

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

***Springfield Location:***

Michele Carmichael	Alan Dietrich	David Elder	Susan Fonfa
Seth Harkins	Julianna Harms	Merlin Lehman	Andrea Medley
Dee Ann Ryan	Gary Seelbach	Randy Staton	Julie Stremlau
Brooke Whitted			

***Chicago Location: (attending by Video conference)***

Robert Bloom	Kathy Briseno	Lisa Hampton	Toni Hoy
Laura Paul (non-voting)			

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

William Delgado

**STAFF PRESENT**

***Springfield Location:***

Mindy Miller	Lynn Lowder	Linda Prewitt	John Schornagel
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***Chicago Location: (attending by Video conference)***

Robert Watts

**LIAISONS PRESENT**

None

**GUESTS**

***Chicago Location: (attending by Video conference)***

Uli Senz, Genesee Lake Schools

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Harkins called the meeting to order at 9:320 a.m. Members, staff and guests in attendance introduced themselves. Chairperson Harkins welcomed Lisa Hampton to her first Authority meeting as the Designee from the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ).

**II. APPROVAL OF THH APRIL 10, 2014 AUTHORITY MINUTES**

The Authority reviewed the minutes of the April 10, 2014 Authority meeting.

**MOTION:** Gary Seelbach moved and Brooke Whitted seconded that the minutes of the April 10, 2014 Authority meeting be approved with minor amendments. The motion carried unanimously.

### III. STAFF REPORT

Director Schornagel referenced the following informational handout:

- **Staff Activity Report** for April and March, 2014.
- **Copies of the approved CRSA FY 15 Meeting Schedules.**

Director Schornagel referenced a one-page document titled “**Restore Children’s Mental Health Services**”. This document was distributed widely by Ray Connor, secondary ICG consumer, well known parent advocate for robust children’s mental health services and current Chair of the Illinois Children’s Mental Health Partnership-Residential Workgroup. Director Schornagel commented that the document is self-explanatory and mirrors ongoing concerns that CRSA has expressed about the contraction of the Individual Care Grant program in recent years. He added that as far as he is aware, the ICG program hasn’t published its FY 13 Annual Report yet. Dee Ann Ryan commented that in the FY 15 Budget seven million dollars were diverted from the ICG program to a different mental health line, possibly to be used to defray some of the cost for temporary placements for children impacted by House Bill 5598. She also expressed disappointment that many of the critical suggestions of the ICG Transformation Workgroup were not incorporated by DMH administration in a proposed revision of Rule 135. Chairperson Harkins commented that a seven million dollar reduction in the ICG line for FY 15 puts the ICG under budget even by the levels that he experienced when he became Director of the ICG program in FY 2004. Chairperson Harkins suggested that Director Schornagel write a letter on behalf of Authority drawing attention to the contraction of the ICG program and that CRSA support Ray Connor’s plea to restore the ICG program services and funding. Director Schornagel commented as DHS is actively looking to revise Rule 135 which governs the ICG program, that Rule 312, the governess community-based mental health services is also being reviewed for potential revision. Seth Harkins suggested that the CRSA continue to remain vigilant in monitoring the ICG program and responding to changes in that program.

Director Schornagel informed the Authority that CRSA Regional Coordinator, Jude DeAngelo died peacefully on May 2, 2014 following a battle with cancer. Director Schornagel recounted for the Authority that Mr. DeAngelo was the first staff person at RSA/CRSA and reviewed some of Mr. DeAngelo’s accomplishments and contributions to the Authority during his 29 years on staff. Among them are Mr. DeAngelo’s can-do attitude and his remarkable ability to bring both sides in a dispute to a common center; focusing all parties on “the best interest of the child” and averting protracted disputes and unnecessary service delays. This service mentality became an agency standard which all RSA/CRSA Coordinators strive to achieve. Director Schornagel went on to say that it is the explicit wishes of Jude and his family that no formal funeral services be held and that an informal remembrance event might be scheduled during the fall. Director Schornagel concluded that several CRSA staff members and board members are collaborating on drafting a Joint Resolution to commemorate Mr.; DeAngelo’s considerable contributions to the thousands of children and families he impacted while with RSA/CRSA.

### IV. AGENCY REPORTS

Susan Fonfa of HFS updated the Authority regarding the ongoing Illinois Medicaid Care Coordination Roll-Out Plan. Managed Care contracts have a specific requirement for Children’s Mental Health Services including Mobile Crisis Response Services that mirror the SASS Program. In addition, Susan reported that the new SASS contracts have been distributed and are in the process of being signed by providers.

Alan Dietrich of DMH reported that in the next month Kimberly Jenkins will be bringing SASS agency staff up to date on any recent changes and new direction pertaining to the SASS and ICG program. He also announced that Dessie Trohalides had recently resigned as the ICG Program Director.

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. CRSA FY 15 Appropriation Update**

Director Schornagel reported to the Authority that CRSA's FY 15 Appropriation was approved at the requested request level of \$592,300 during the final days of the FY 14 spring legislative session. He added that there is a possibility that the CRSA appropriation could change later during FY 15 as the legislature tries to reconcile overall state spending with available revenue.

**B. Legislation Update**

Director Schornagel updated the Authority on the progress of House Bill 5598, dubbed "The Custody Relinquishment Act". He informed the Authority that the bill passed unanimously in both the House and the Senate and now awaits action by the Governor. He added that the CRSA did support the bill as it progressed through the Senate. He commented that the bill has generated a considerable amount of enthusiasm because of its potential to create a timely and organized multiple-agency service pathway for families who historically feel pressured by the system and circumstances to relinquish guardianship of their children to the state to access the intensive services their children need. However he also informed the Authority that the bill was viewed with considerable skepticism at a meeting of the Mental Health Summit earlier this month because the bill, as amended in the House, falls short of making Custody Relinquishment illegal and in effect, creates a pathway around it. Summit members characterized the passage of amended bill as a victory for the state agencies that successfully killed the Voluntary Placement Agreement language which was initially proposed to create a safety net for children and families. Brooke Whitted commented that HB 5598 doesn't save money but rather shifts costs and responsibility to DCFS and DJJ. Toni Hoy, referencing the earlier ICG conversation, commented that if seven million dollars was indeed removed from the ICG line to pay for some of the costs of associated with voluntary short-term placements associated with HB 5598 that this was an encouraging sign the bill would have the desired impact on Custody Relinquishment. Dee Ann Ryan referenced FY 10 data showing that 250 million public dollars were spent to fund recurrent psychiatric hospitalizations and 50 million public dollars we spent that year on SASS; money that might otherwise have been committed to active treatment. Bob Bloom commented that the average length of stay in a psychiatric hospital is now four days, barely enough time to stabilize kids medically or behaviorally. He added that there is a negative halo around kids needing residential treatment and that there are few advocates in the system for children to receive residential treatment even though residential treatment, when used appropriately, reduces the likelihood of movement into criminal justice systems. Seth Harkins commented that the lack of advocacy for residential treatment decreases the formation of needed networks and alliances that agencies need. Dee Ann Ryan commented that while advocacy for residential treatment is important there is a need for Illinois' approach to residential treatment to be re-designed. Toni Hoy commented that not all residential treatment facilities are created equal and that some are more effective than others but it is difficult for families to find the most suitable facility for their child. Director Schornagel concluded that even though HB 5598 was watered down in the legislative process, lacking enforcement provisions and will have no observable impact on Custody Relinquishment until the spring of 2015, that it is good platform on which to build. He indicated that CRSA will continue to track the progress of HB 5598 and is ready and willing to provide input if and when relevant agencies enter into discussions to implement the bill.

Members addressed other pieces of legislation that passed during the spring session of the legislature. Bob Bloom commented on the bill that allows clinical psychologists with specific training to prescribe a range of psychoactive medications to their clients. Seth Harkins commented that both PBIS and the IATAAP have lost their funding despite the fact that they produced excellent data.

**C. Other**

None

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. CRSA Bylaws Amendment**

Chairperson Harkins reported that the FY 15 Nominating Committee met decided to retain the existing slate of Officers for a third term. He added that Nomination Committee realized that an amendment of the CRSA Bylaws would be needed eliminating term-limit restrictions, to accommodate the Nomination Committee recommendation. He added that an Executive Committee was convened on April 29, 2014 to discuss the needed bylaws amendment. The Executive Committee placed the proposed Bylaws amendment on the June Authority Agenda for consideration and possible adoption. Chairperson Harkins reported that the Nomination Committee also proposed an alternative slate of Officers for consideration, if the proposed Bylaws amendment failed to be adopted, those being Brooke Whitted as Chairperson, Julie Stremlau as Vice-Chairperson and Seth Harkins as Secretary.

Extensive discussion ensued. David Elder disagreed with the consensus reached by the Executive Committee to amend the CRSA. Mr. Elder opined that the bylaws amendment was not necessary because the current set of Officers had not yet served two full terms term due to meeting cancellations during FY 13 and FY 14. He proposed that the current Officers be permitted to continue to serve, completing their elected terms and avoiding the need to eliminate officer term-limits by amendment of the Bylaws. Several members supported that proposal. Other members shared their points of view and alternative positions. During the discussion, Julie Stremlau withdrew herself from consideration as a candidate for Vice-Chairperson of CRSA for FY 15.

**MOTION:** *Robert Bloom moved and Gary Seelbach seconded that the Authority amend the CRSA bylaws eliminating language which limits to two, the terms that CRSA Officers can serve consecutively. The Motion failed to achieve the required majority of members in a roll call vote.*

**MOTION:** *Seelbach moved and Brooke Whitted seconded that the Authority allow the current CRSA Officer to server another year as CRSA officers to complete their terms. The Motion failed to carry in a roll call vote.*

**MOTION:** *Kathy Briseno moved and Gary Seelbach seconded that the Authority amend the CRSA bylaws extending to four, the terms that CRSA Officers can serve consecutively. The Motion was withdrawn for failing to meet the written notification requirement for amending CRSA bylaws.*

David Elder reasserted his opinion that the current Officers could have and should have been permitted to continue to serve an additional year allowing them to complete their elected terms as CRSA officers.

**B. Election of Officers**

Chairperson Harkins, on behalf of the FY 15 CRSA Nominating Committee, offered the following CRSA members for consideration as CRSA FY 15 officers, Brooke Whitted as Chairperson and Seth Harkins as Secretary. He opened the floor to nominations for the position of Vice-Chairperson to complete the slate of officers. He pointing out that the candidate must be an Agency Designee to satisfy the requirements of the CRSA Bylaws. Randy Staton volunteered to serve as CRSA Vice Chairperson for FY 15.

**MOTION:** *Gary Seelbach moved and Randy Staton seconded that the slate of CRSA officers for FY 14 as proposed and volunteered be elected by the board. The motion carried with David Elder opposing.*

Chairperson Harkins thanked the Nominating Committee for their work.

**C. Executive Committee Caucuses**

Caucuses were held to determine appointments to the Executive Committee for FY 15. The following members were appointed to represent their constituencies on the CRSA Executive Committee.

**Legislative Appointees:** Kathy Briseno was appointed as primary representative to the Executive Committee and David Elder was appointed as alternate.

**Gubernatorial Appointees:** Dee Ann Ryan was appointed to be primary representative to the Executive Committee and Toni Hoy was appointed as alternate.

**Agency Appointees:** Alan Dietrich and Julie Stremlau were appointed as primary representatives to the Executive Committee and Lisa Hampton was appointed as alternate.

**D. Appointment of an Ad Hoc Procedural Guidelines Committee**

Chairperson Harkins announced the appointment of an Ad Hoc CRSA Procedural Guidelines Committee. He reviewed charge of that the Committee is tasked to complete and announced the Committee members. Seth Harkins as Committee Chairperson, and Robert Bloom, Kathy Briseno, Maureen Haugh-Stover, Dee Ann Ryan, Gary Seelbach, Julie Stremlau, and Brooke Whitted as other board members and with Linda Prewitt representing CRSA staff. Chairperson Harkins suggested that Procedural Guidelines Committee hold its first meeting on July 10, 2014 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm.

**E. Other**

None

## **VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **A. Ad Hoc Staff Evaluation Committee**

Chairperson Harkins thanked the members of Staff Evaluation Committee for their contributions to the current Performance Appraisal of Director Schornagel. He reported that the Committee recently concluded its assessment and came to consensus that Director Schornagel has exceeded expectations during the evaluation period and the Committee also made goal recommendations for Director Schornagel for the following year. These recommendations include: continuing to provide direction for the agency during a time of systems transformation, providing leadership for executive succession planning and continuing to invest in professional and personal growth. Gary Seelbach offered his compliments to the committee Chair for the interactive process through which the Evaluation Committee completed its work. Director Schornagel echoed that plaudit stating that the current Committee has satisfied all of the concerns and requirements expressed by the Policy Committee as it revised the Executive Director Evaluation process in FY10. Susan Fonfa requested a copy of the evaluation and Dr. Harkins agreed to distribute the evaluation to the Authority.

### **B. Ad Hoc External Communications Committee**

Kathy Briseno reported on behalf of the Ad Hoc Policy and Communications Committee reported that the newly formed Committee convened on May14, 2014. Dr. Briseno will serve as the Chicago Co-Chairperson of the Committee Gary Seelbach will serve as the downstate Co-Chairperson of the Committee. Dr. Briseno reported that the Committee assumes all of the functions for the prior External Communications and Policy Committees and reaffirmed that the scope of the committee will be advisory in nature, making recommendations to the Authority for consideration and possible adoption. She added that the first to be put before the committee will be to review the current CRSA population description, examining its relevance in light of original statutory intent and the needs of the current service system. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for July 10, 2014 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

### **C. Executive Committee**

Chairperson Harkins informed the Authority that many of the items discussed in Executive Committee have been covered in earlier agenda items with the following exceptions.

Chairperson Harkins informed the Executive Committee that activities would begin In August to fill the vacant CRSA Regional Coordinator position in northern Illinois. He also informed the Authority the Authority will implementing the CRSA staff Compensation Policy as written during FY 14. Chairperson Harkins reminded the Authority that planning will now proceed to schedule the CRSA FY 15 Strategic Planning Conference to occur in conjunction with the scheduled October Authority meeting.

## **VIII. OPEN DIALOGUE**

The Authority thanked Chairperson Harkins for his work as Chairperson to the Authority for the last two fiscal years. Director Schornagel observed that Dr. Harkins has presided over the work of the Authority during a turbulent time, noting that the child and adolescent service system is undergoing significant changes during a time of heightened fiscal austerity.

**IX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

**X. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

David Elder expressed his chagrin at the tone and stress level of the Authority meeting this morning. He announced that while he could not resign his CRSA posts as an Ex-officio member or as Chairperson Emeritus of the Authority, that in light of health considerations, he would not be participating in future CRSA meetings.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** *Gary Seelbach moved and Bob Bloom seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 11:25 a.m. The motion carried unanimously.*