

**Livingston County Mental Health Board**  
**708 Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic the Open Meetings Act**  
**was modified to include**  
**Conference Call Meetings as Acceptable**

**October 21, 2021 @ 4:00p.m. by Conference Call or In-Person**

**708 Board Present:** Jack Vietti, Ed Legner, Debbie Studnicki, Lynette Barnett, and Gary Beier

**708 Board Absent:** Rose Smith

**377 Board Present:** Bob McCarty and Vicki Day

**377 Board Absent:** Mary Etta Mullen

**Livingston County Board Members:** Jack Vietti

**Staff Present:** Chris Myers and Amy Zick

**Guests:** Susan Bursztznsky, Safe Journeys; Patti Haberkorn and Adeana Fox, Futures Unlimited; Joe Vaughan, IHR; Megan DeMoss, OSF; and Pam Krominga

The 708 Board meeting was called to order by Vice-President Ed Legner.

Chris Myers introduced Pam Krominga to the board. Pam has been highly recommended to finish out the term for Deb Moran. Pam informed the board she is a Fairbury resident and a retired special ed teacher for Tri-Valley High School. She was a part-time nurse at the Baby Fold in Normal before going in to teaching. Pam is very aware of many services in McLean County but not Livingston County, so she is looking forward to learning about services in our county.

It was moved by Ed Legner and seconded by Lynette Barnett to approve the September, 708 Board minutes. Motion carried.

It was moved by Lynette Barnett and seconded by Debbie Studnicki to approve the September, 708 Board check listing. Motion carried.

It was moved by Ed Legner and seconded by Gary Beier to approve the 708 Board September financial statements. Motion carried.

**Executive Director Report:**

- Chris Myers read the many thank you cards sent to the Mental Health Board from Deb Moran, IHR, Futures Unlimited's direct support staff, Mosaic homes, and Jesse's Ride.
- Chris reported the new H & E building updates. Com Ed was here Tuesday and Wednesday and turned off the power to the present building without notice. Public Health was in the middle of a clinic providing COVID and flu vaccines. Chris along with county staff and board members walked through the new building. Cabinets

were placed over the top of a vent and light in the ceiling of a cold room in the Public Health section. Now there is a wait on a new generator for the building. It looks like the move-in date will now be in December.

- Janice Golliday will be retiring on December 16<sup>th</sup>. There have been seven applicants for her position. They are all excellent candidates for the position.
- An agency in Aurora received a grant and is trying to educate more areas in the state about activating a 377 Board referendum in order to receive additional funding with a 377 Board levy.

**Old Business:**

- None.

**New Business:**

- It was moved by Gary Beier and seconded by Ed Legner to approve the appointment of Pam Krominga to finish out the term of Deb Moran's on the 708 Board. Motion carried.
- Futures Unlimited is requesting the advance of the remaining approved funding in the 708 Board Budget for FY21. It was moved by Lynette Barnett and seconded by Ed Legner to approve the advance of the balance of the Futures Unlimited funding out of the FY21 708 Board Budget. Motion carried.
- Susan Bursztnsky is requesting two-line items in the FY21 Budget of \$732 be moved into the ADV Individual line item. It was moved by Gary Beier and seconded by Lynette Barnett to approve the move of \$732 funding to the ADV Individual line item. Motion carried.

**Agency Comments:**

**Safe Journeys:**

- Susan Bursztnsky, Safe Journeys, provide free confidential services to anyone regarding support after domestic violence and/or sexual abuse. There is a 24 hour support phone line. There is shelter in a confidential location in Streator. Safe Journeys accept any sex and children. They provide medical advocates and legal advocates, not attorneys. There are counselors, not MI, but are supportive and try to make the individual feel safe. Chris and Amy were just at Safe Journeys for an audit this week. Chris thanked Susan for the services provided to our Livingston County residents.

- **Institute for Human Resources:**

Joe Vaughan announced the upcoming CARF accreditation survey the next couple weeks. Over 1500 standards are reviewed. Operation Snowflurry will be at IHR this year for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders. IHR received the American Rescue Grant requested to place a counselor in every high school an additional day per week. Now they have to find a counselor. Also, Rhonda Looney has agreed to run a recovery group to start November 4<sup>th</sup>. This will be a group like AA but not AA. Rhonda is volunteering her time. She has been in recovery herself. Eventually she would like to offer parenting and family recovery groups.

**Futures Unlimited:**

- Patty gave a brief synopsis of the many services that Futures Unlimited offers. Staffing continues to be constant problem. They have had 10 applicants and hope they will work out in CDS. They continue to interview. There are 4 CILA homes open. They do plan to have Breakfast with Santa but this year it will be a drive-through. Clients that attend Futures Unlimited are enjoying it. Clients in the CILA homes are trying to learn how to do things for themselves.

**OSF:**

- Megan DeMoss is the Behavioral Health Navigator at OSF and links people to the services that fit their needs. There is also an online therapy tool called Silver Cloud. It provides services for anxiety, depression, stress and is helpful for people who can't travel to receive such services.

It was moved by Ed Legner and seconded by Lynette Barnett to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Studnicki, Secretary Protem