Community Mental Health Board of Oak Park Township
Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2026, 7:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER
President Ann Schreiner called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Present:	Richard Carroll☐	Liz Raleigh ☒
	Trustee Eric Davis ☒	Jaimee Reggio ☒
	Brian Humphrey ☒	Nancy Staples ☒
	Janet Graf ☐	Ann Schreiner ☒
	Bruce McNulty ☒	

Staff Present: Cheryl Potts, Executive Director
Laura Brookes, Associate Director of Contracts & Partnerships
Melissa Lobring, Office Administrator

Also Present: N/A

APPROVAL OF VIRTUAL ATTENDEES
Motion: Eric Davis moved to approve virtual attendance for Bruce McNulty and Jamie Reggio to participate in the Board meeting and Liz Raleigh seconded.
Vote: A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved unanimously.

AGENDA APPROVAL
Motion: Eric Davis moved to approve the agenda as presented and Nancy Staples seconded.
Vote: A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS
None

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL
Motion: Eric Davis moved to approve the consent agenda as presented and Nancy Staples seconded.
Vote: A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS
Suicide Prevention Summit
Cheryl shared information for the upcoming Suicide Awareness Summit on 9/25 at the Hyatt Lodge in Oak Brook. CMHB is sponsoring the event with the Village of Oak Park, Oak Park Township, Riveredge Hospital, and several other partners. Registration is still open and Cheryl encouraged board members to share with their networks. There are great morning and afternoon speakers lined up, with topics focusing on first responders, suicide risk among men of color, prevention for older adults, immigration and mental health, and more. Cheryl acknowledged Laura for her leadership in helping to coordinate the event.

Disability Employment Awareness Month

October is Disability Employment Awareness Month, and similar to the previous two years, CMHB is collaborating with the OPRF Chamber of Commerce and D200 to plan events with local businesses and I/DD agencies. Partner I/DD agencies are invited to speak at Chamber events throughout the month to share the benefits of hiring individuals with disabilities. As CMHB and the Township are members of the Chamber, all board members are all welcome to attend. The event schedule is being finalized and will be shared out soon.

Dominican University Health Communication Certificate

Cheryl shared a partnership opportunity brought to CMHB from Dominican University for their new Health Communication Certificate, a pilot program for which they are hoping to partner with local 708 boards. Cheryl is bringing the proposal to the ACMHAI executive committee to share information on how the certificate could help build the behavioral health workforce. Dominican is also looking for financial support to fund a cohort of students (i.e., sponsor some of our funded agencies' staff). While CMHB does not recommend funding at this time due to the high cost, we can assist with connecting to other 708 boards. The Board discussed partnerships with universities and 708 boards being more common in southern Illinois and also wondered if a state grant might be appropriate. Brian suggested the program might consider offering a discounted rate for the first cohort. Cheryl will share the Board's feedback with the program.

ACTION ITEMS

Board Member Transition

Ann shared that Bruce has accepted a new position at Ascension Alexian Brothers as their Chief Medical Officer effective 10/5. Because Alexian Brothers is part of Ascension IL, who we fund, Bruce will be resigning from the Board to avoid a conflict of interest. Bruce is willing to stay on through December to help plan transitions with the Executive Committee and appointment of a new board member.

Motion: Nancy Staples moved that CMHB allow Bruce McNulty to serve on the Board through 12/31/26 to ensure a smooth transition and Eric Davis seconded.

Vote: A voice vote was taken the motion was approved unanimously.

Discussion: While Bruce recused himself from the discussion/vote, board members discussed his potentially remaining on the Board through the end of the year. His last meeting would be in November, as he is unavailable for October's meeting and there is no meeting in December. Board members agreed that it would be reasonable and beneficial for Bruce to continue serving through the end of the year, especially considering there are no contract votes that would pose a conflict of interest until January. Cheryl and Ann spoke with board members who ran for positions at the last Executive Committee election; Jaimee Reggio (current Secretary/Treasurer) has agreed to step into the VP position, and Janet Graf agreed to accept the Secretary/Treasurer role. For the open board member position, Cheryl and Ann will reach out to the top two candidates from the last recruitment to see if one is still interested. Cheryl will plan to circulate a candidate resume before the next Board meeting for a vote in October. Cheryl has conferred

CMHB's bylaws and the Illinois Community Mental Health Act to ensure that the process meets all obligations and will inform the Oak Park Township Manager and Supervisor.

YEMBA Event Sponsorship

Cheryl reviewed YEMBA's request for sponsorship at their annual gala on 11/5/26. Former CMHB member Mike Padavic will be honored at the event. Cheryl proposed sponsorship for the event or purchasing a given number of tickets to attend.

Motion: Eric Davis moved that CMHB approve the ticket purchase to the YEMBA gala in the amount of $500 and Liz Raleigh seconded.

Vote: A voice vote was taken the motion was approved unanimously.

Discussion: The Board discussed purchasing five event tickets at $100 each. While this number of tickets is more than typically purchased for agency events, the price is relatively low compared to other galas and five tickets will allow more board members to attend in support of honoring a former board member. Nancy expressed interest in attending. Melissa will send out an email asking Board Members to sign up for the remaining tickets on a first-come first-served basis.

FY28 Annual Funding Application

Cheryl reviewed the draft annual funding application for FY28. CMHB staff made a few changes to help clarify if a request is new or continuing, and make more explicit what has changed if a continued program. In addition, questions were added for applicants to specify which CMHB strategic plan priority areas are addressed by a proposed program.

Motion: Liz Raleigh moved that CMHB approve the FY28 Funding Application as presented and Nancy Staples seconded.

Vote: A voice vote was taken the motion was approved unanimously.

Discussion: Staff explained that the new questions were added to better capture program changes for returning applicants and to help applicants be more specific and uniform in responses as to how their programs address CMHB's strategic plan. The Board agreed with the recommended updates.

I**NFORMATION**

- **Executive Director's Report (Potts)**
  - Cheryl reviewed highlights of the July/August Executive Director's report:
    - Suicide Awareness Summit is CMHB staff's biggest focus right now (details above).
    - Planning for CRC afterschool mental wellness programming is in full swing—seven agencies have signed up to participate with sessions beginning in October.
    - D200/D97 planning for caregiver education sessions workshops is also underway; Laura Melissa are creating an events flyer to be distributed at students' IEP meetings.
    - Staff are preparing for on-site audits (9 agencies this year) with Dr. Karyn Erkfritz-Gay.

  - Cheryl is in process with the contract for person-centered planning workshops for parents of children with an I/DD.

- **President's Report (Schreiner)**
  - On behalf of the Board, Ann congratulated Bruce on his new position and thanked him for his service and willingness to remain on the Board to help with transitions over the next few months.

- **Township Report (Davis)**
  Trustee Davis shared updates from the last Oak Park Township Trustee meetings on 8/25 and 9/8:
  - OPT purchased a new bus.
  - Nutritional program is expanding (following dine-out program funding cuts).
  - River Forest Community Center lease is ending; the Township has acquired new lease space at 106 Oak Park Ave.
  - OPT secured $1 million bridge loan (no interest) to make up for property tax delay.
  - Annual financial audit complete and went well.

ADJOURN
Motion: Nancy Staples moved that CMHB adjourn the meeting and Liz Raleigh seconded.
Vote: A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.
The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jaimee Reggio, Secretary/Treasurer