

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD (CCMHB)

And

**CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD FOR CARE AND TREATMENT OF PERSONS WITH A
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY (CCDDB)**

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (COW) STUDY SESSION

Minutes – November 15, 2006—6:00p.m

*Illinois Terminal Building
45 East University Avenue
Champaign, IL*

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ernest Gullerud, Chair; Janet Anderson, Aillinn Dannave, Joyce Dill, Kathryn Hatfield, Deloris Henry, Mike McClellan, Mary Ann Midden, Thom Moore, Deborah Townsend

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Holly, Jordan, Michael Smith

STAFF PRESENT: Peter Tracy, Executive Director, Nancy Crawford, Mark Driscoll, Stephanie Howard-Gallo

STAFF EXCUSED: William Conlin

OTHERS PRESENT: George Roth, Consultant; Fannie Griffin, Jackie Terry, Luther Terry, Louis Turpin, Barb Tomscha, National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI); Sheila Ferguson, Bruce Barnard, Mental Health Center of Champaign County (MHC); Zelig Bartell, Depression Bi-Polar Support Association/Mental Health Center Crisis Line; Pat Greenwood, Citizen; Harold Davis, TALKS

CALL TO ORDER:

Dr. Gullerud, CCMHB Vice-President, called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes from the October 18, 2006 Committee of the Whole meeting were included in the Board packet.

MOTION: Dr. Moore moved to approve the minutes from the October 18, 2006 Committee of the Whole (COW) study session. Dr. Henry seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE STUDY SESSION:

Presentation: “Family Perspective on Mental Illness”

Dr. Gullerud, Committee Chair, introduced Dr. Dale Johnson. Dr. Johnson, a retired professor of psychology at the University of Houston and former president of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) spoke to Committee members regarding his personal and professional perspective of mental health care in the U.S.

Points of interest in Dr. Johnson’s presentation included:

- The nation’s mental health system is in fragments and, in most places, is ineffective.
- NAMI gave Illinois a failing grade for its public mental health system.
- There are not enough mental health facilities to address the needs.
- Budget cuts deprive treatment centers of trained staff.

Dr. Johnson proposed four reforms, among them creating a federally funded, state-administered cooperative extension system for mental health training. He also proposed establishing a system of sheltered workshops, that he witnessed being effective in Japan, to create occupations for people with serious mental illness.

Another reform would model after the United Kingdom and Sweden, where community mental health centers assess family caretakers and offer them training. Skills in stress management, problem solving, and communication skills are all taught. Tested and proven evidence-based practices would also be effective in the treatment of serious mental illnesses.

Dr. Johnson answered questions from Committee members, citizens and service providers following the presentation. Public testimony was heard regarding the lack of quality mental health care in our community.

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Dr. Gullerud adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully

Submitted by: _____ Approved by: _____
Stephanie Howard-Gallo Dr. Deborah Townsend
CCMHB/CCDDB Staff CCMHB Vice-President

Date: _____ Date: _____

**Minutes were approved at the 1/17/07 Committee meeting.*