

**JO DAVIESS COUNTY**  
**708 MENTAL HEALTH BOARD**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**JUNE 10, 2026**

**I. Call to Order**

Committee Chairperson Wiecking called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM on Wednesday, June 10, 2026 in the Jo Daviess County Board Room, Jo Daviess County Courthouse in Galena, Illinois.

**II. Roll Call**

Roll Call was answered as follows: Present – Gail Gabbert, Lynn Gallagher, Joann Robinson, Tracy Wiecking. Present: 4. Present electronically: 0. Absent – Bill Hermann, Jan Kitazaki, Hollie Werner. Absent: 3.

**III. Election of President**

**A motion to nominate Member Wiecking for President was made by Gail Gabbert and seconded by Joann Robinson. The motion carried by voice vote with one abstention from Wiecking.**

**IV. Election of Secretary**

**A motion to nominate Member Gabbert for Secretary was made by Lynn Gallagher and seconded by Joann Robinson. The motion carried by voice vote with one abstention from Gabbert.**

**V. Approval of Minutes**

**A motion to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2026, Special 708 Mental Health Board meeting was made by Joann Robinson and seconded by Gail Gabbert. The motion carried by voice vote.**

**VI. Citizens' Comments**

There were no citizens' comments.

**VII. Treasurer's Report**

None.

**VIII. President's Report**

Member Tracy Wiecking clarified the intention of adopting the new Three-Year Plan and apologized for any confusion with the documents included in the meeting packet. Wiecking stated that he should have noted the document was only a draft at the moment.

**IX. Service Provider Reports**

Midwest Medical Center: Katie Meusel reported on current activities at Midwest Medical Center. A new psychiatrist has been secured to begin seeing patients in person starting in September 2026. He will collaborate directly alongside the clinic's current Certified Nurse Practitioner (CNP). Staff are intending to initiate community outreach and public awareness strategies to promote the arrival of

the new in-person psychiatrist, addressing a critical, long-standing local need. To address a historically long patient waitlist, MMC will double its counseling hours over the coming months. Weekly counseling hours currently sit at approximately 30 to 32 hours. The mental health program achieved an exceptional 510% growth rate between the years 2020 and 2026.

Riverview Center, Inc.: Coral Smart reported that they launched new adult programming and have distributed informational materials to members. The new programming is part of the organization's effort to expand awareness and access to services through free community-based offerings. From March through May, Riverview Center served 135 individuals impacted by domestic and sexual violence. Smart reported that the Program Director has attended numerous educational programs and that materials have been purchased for participants in the new program. Smart also provided updates on several initiatives and events, including the Healing Illinois grant program, which is designed to foster connection and engagement among BIPOC community members; the upcoming Community Connections event scheduled for June 30 at the ARC; and efforts to support libraries as inclusive cultural spaces. Additional updates included upcoming abuse awareness training for members of the Galena Area Chamber of Commerce on June 23, the Galena ARC's provision of space for summer programming, the placement of new informational posters in school bathrooms throughout the county, and a grant received from the Illinois Bar Foundation to assist individuals seeking plenary Orders of Protection.

The Workshop: Courtney Busch reported that the program is currently serving 13 individuals. Effective March 1, all positions were adjusted to the minimum wage rate. Participants worked a total of 1,412.75 hours and earned more than \$16,000 collectively. When not engaged in work activities, participants took part in educational and enrichment classes, including phone etiquette, internet skills, and art classes, to promote continued engagement and skill development. Recent activities included a trip to Anderson Japanese Gardens in Rockford, a Spring Fling Dance in East Dubuque in May, and a golf outing held the previous week. The organization continues to partner with Riverview Center on Healthy Relationships programming and has an autism awareness training scheduled for staff on June 25.

Tyler's Justice Center for Children: Jasmine Stoewer reported that Tyler's Justice Center continues to experience a high volume of forensic interviews. She recently participated in interviews with the Board President and Vice President to fill the vacant Forensic Coordinator/Interviewer position. The position has been vacant since January, and Stoewer has been covering those responsibilities during that time. An offer has been extended to a candidate, and the organization is excited about the opportunity to fill the vacancy. Stoewer reported that Tyler's Justice Center's 5th Annual Fundraiser/Golf Outing is scheduled for October 11th at Wolf Hollow Golf Course in Lena. She noted that case numbers have increased significantly. While she is grateful for the opportunity to provide services to those in need, the increase in cases is concerning. Stoewer also reported that the reaccreditation site visit was completed on May 21. She stated that she understands the areas identified for improvement and is committed to addressing them.

Kreider Services: Alicia Fleege reported that a roof replacement project was recently completed just prior to the severe storms experienced in the area. Several community organizations have provided

donations to support various Kreider Services initiatives, including the Park Avenue project, recreational opportunities for clients, medical needs, and improvements to residential facilities. Appreciation was expressed for the continued generosity and support received from the community. Kreider Services is launching a quarterly newsletter, which will provide updates on programs, projects, and organizational activities. Fleege also reported on a recent presentation by an individual regarding deaf culture and communication. Kreider Services is exploring a partnership to develop an introductory sign language program for staff members, with the goal of increasing accessibility and communication skills throughout the organization. Additional partnership opportunities are being explored with local organizations, including Jo Daviess County Transit and Midwest Medical Center's nursing home and assisted living facility, to host community engagement activities such as a supper club event themed "Celebrating Legends."

Sinnissippi Centers, Inc.: Coral Smart reported that the Safe-T Act continues to keep the area jail population low. In March, the facility cared for one detainee for approximately two hours, and in April, one detainee for about one hour. She noted that legislative changes anticipated for July 1 may affect future jail occupancy, and she will provide updates on any changes at the next meeting.

Rosecrance: Kari Fager was in attendance via Zoom, but could not report to the Board due to a weather emergency during the meeting.

## **X. Unfinished Business**

Member Gallagher proposed adding to Phase 1 by updating the goal of developing a centralized mental health resource directory and hotline to specify that it should be *interactive*. She noted that this suggestion emerged from the recent mental health community forum. Gabbert asked whether all items in the Three-Year Plan were ready to begin accepting proposals. Gallagher responded that the Board would need to approve all components before moving forward. Wiecking added that he would need to review the requirements for issuing requests for qualifications and determine whether specific standards must be followed. He stated he would research this and report back with additional information. **A motion to adopt and publish the new Three-Year Plan as presented, with the addition to Phase 1 specifying an interactive centralized mental health resource directory and hotline, was made by Lynn Gallagher and seconded by Gail Gabbert. The motion carried by voice vote.**

Member Wiecking proposed allowing the Board more time to discuss and finalize the Service Provider annual funding application, including the quarterly reporting process and evaluation criteria. He noted that current service providers expressed confusion regarding the intent of the updates. He clarified that because the current fiscal year is well underway and the annual 708 budget meeting is scheduled for next month, there is insufficient time to successfully implement the updates before then. In response to Member Gabbert's inquiry regarding the current format, Grants Administrator Tammy Cahill clarified that an official template does not exist, and providers currently submit requests using their own formats. Member Gallagher inquired about providing template guidance for new applicants. Wiecking stated he expects a closer-to-finalized template to be ready by the next meeting. The Board deferred final approval of the updated application and reporting criteria to allow for further review. A drafted template is expected to be presented at the next scheduled meeting. **A**

**motion to postpone the adoption of the Service Provider annual funding application to the next meeting was made by Lynn Gallagher and seconded by Joann Robinson. The motion carried by voice vote.**

#### **XI. New Business**

**A motion to approve the Q1 FY2026 Service Provider Reimbursement Request from Midwest Medical Center in the amount of \$38,750.00 was made by Joann Robinson and seconded by Gail Gabbert. The motion carried by roll call vote. Ayes – Gail Gabbert, Lynn Gallagher, Joann Robinson, Tracy Wiecking. Ayes: 4. Nays: 0. Absent – Bill Hermann, Jan Kitazaki, Hollie Werner. Absent: 3.**

**A motion to approve the Q1 FY2026 Service Provider Reimbursement Request from Riverview Center in the amount of \$15,500.00 was made by Lynn Gallagher and seconded by Gail Gabbert. The motion carried by roll call vote. Ayes – Gail Gabbert, Lynn Gallagher, Joann Robinson, Tracy Wiecking. Ayes: 4. Nays: 0. Absent – Bill Hermann, Jan Kitazaki, Hollie Werner. Absent: 3.**

**A motion to approve the Q1 FY2026 Service Provider Reimbursement Request from The Workshop in the amount of \$16,250.00 was made by Joann Robinson and seconded by Gail Gabbert. The motion carried by roll call vote. Ayes – Gail Gabbert, Lynn Gallagher, Joann Robinson, Tracy Wiecking. Ayes: 4. Nays: 0. Absent – Bill Hermann, Jan Kitazaki, Hollie Werner. Absent: 3.**

**A motion to approve the Q1 FY2026 Service Provider Reimbursement Request from Tyler's Justice Center for Children in the amount of \$4,000.00 was made by Joann Robinson and seconded by Lynn Gallagher. The motion carried by roll call vote. Ayes – Gail Gabbert, Lynn Gallagher, Joann Robinson, Tracy Wiecking. Ayes: 4. Nays: 0. Absent – Bill Hermann, Jan Kitazaki, Hollie Werner. Absent: 3.**

**Kreider Services, Inc. did not submit a Q1 FY2026 Service Provider Reimbursement Request.**

**A motion to approve the Q1 FY2026 Service Provider Reimbursement Request for Sinnissippi Centers, Inc. in the amount of \$1,950.00 was made by Gail Gabbert and seconded by Joann Robinson. The motion carried by roll call vote. Ayes – Gail Gabbert, Lynn Gallagher, Joann Robinson, Tracy Wiecking. Ayes: 4. Nays: 0. Absent – Bill Hermann, Jan Kitazaki, Hollie Werner. Absent: 3.**

**A motion to approve the Q1 FY2026 Service Provider Reimbursement Request from Rosecrance in the amount of \$11,500.00 was made by Joann Robinson and seconded by Gail Gabbert. The motion carried by roll call vote. Ayes – Gail Gabbert, Lynn Gallagher, Joann Robinson, Tracy Wiecking. Ayes: 4. Nays: 0. Absent – Bill Hermann, Jan Kitazaki, Hollie Werner. Absent: 3.**

#### **XII. Citizens' Comments**

**Terri Groezinger of Stockton was in attendance. She is a Physician Assistant who most recently worked within the Freeport Health Network and previously served on the FHN Foundation Board. She**

noted that although she is not a psychiatric nurse practitioner and did not see a high volume of patients in her former role, she provided substantial care related to mental-health concerns. She also spent three months working in the mental-health stabilization unit. Groezinger stated that homelessness is an increasing issue in the area and is often connected to mental illness. She reported that the National Academy of Physician Assistants is awarding a mental-health awareness grant at the national level, and she must survey the local population to demonstrate both the benefit and the significant need for the grant. She also shared that she operates a community garden and food pantry with the goal of providing affordable food to disadvantaged residents.

### **XIII. Board Member Concerns**

Member Gallagher reported that teams are still needed for the corn shucking event at the Galena Bicentennial Corn Boil on August 29, 2026. She noted that openings remain for teams of eight participants and encouraged anyone interested in volunteering to contact her.

### **XIV. Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn was made at 6:58 PM by Gail Gabbert and seconded by Joann Robinson. Motion carried by voice vote.

**The next meeting is Wednesday, July 8, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.**