EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY MINUTES
May 19, 2011

Chair Larry Phillips opened the March 10, 2010 meeting of the East Central Regional Human Rights Authority (HRA) at 4:00 p.m. at the Gibson City Area Hospital, West Boardroom, 1120 N Melvin, Gibson City, IL 60936. At 4:03 p.m. Mary Auth, HRA member joined the meeting. At 4:14 p.m. Annette Becherer joined the meeting. At 4:30 p.m. Sandra Kopels joined the meeting.

Members Present: Mary Auth, Annette Becherer, Sandra Dixon, Sandra Kopels, Larry Phillips and George Roth.

Members Absent: Babette Leek and William McSurley

Staff Present: Cathy Wolf

Guests: Antoinette Bohanan

Larry Phillips stated that personally identifiable information should not be presented in public meetings to protect the privacy of those persons with disabilities on whose behalf the HRA conducts investigations.

Introductions were made. A quorum was present.

Chair Larry Phillips made a motion to go into closed session at 4:25 p.m. pursuant to Section 21 of the Guardianship and Advocacy Act and Section 42 of the Open Meetings Act to allow a member of the Public to present potential complaints. The Authority returned to open session at 4:53 p.m. having taken no action in closed session.

MINUTES:
George Roth made a motion to approve the March 10, 2010 regular meeting minutes; the motion was properly seconded and carried.

The executive meeting minutes were referred back to the coordinator for revision.

COMMUNICATIONS:
None

NEW BUSINESS

Ratifications
None

New Complaints
11-060-9014: Mental Health Provider - The complaint states that a patient was seeking urgent help for a mental health condition. He started having chest pain. The crises worker called an

ambulance against the patient's wishes. The patient refused treatment with the ambulance. The police came. The patient told the police, he wanted to leave and they should respect his rights. The police put hand cuffs on the patient and he was transported by ambulance to the hospital without his consent. He now has a large ambulance bill for services that this individual did not want. A release was sent on 1/24/11 to the complainant but it has not been returned. The coordinator had not sent the second release until May 19, 2011. The HRA decided to allow the complainant to have more time to return the release.

11-060-9015: Hospital: The complaint alleges that an individual had been brought to the hospital without his consent because he was having chest pain. Allegedly the patient was made to strip naked against his wishes. He was approached about psychiatric admission, not admission for chest pain. The complaint states the patient was coerced to sign a voluntary admission. A family member also tried to convince the patient to sign a voluntary admission. The patient's arm was punctured without his consent to draw blood. He was not violent or doing anything that would provoke hospital staff to involuntarily admit him. The hospital would not let him leave from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm. He was inappropriately restrained and given drugs without his consent. The complaint states that hospital staff withheld food and water and left him naked the whole time he was there. The patient is now responsible for a hospital bill for services he did not request or need. He did find out he had chest pain from several broken ribs. A release was sent on 1/24/11 to the complainant but it has not been returned. The coordinator had not sent the second release until May 19, 2011. The HRA decided to allow the complainant to have more time to return the release.

11/060/9019: Behavioral Health Care Hospital - This complaint alleges that the hospital did not contact the parent during the admission process of her teenage daughter. When the parent attempted to contact the staff they were unresponsive. Then when the parent sent faxes to the hospital to complain about the poor process and find out information. The hospital was retaliatory. A release has been received signed by the teenager and the parent. George Roth made a motion to table the case for more information; the motion was seconded and carried.

11/060/9020: State Agency - The complaint alleges that this agency has failed to protect a 16 year old individual by providing adequate care and supports needed for this person's disability. A release was signed. The custodial parent that has medical decision making authority per court order did not make the complaint against the agency. Annette Becherer made a motion to not accept the case; the motion was seconded and carried.

11/060/9021: High School - The complaint alleges that this school has failed to provide adequate care and supports needed for a 16 year old individual's disability. The school has not followed her IEP plan. A release was signed. The custodial parent that has medical decision making authority per court order did not make the complaint against the school. Mary Auth made a motion to not accept the case; the motion was seconded and carried.

11/060/9022: Hospital Behavioral Health Care Unit - delayed admission and failed to provide treatment to an individual on the basis that he has a developmental disability. A release has been received. Mary Auth made a motion to accept the case; the motion was seconded and carried.

11/060/9023: Group Home Facility - agreed to admit an individual with a dual diagnosis, then with no notice refused to admit the individual because of his mental illness, which resulted in this person being homeless. A release has been received. Annette Becherer made a motion to not accept the case; the motion was seconded and carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

CASE PROGRESS REPORTS:

09-060-9010: Bradley School District - The report is in progress.

09-060-9011: Bourbonnais Elementary School District - The report is in progress.

09-060-9014: Center for Human Services - The report is in progress.

09-060-9015: Graywood Foundation - The report is in progress.

10-060-9005: Decatur Manor Healthcare - The report is in progress.

10-060-9017: Graywood Foundation - The report is in progress.

10-060-9004: Decatur Memorial Hospital - The report is in progress.

11-060-9009: Veteran's Administration - The report is in progress.

11-060-9010: Decatur Manor Healthcare - The report is in progress.

11-060-9011: ST Mary's Hospital - The report is in progress.

11-060-9012: The Pavilion - The report is in progress.

REPORT OF FINDINGS:

10-060-9006: Veterans Administration - Annette Becherer made a motion to approve the report; the motion was seconded and carried. Sandra Kopels abstained.

10-060-9011: Moultrie County Beacon - Annette Becherer made a motion to approve the report; the motion was seconded and carried. Sandra Kopels abstained.

CASE CLOSURES:

10-060-9014: Campion, Barrow, and Associates - George Roth made a motion to close the case making the findings a part of the public record; the motion was seconded and carried.

OTHER UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

George Roth made a motion to nominate Larry Phillips as Chairperson and Mary Auth as Vice Chairperson; the motion was seconded and carried. Larry Phillips made a motion to nominate William McSurley as the Secretary; the motion was seconded and carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS

The next meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2011 at 4:00 pm, at Provena Covenant Medical Center, Auditorium B, 1400 W Park, Urbana, IL 61801.

ADJOURNMENT:
Annette Becherer made a motion to adjourn at 5:37 p.m.; the motion was seconded and carried.

Respectfully Submitted

Cathy Wolf, Recorder

EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY
EXCUTIVE MINUTES
May 19, 2011

Pursuant to Section 21 of the Guardianship and Advocacy Act, and Section 42 of the Open Meetings Act, the East Central Regional Human Rights Authority met in closed session at 4:25 p.m. to review confidential case information related to new complaints, case progress reports, draft reports, and case closures. The closed session was held at the Gibson City Hospital, West Boardroom, 1120 N Melvin, Gibson City, IL 60936.

Members Present: Chair Larry Phillips, Vice Chair Mary Auth, Annette Becherer, Sandra Dixon, Sandra Kopels, and George Roth.

Members Absent: Babette Leek and William McSurley,

Staff Present: Cathy Wolf

Guests: Antoinette Bohannon

There were discussions of the complaints presented.

Chairperson Larry Phillips expressed gratitude to the Vice Chair Mary Auth for leading the previous meeting and shared the circumstances of why he could not attend.

10-060-9017: Graywood Foundation - The coordinator shared some the findings regarding the progress of the report and the closure of the agency.

10-060-9006: Veterans Administration - The report was discussed.

10-060-9011: Moultrie County Beacon - The report was discussed.

10-060-9014: Campion, Barrow, and Associates - It was discussed that there was no response to the report of findings.

Annette Becherer made a motion to come out of closed session. The motion was properly seconded and carried. The HRA returned to open session at 4:53 p.m. pursuant to Section 21 of the Guardianship and Advocacy Act and Section 42 of the Open Meetings Act having taken no action in closed session.

Respectfully Submitted

Cathy Wolf, Recorder