

CMHB, Moraine Township Minutes of Board Meeting October 6, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Chair Paushter at the Moraine Township Office located at 800 Central Ave, Highland Park.

The following Board Members were in attendance in person: Chair David Paushter, Acting Secretary Daniel Yohanna, Members Nora Barquin, Zach Duenow, Allison Levin, Heather Schwartz and Desmond Raftery.

Also present: Moraine Township Supervisor Nancy Chausow Shafer, Moraine Township Administrator Sanela Abazovic and resident Daniel Jenks.

Absent: Secretary Kari Guhl.

Approval of Minutes:

- Member Levin moved, seconded by Member Schwartz, the approval of minutes from the regular board meeting of September 8, 2025.

Public Comment:

- Daniel Jenks introduced himself and was welcomed by the Board. Daniel was part of the committee that developed and passed the referendum.

Presentation:

- Rachel Sacks MPH, President of *Leading Healthy Futures* (a Chicago non-profit corporation) and Lauren Knap, MS, Consultant, presented the scope and process of the project to the Board with a slide presentation.
- *Leading Healthy Futures* has worked with several governmental and health centers in the past including mental health boards.
- The project will begin with refining and supplementing the needs assessment, including reviewing the NIU survey and available online data related to our township including SPARK map, mental health distress data, suicide and overdose deaths, professional shortage areas and others.
 - They requested the committee obtain the Illinois Youth Survey from the Highland Park High School.
- A strategic plan will be developed with the committee and subcommittees of the Board.
- They will also develop and support a grant making process including the priorities for the request for proposals (RFPs), suggest a review committee and support Board recommendations.

- The process prior to making our first grant should take 6-8 months and a quarterly plan was outlined.
- The next steps are: 1) to obtain the Illinois Youth Data from the HPHS, 2) schedule virtual meetings with the standing and major committees and 3) schedule larger strategic planning meetings with the Board as a whole.

Approval of Bills:

- Member Duenow moved, seconded by Member Raftery, to approve the bills for the period September 9, 2025 to October 6, 2025 in the amount of \$13,145.00. Voting Aye by roll call vote: Chair Paushter, Acting Secretary Yohanna, Members Barquin, Duenow, Levin, Schwartz, and Raftery. Voting Nay: none. **The motion passed.**

Financial Reports:

- None

Action Items:

- Motion by Acting Secretary Yohanna to approve the agreement with Research Support Services, Inc. in the amount of \$6,205.38, seconded by Member Levin. Voting Aye by roll call vote: Chair Paushter, Acting Secretary Yohanna, Members Barquin, Duenow, Levin, Schwartz, and Raftery. Voting Nay: none. **The motion passed.**

Chair's Remarks:

- The remarks included his optimism for the progress made so far by the Board toward our goals outlined in our mission, vision and developing values.

Executive Session:

- None

Program Updates/Committee Reports:

Standing Committee Reports:

Governance: Members Yohanna and Levin

- None

Finance: Chair Paushter and Member Yohanna

- None

Grants: Chair Paushter and Member Barquin

- None

Working Group Reports:

Website/Navigation: Member Duenow and Secretary Guhl

- The website contract has been signed and material was sent by member Duenow of prototypes of the web pages. We are expecting a January start to complete the website for the public.

Convening: Members Barquin and Raftery

- Member Barquin discussed planning a meeting with leaders in the Hispanic Community of Highwood with the CMHB to discuss the feasibility and process of a focus group given the current climate of concern in the community. Members present agreed that it would be a good first step to understand if a focus group is possible and necessary at this time.

Communication/Outreach: Secretary Guhl and Member Raftery

- None

Strategic Planning: Members Levin and Schwartz

- As noted in the presentation by Leading Healthy Futures there is a process in place to develop our strategic plan.

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- The Moraine Township Board will review the levy for next year as required and make a recommendation to the CMHB. The law allows for changes in the levy amount but given our work so far, likely no change will be made. The Moraine Township Board is also responsible for approval of the budget for the Community Mental Health Board.

Staff Report:

- Administrator Abazovic informed the Board that the Moraine Township Annual Financial Report for fiscal year ending 3/31/25 is complete and available on the Moraine Township website.

Adjournment:

Member Schwartz moved, seconded by Member Duenow, adjournment of the meeting at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

/s/ Kari Guhl

Daniel Yohanna, Acting Secretary