

**EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY MINUTES**  
**September 17, 2015**

Chairperson Sandra Dixon opened the September 17, 2015 meeting of the East Central Regional Human Rights Authority (HRA) at 4:04 p.m. at the State Office Building, Main Conference Room, 2125 South First Street, Champaign, IL 61820 per the Open Meetings Act.

Members Present: Chairperson Sandra Dixon, Janet Manning, Kelli Martin, Monique Smith and Robin Spalding

Members Absent: Paulette Brock and Damon Leek

Staff Present: Cathy Wolf

Guests Present: None

Chairperson Sandra Dixon 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.

**MINUTES:**

Robin Spalding made a motion to approve the July 23, 2015 meeting minutes; the motion was properly seconded and carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**NEW COMPLAINTS:**

**16-060-9001- Community Mental Health Center** – The complaint alleges that a person who was referred for outpatient mental health services was denied access because of discrimination. A release has been received, but not witnessed. This case was tabled until the next meeting so the coordinator could meet with the complainant to receive a valid release.

**16-060-9002 – Community Mental Health Center** – The complaint alleges that a person receiving services was told to “shut up” by professional staff during group therapy for no valid reason. A release has been sent, but not received. This case was tabled until the next meeting so a second release has been sent.

**16-060-9003 – Hospital** – The complaint alleges that a patient who is bi-polar, who has been receiving dialysis and has a leg amputated has been not allowed to leave that hospital for three months because he cannot receive dialysis services in the community. This patient also has had an ongoing infection with cellulitis. He has family that would like to provide care for him in

their home, but this has been denied. There is a valid release. Robin Spalding made a motion to accept the case; the motion was properly seconded and carried.

**16-060-9004 - Hospital** – Per the complaint the staff were monitoring and listening to the patient phone calls because they said she called administration repeatedly. When the patient spoke to a HRA supervisor, she said a staff person was right next to her listening to what she said. When that supervisor asked her to hand the phone over so he could talk to the staff, he heard a male say “I’m not a nurse”. Per the Mental Health Code in section 2-103, calls may be reasonably restricted only in order to prevent harm, harassment or intimidation, otherwise they must be unimpeded, private and uncensored, and communications with the GAC or any attorney may not be censored. He wanted to remind us that you only restrict, impede or censor those calls which are harmful, harassing or intimidating---not any other calls. In this case staff could have watched to see that she doesn’t dial the administration, but then move away. We have a valid release. Kelli Martin made a motion to accept the case; the motion was properly seconded and carried.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Monique Smith made a motion to go into closed session at 4:15 p.m. pursuant to Section 3955/21 of the Guardianship and Advocacy Act to discuss confidential case details regarding cases 15-070-9015 and 15-090-9012 both cases; the motion was properly seconded and carried.

#### **CASE PROGRESS REPORTS:**

**15-060-9007 – Kankakee Terrace** – The report is progress.

**15-060-9008: Mclean County Center for Human Services** – The site visit is to be scheduled.

**15-060-9009: Chestnut Health Systems** - The site visit is to be scheduled.

**15-060-9010: Saint Mary’s Hospital** - The site visit is to be scheduled.

#### **REPORT OF FINDINGS:**

None

Open session reconvened at 4:35 p.m. having taken no action in closed session.

#### **CASE CLOSURES:**

**15-060-9003 - Effingham Rehab** – Paulette made a motion to accept the report; pending the Director’s approval; the motion was properly seconded and carried.

#### **OTHER UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None

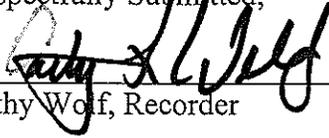
#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS:**

The next HRA meeting will be held on November 19, 2015 at the State Office Building, 2125 S First ST, Champaign, IL 61820

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Robin Spalding made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:05 p.m.; the motion was seconded and carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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Cathy Wolf, Recorder

**EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY**  
**EXECUTIVE MINUTES**  
**September 17, 2015**

Pursuant to Section 3955/21 of the Guardianship and Advocacy Act, and Section 42 of the Open Meetings Act, the East Central Regional Human Rights Authority entered closed session at 4:15 p.m. to discuss to discuss confidential case details regarding cases 15-070-9015 and 15-090-9012 both cases completed by the coordinator for other regions concerning the Division of Rehabilitations Services of the Department of Human Services. The closed session was held at the State Office Building Conference Room, at 2125 South First Street in Champaign, Illinois.

Members Present: Chairperson Sandra Dixon, Janet Manning, Kelli Martin, Monique Smith and Robin Spalding

Members Absent: Paulette Brock and Damon Leek

Staff Present: Cathy Wolf and Thomas Nguyen

Guests Present: None

Respectfully Submitted

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Cathy Wolf, Recorder