OGLE COUNTY COMMUNITY

MENTAL HEALTH (708) BOARD

MINUTES OF THE

August 6, 2009 Meetings

On August 6, 2009, Kathleen Wilson, President called a meeting of the 708 Board to order at 7:30 a.m. at the Ogle County Sheriff's Office, Jefferson Street, Oregon, Illinois, at the call of the secretary and a notice given to each board member and on notice posted at the Ogle County Courthouse and Ogle County Sheriff's Office. Kathleen Wilson presided.

The secretary called the roll:

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**:** Kathleen Wilson, President, Susan Schroeder, Vice President, Emery Harmon, Laura Medlar, Wendy Howarter, Dorothy Bowers, Ogle County Board Liaison

ABSENT: Louise Hall, Treasurer and Marcia Heuer

OTHERS PRESENT: Kim James of Sinnissippi Center's Inc., Lorrie Bearrows of Ogle County Hospice, Susan Loyd of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois, Donna Moulton, Marilyn Montgomery and Ruth Carter of Help Offer Protective Environment (HOPE of Ogle County) Kathleen Kurtz and Patti Hobbs of Easter Seals Children's Development Center and Craig Carpenter of Village of Progress

The Chair announced a quorum.

Approval of Agenda: Susan Schroeder suggested adding to the Unfinished Business on the agenda to include a summary of the condition of our state funding. **Susan Schroeder moved to accept the agenda as amended. Seconded by Dorothy Bowers. Motion carried unanimously.**

Review and approval of the May minutes was done. **Dorothy Bowers moved to approve the minutes for the May meetings as presented. Seconded by Susan Schroeder. Motion carried unanimously.**

Review and approval of the agency vouchers for July and August was done**. Dorothy Bowers moved to approve the vouchers for July and August as submitted. Seconded by Susan Schroeder. Motion carried six ayes, no nays and two absent.**

After reviewing the financial report for August. **A motion was made by Susan Schroeder to approve the financial report for August as presented. Dorothy Bowers seconded. Motion carried six ayes, no nays and two absent**
Officer's Reports:

Newspaper article for August will be Easter Seals Children's Development Center.

Dorothy Bowers no new information regarding comments from Board Members.

Unfinished Business:

The video " A Crises in Caring " reported two new showings.

Kathe Wilson reported that she had given the Health Education and Welfare Committee the information that they had requested for the Funding Hearing to be held on August 28 at 8:00 am at the Ogle County Farm Bureau Building.

A followed up on the information regarding all Ogle County Service Providers having actually been cut from the State Budget: After checking with Easter Seals Susan Schroeder was assured that Ogle County was a priority and even though the cuts had been made there would still be services to the area.

Susan Schroeder gave a brief description of what the State of Illinois is up to regarding Mental Health Issues. State Grant Funding has been cut by 100% in some cases causing some facilities to close their doors. A 50% cut was very very common. Many agencies have had massive layoffs and cut programs. All the grant and aid areas were cut by 100% except one, which was cut by 57%. Many agencies are taking a risk and waiting for better news.

The Governor's plan was a general line item for the Department of Mental Health and it was about 21% less than last year and the Directors have to decide how it will be spent. As of today most agencies have not received their new contract. The message that is being sent is to serve individuals with Medicaid or if they have insurance. If you do not have insurance there is no special funding set aside for this group of individuals. The State is saying that, that is what County Funds are for. Suicide calls have dramatically increased this July.

Last week Susan's Agency called the Comptroller to talk about how soon money will start to come in because it has been a really long time since anyone has gotten paid. He told them that from the day that it hits his desk, authorized for payment with all the checks and balances,, it will be between 105 and 115 working days before checks will be released to the agencies. The Agencies are dealing with unknown contracts, less money than ever provided and no idea when they will be paid.

Kathe Wilson sent a letter to the Illinois Department of Transportation with regards to the Village of Progress for a Capital Assistance Grant for the 22-passenger van that they are applying for.

Kathe Wilson also provided Bud Wiener, Editor of The Lighthouse Newsletter information about 708 Board for an article in the newsletter.

Kathe Wilson reported that the number of responses to the Ogle County Behavioral Health Survey was very disappointing. **Emery Harmon moved to put together a broad summary of the Questionnaire to present to the HEW Committee at the funding hearing on the 28th of August. Dorothy Bowers seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

New Business:

Agency reports:

Donna Moulton outgoing and Ruth Carter the new Director of Hope – reported that she will be leaving to go to work for the DeKalb County Community Services and introduced Ruth Carter who is the new Director of Hope. Hope is in a critical situation also they have had more cuts. They are looking at a $!82,000 cut which is about 61% of the budget. They are hearing that more cuts are coming. Lots of folks are in need of help.

Lorrie Bearrows of Ogle County Hospice – the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services is asking for a look at the non-cancer diagnosis patient of all Hospices. And what that means to us relates back to 7 or 8 years ago, when we were mandated to look closer at non cancer diagnosis and treat all people under hospice care without regards to the cancer diagnosis which is easier to terminate. It is easier to estimate the length of life to a cancer patient than you can other cases. ADR is now going to Hospice Agencies and doing audits of the clients that they are serving. You are to continue to serve and once they have the audit they will hold the funds until the ADR is processed. At the present time we are serving more people. Last year in July we served 43.6 people on an average daily serve, but this July we served 63 and lots of family members with each patient. It is very difficult to continue on a day-by-day basis.

Craig Carpenter of the Village of Progress – reported that it has been a pretty good year at the Village, but as we go forward it is looking tough. Cash has been a huge problem and looks like it is going to continue. As we understand it the FY10 funds will be used to pay some of the FY09 bills. Often we were over $500,000. behind in payments from the state. Over five months at a time, which really cuts into the cash flow. We have been told that a Block Grant in the amount of $242,000 that we regularly receive will be eliminated, but now maybe re-instituted at a smaller level. The State is trying to have everything go under Medicaid so that they can get the Federal Money to match.

We listened to a Department of Human Services teleconference last week and the people in charge were still waiting to see how much money they will have and it will be a while before they decide how the money will be spent.

The sub contract bid for more work for Wahl Clipper of Sterling is going very well we are doing additional packaging with Cosco and require packaging and storing and they

are using some of the Herman Building for this process. We have been very fortunate this year to be doing these sub contracts for Wahl Clipper. It is keeping our clients working. We are very fortunate to have this to keep our people working.

Kathleen Kurtz and Patti Hobbs of Easter Seals Children's Development Center – reported much struggling. Developmental Disability Grant was cut 100%. In our family support area we only have one employee left everyone else has been laid off. Patti Hobbs is the only provider left and has a child with disabilities. I have been at the agency since 2000 and we continue to support the Ogle County Autism Group, which is going to be having a picnic on Saturday, we are working on the Mom's Retreat. Working with Northwestern Illinois Association to have a make it take it here in Ogle County, parents, teachers and other professionals to make visuals for the children. As soon as I get permission I will get this moved down here somewhere.

We have had a cut in our respite program. We were serving two families here in Ogle County and we are still working with them. I am working with two families of Rochelle that have very intensive issues, trying to keep a child from out of home placement right now. Helping to have another child hopefully receive the Medicaid Waiver that has lots of issues.

Kim James of Sinnissippi Centers, Inc - Obviously you start the Budget Planning Process prior to June 30th, and we needed to cut $400 to $500 Thousand Dollars that we needed to cut. We have been looking at ways to do that and one was no one will be getting a pay increase this year. We have reduced the match on the 401 K and these are some of the things that we did to keep the staff working. We do not really know what we are going to have to work with. On September 1st we will be starting serving only the Medicaid clients. Other clients will have to pay every time that they come in. Some clients will have to pay $50 for service. We are also making some very tough decisions and are here to serve the clients in the county. See attached schedule.

We continue to write to our Congressmen and Governor.

We did have the joint commission come in for the accreditation and we have been fully accredited.

Susan Lloyd of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois - Susan Loyd reported they had 3% reserve last year with Department of Human Services and were expecting to get them back this year, however that is not happening. It is a roller coaster, like all the other agencies we are waiting for the information to come in. The Emergency Response is supposed to be cut 20% with things have been eliminated. We do not know what we are going to be able to do.

There being no objection the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be September 3, 2009 at the Ogle County Sheriff's Office, Training Room, Jefferson Street, Oregon, IL.

Respectfully submitted,

Cecilia M. Zimmerman
Recording Secretary

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Approved: September 3, 2009

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Kathleen Wilson, President	Louise Hall, Secretary/Treasurer