. Williams met with Vito Palazzolo, the Executive Director of the CUPHD, on March 27, 2007 to discuss available space in the former Colwell Systems building, which was recently purchased by the CUPHD. That building is located on Kenyon Road in Champaign and contains approximately 100,000 square feet of space. Ms. Rietz and Mr. Williams toured the facility later that same day. The space being considered is approximately 2,200 square feet, but could be expanded to include nearby office/storage space, if necessary. In addition, the space has two separate entrances, one of which is handicapped accessible, and restrooms which would be assigned to the CAC.

On March 29, 2007, Ms. Rietz and Mr. Williams attended a Study Session of the CUPHD Board and discussed with them the possibility that the CAC could rent space from the CUPHD. At this point, Mr. Palazzolo believes that the CUPHD could rent appropriate space to the CAC at the same rent we are currently paying (\$15,000/year). The CUPHD Board appeared to be in favor of the arrangement and asked Mr. Palazzolo to provide them with additional information on the costs of the plan. The CUPHD Board is scheduled to meet again on April 9, 2007.

Mr. Denny Inman, County Administrator for Facilities, also toured the space on March 30, 2007. He believes that this might be a workable plan and he agreed to review the facilities plan and to meet with Tatman Construction Company, the firm that is remodeling the facility for CUPHD. First Assistant State's Attorney Steve Ziegler will contact with Brett Stilwell, the architect who designed the current CAC facility, to ask if he would be willing to look at the proposed space and provide input. Ms. Rietz indicated that Tatman Construction Company has architects/planners who also may be able to assist in this process.

On April 3, 2007, the CAC hosted the monthly meeting of the County Facilities Committee. Committee members expressed their support for helping to relocate the Children's Advocacy Center. In discussions with Mr. Inman, he indicated to Ms. Rietz that the County may be able to contribute approximately \$25,000 towards remodeling/relocation costs.

The Board discussed current space and possible reductions in the new facility (i.e., reducing from two interview rooms to one, downsizing the kitchen area, etc.). Dr. Townsend pointed out that many CAC clients access health care through the CUPHD and sharing space with that agency may greatly benefit our mutual clients. Ms. Rietz stated that she would have the attorneys in her Civil Division work out lease provisions with the attorney for the CUPHD, Mr. Fred Grosser.

Ms. Rietz reported that she will be meeting with Peter Tracy, Executive Director of the Mental Health Board, and Dr. Laurie Kramer of the Family Resiliency Center at the University of Illinois. It has been suggested that the Family Resiliency Center, which is located in Christopher Hall at the corner of Lincoln and Nevada in Urbana, might be able to provide temporary space for the CAC in the event that the space at CUPHD is not ready prior to the time we need to vacate our current facility (approximately August 1<sup>st</sup>).

Dr. Buetow offered a motion to support moving forward with negotiations to relocate the CAC to the CUPHD building on Kenyon Road in Champaign. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gordon. There was no further discussion and the motion was approved.

### **Communications**

Mr. Williams reported that no communications had been received on behalf of the Board.

### **Old Business**

None.

### **New Business**

None.

### **Announcements**

Mr. Williams announced that the next Regular Meeting of the Board is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 26, 2007.

Lt. Bryant announced that he has been promoted to Lt. of Investigations at the Urbana Police Department and Sgt. Dan Morgan has been named Sgt. of Investigations. Lt. Bryant introduced Sgt. Morgan to the CAC Governing Board.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael B. Williams  
Executive Director