

**Peoria County Board for the Care and Treatment
of Persons with a Developmental Disability
Minutes of
August 21, 2015**

Members Present: Gary Stella
Nora Sullivan
Joyce Harant

Others Present: Bob Baietto, County Board Liaison
Gene Huber, Peoria City/County Health Department
Kristin Grubb, Peoria City/County Health Department
Bill Atkins, Peoria County State's Attorney's Office
Brad Guidi, Camp Big Sky
Jim Runyon, Easter Seals
Patti Gratton, Community Workshop & Training Center
Kim Cornwell, EP!C

Meeting was called to order at 2:01 pm by Mr. Stella.

A motion was made by Ms. Sullivan to approve the meeting minutes of July 24, 2015. Motion was seconded by Ms. Harant. Motion carried (3, 0).

Ms. Huber reviewed the draft FY16 budget as well as the information regarding the Care & Treatment Board's fund balance. There was discussion regarding requesting that the personal property replacement tax funds be replaced with the tax levy and that the levy be increased. After much discussion, the Board requested that an amendment be made to the draft budget to ask for \$620,000.00 from property taxes. A motion was made by Ms. Harant to approve the FY16 budget as amended. Motion was seconded by Ms. Sullivan. Motion carried (3, 0).

In the next item of business, a motion was made by Ms. Harant for the next Care & Treatment Board meeting to be held at 2:00 pm on August 24th in Room 402 of the Courthouse. Motion was seconded by Ms. Sullivan. Motion carried (3, 0). The Board then discussed the presentation to be made at the Health, Public Safety & Justice Committee meeting. Mr. Stella stated that the ultimate request to the Committee will be to cease funding the Care & Treatment Board with personal property replacement tax and replace that funding with an increase to the levy rate.

Mr. Stella stated that the Autism Trust Fund Disbursement Committee is unable to meet; however, a request has been made by Easter Seals for emergency funds. Mr. Atkins stated that, since the members of the Care & Treatment Board are the same as the trustees for the Autism Trust Fund, that discussion and action could be done during this meeting or after its conclusion. Acting as trustees of the Autism Trust Fund, the group discussed the request made by Easter Seals for \$150,000.00 for FY16, which started July 1, 2015. Mr. Runyon discussed why the funds are needed. Funds have not been made available from the Autism Trust Fund Disbursement Committee and a

contract has not been received from the State of Illinois. Mr. Runyon stated that programs have been operating on reserve funds and lines of credit; however, this will be difficult to do after September. If a contract/funding is received from the State, it is not known if funds will be received in arrears. Mr. Atkins, acting as counsel for the Care & Treatment Board, expressed his agreement with the governing responsibilities of the Care & Treatment Board and that the Trustees have the power to release funds without the agreement of the Disbursement Committee. A motion was made by Ms. Sullivan for immediate disbursement of \$150,000.00 to Easter Seals. Motion was seconded by Ms. Harant. Motion carried (3, 0). A copy of the letter to Rich Firebaugh requesting the release of funds will be sent to the Chair of the Disbursement Committee.

Ms. Sullivan stated that prior year tax returns have been completed; money was owed for completion of the paperwork and fines. Mr. Atkins stated that the opinion of the State's Attorney's Office has been that for donations to be tax deductible, a 501(c)3 did not have to be established. The IRS is of the same opinion and donations to a government entity are the same as to that of a 501(c)3. There was discussion regarding the funds donated being designated specifically for autism. A change cannot be made regarding the purpose of the funds unless an agreement is made with the donors to use the funds for other purposes.

Continuous struggles of the agencies funded by the Care & Treatment Board were discussed. Mr. Runyon distributed an information sheet regarding the performance of CFC. Mr. Guidi recognized Ms. Gratton for being of the 25 Women in Leadership. He also stated that 65 people attended the Open House on August 14th at Camp Big Sky.

At 3:24 pm, a motion was made by Ms. Sullivan to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Ms. Harant. Motion carried (3, 0).