

WHEELING TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD MINUTES OF  
AUGUST 14, 2024

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Mental Health Board Meeting of Wheeling Township, for August 14, 2024 was held in the Paula Ulreich Meeting Room, in the Township of Wheeling, 1616 North Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois. President Susan Hayes called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Secretary Bill Dixon called the roll and the following members were present, Bill Dixon, Jeanne Hamilton, John Lubbe, Jim Ruffatto, JoAnne Schultz & Susan Hayes.

Absent: Jack Vrett

Also, in attendance: Wheeling Township Attorney Kenneth Florey, and Wheeling Township Director of Finance and Administration Regina Stapleton.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Susan Hayes led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION #1: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES WITH CORRECTIONS TO THE ROLL CALL VOTE OF THE APPROVAL OF THE 2024 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE WHEELING TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD MEETING ON JUNE 12, 2024.**

Motion by Jim Ruffatto, seconded by Jeanne Hamilton, to approve the minutes of June 12, 2024 Wheeling Township Community Mental Health Board Meeting.

VOICE CALL VOTE: ALL AYES...

NAYS: None....Motion #1 Carried.

**CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

Tracy Sherva a resident of Arlington Heights and a member of NAMI stated she is looking forward to hearing the results of the Needs Assessment. She hopes it will identify the needs & gaps in our community. She wants to encourage the Board to set up budget planning meetings so the Board is prepared when money is levied. She also stated the Illinois Attorney General has filed a lawsuit against prescription opioid distributors & manufacturers to seek recovery for unfair practices.

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Fred Vogt said with regards to the continuing question of proper wording on the referendum from 2 years ago that if the Wheeling Township Board decides to go forward with another referendum he wants this advisory committee to be an advocate and help with the proper wording on the referendum. Bill Dixon stated that this Board is not an advisory committee but is a Statutory Board with its own powers & duties.

Arlen Gould thanked everyone for their service. He stated he wanted to comment later on an agenda item regarding legislation. Bill Dixon stated that the Policy Manual says comments are to be made under Citizens to be Heard & not under an agenda item. Wheeling Township Attorney Ken Florey commented that there was not an agenda item regarding legislation.

Arlen Gould continued with his comment. He stated he met with Supervisor Kathy Penner, Lori Granawi, Wheeling Township Attorney Ken Florey & Wheeling Township Director of Finance & Administration Regina Stapleton to discuss a new legal opinion that the Township Board received from a different law firm. He said in the response there was an indication of a need to correct the legislation of 2 years ago. Arlen has since contacted one of the key Legislators who is involved in this legislation and he has agreed to carry the ball as long as the Legislator understands what the Township Board would like. Arlen's goal is to have a Zoom meeting with the Legislator, Supervisor Kathy Penner & Wheeling Township Attorney Ken Florey to discuss the next steps & how to work together.

In response to a question from Arlen, Attorney Ken Florey said he agreed with Arlen regarding the meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Timeline for the Remainder of the year. The following are the meeting dates for the remainder of the year:

September 11  
October 2  
October 9  
October 23  
November 13

2. What is the Role of the 708 Board Moving Forward

President Susan Hayes hoped to prepare a way to read through the Needs Assessment. She stated it would be helpful to create some guidelines or criteria on how to use it so it would be easier to get a proposition for a detailed levy and it would demonstrate good faith in the community. She said she wants to look at the appropriate things that the 708 Board should be doing or addressing.

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**BOARD COMMENTS**

Jim Ruffatto questioned the recent changes to statutes of creating Community Mental Health Boards. Question 1 was the Ballot Language & question 2 was regarding PTELL. Wheeling Township Attorney Ken Florey explained that when the citizens initiated the referendum 4 language items had to be placed on the referendum. The new legislation now limits it to two. He also explained that new legislation removes Mental Health Board levies from tax caps.

**MOTION # 2 ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Jim Ruffatto, seconded by Jeanne Hamilton.

VOICE CALL VOTE: All Ayes...  
NAYES: None...Motion #2 carried

The meeting for Wednesday, August 14, 2024, was declared adjourned at 7:55 pm. The next scheduled Community Mental Health Board Meeting is set for Wednesday, September 11, 2024, at 7 pm.