

**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 – August 15, 2007—6:00 p.m.**

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

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Janet Anderson, Aillinn Dannave, Joyce Dill, Bill Gleason, Deloris Henry, Mike McClellan, Mary Ann Midden, Deborah Townsend

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Ernest Gullerud, Holly Jordan, Thom Moore, Michael Smith

**STAFF PRESENT:** Peter Tracy, Executive Director, William Conlin, Mark Driscoll, Nancy Crawford

**STAFF EXCUSED:** Stephanie Howard-Gallo

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mary Evans, Prairie Center Health Systems (PCHS); Gail Steide, Lolita Dumas, Department of Children & Family Services (DCFS); Tabitha Grace, Mahomet Area Youth Club (MAYC); Shavion Scott, Don Moyer Boys & girls Club (DMBGC); Mary Auth, Wanda Tracy, Citizens; Judge Jeffrey Ford, Circuit Court; Barbara Wysocki, County Board

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**CALL TO ORDER:**

Dr. Townsend, CCMHB Vice-President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

**CITIZEN INPUT:**

None.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Minutes from the June 20, 2007 Committee of the Whole study session were included in the Board packet.

**MOTION: Ms. Henry moved to approve the minutes from the June 20, 2007 Committee of the Whole (COW) study session. Ms. Dannave seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed.**

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE STUDY SESSION:**

**Drug Court:**

Circuit Court Judge Jeffrey Ford and Mary Evans, the Clinical Director of Adult Outpatient Services for Prairie Center Health Systems (PCHS) addressed board members and provided the background on the beginning of the Drug Court program. Drug Court was established in Champaign County in March 1999. Judge Ford has served as Drug Court's Presiding Judge since that time. He provides ongoing leadership and direction in this collaborative effort to break the cycle of substance abuse, addiction and crime.

Current Champaign County Drug Court team members include: Judge Ford, Probation, States Attorney, Public Defender, Treatment Alternatives for Safer Communities (TASC) and Prairie Center Health Systems (PCHS). Potential Drug Court participants are initially evaluated by TASC and, if found to be eligible, may be sentenced to Drug Court and community based probation. Once sentenced, participants complete a comprehensive alcohol/drug assessment at PCHS and placed in intensive substance abuse treatment services.

In addition to attending substance abuse treatment services, Drug Court participants are required to attend Drug Court each Monday afternoon, provide frequent and random drug screens, and attend sobriety-based support groups several times per week. The average length of stay for a participant graduating from Drug Court is 15 – 18 months. To date, 71 Drug Court participants have successfully graduated from the program.

In 2005, Drug Court received a federal grant through the Department of Justice; however, grant funds will be expended by the end of 2007. With the loss of these funds, Drug Court could lose the assistance of a Coordinator, maintenance of the MIS system, and funds for ongoing training of the Drug Court Team. The Drug Court Team recognizes the need for increased funding and enhanced community partnerships if the Drug Court program is to sustain its current growth and continue to expand in the future.

Three Drug Court graduates addressed Committee members. They shared their personal stories and experience involving the Drug Court program.

**BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Dr. Townsend adjourned the meeting at 7:40 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 9/19/07 meeting.*