

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE VERNON TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD OF VERNON TOWNSHIP HELD ON MARCH 27, 2023, AT 7 PM, AT THE VERNON TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING, 3050 N. MAIN ST., BUFFALO GROVE, LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS.**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by President Hossain.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Hossain led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: President Akrom Hossain, Joanne Johnson, Noelle Moore, Al Dorfman, Sally Thoren, and Sheila Sebor

A QUORUM WAS DECLARED.

4. APPOINTMENT OF BARRETT MONIE AS TEMPORARY SECRETARY FOR THE MARCH 27<sup>TH</sup> MEETING

Member Sebor moved and Member Johnson moved to appoint Barrett Monie as Temporary Secretary for the March 27<sup>th</sup> meeting. There was no discussion.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Hossain, Johnson, Moore, Sebor, Dorfman, Thoren

Nays:

Abstention:

Absent: Lewis

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments from the public.

6. REPORTS

President Hossain has been having conversations at his work with Blue Cross Blue Shield about how they can help. If they provide information to the board, he hopes that they can use it.

Member Johnson reported that she attended the ACHMAI meeting with Member Dorfman. She obtained recommendations including interviewing local stakeholders, school social workers, police social workers, etc. She recommended that joining ACHMAI in the amount of \$500 for the first year be added to the April Agenda.

Finance & Operations Committee Chair Moore provided an overview of the previous committee meeting. They narrowed down the legal proposals to two finalists for interview. Both have experience working with mental health boards and nonprofit organizations. Member Moore and Member Johnson conducted interviews and have a recommendation for the board to approve. The Committee has also reviewed the budget and have begun preparations for the fiscal year to begin in April.

Programs Committee Chair Dorfman provided an overview of the previous committee meeting. The needs assessment was discussed, and they are recommending Northern Illinois University who have been invited to present to the April Programs meeting. Member Dorfman reported that the Board will have a presence at the Lincolnshire Art Fair, Vernon Township Food Pantry Garage Sale, Buffalo Grove Farmers Market, and are looking for recommendations on other events to attend. Members Dorfman and Sebor met with the Buffalo Grove Police Chief to discuss shared services and the possibility of working with the board in the future.

Member Sebor provided an update on legislation filed by Rep. Didech, HB0475 which passed the House unanimously and is now in the Senate. Member Johnson has also been speaking with Rep. Didech about a change allowing compensated officials to serve on the Mental Health Board. Member Sebor reviewed the FY24 Social Agency Grant applicants for Vernon Township and invited Member Thoren to observe the experience. Almost \$200,000 in social agency funding provided by the Township falls under the service categories of the Mental Health Board.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JANUARY 23, 2023 AND FEBRUARY 7, 2023 MEETINGS

Member Johnson moved to approve both sets of minutes. This was seconded by Member Thoren. There was no discussion.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Hossain, Johnson, Moore, Sebor, Dorfman, Thoren

Nays:

Abstention:

Absent: Lewis

8. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF FY2024 MEETING CALENDAR

Member Moore moved to approve the FY2024 Meeting Calendar as presented. Member Johnson second the motion. There was no discussion.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Hossain, Johnson, Moore, Sebor, Dorfman, Thoren

Nays:

Abstention:

Absent: Lewis

9. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF BOARD WEBSITE DOMAIN

There was discussion about buying multiple domain names to prevent someone else buying them. Once the website is purchased, Township Manager Gedville will contact the Township's web host and website providers to set up emails and set it to direct to a specific space of the Vernon Township website. Member Dorfman moved to purchase vtcmb.com and btcmb.org. This was seconded by Member Johnson.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Hossain, Johnson, Moore, Sebor, Dorfman, Thoren

Nays:

Abstention:

Absent: Lewis

10. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF LEGAL SERVICES FIRM

Member Moore moved to hire Bond Dickson (Mary Dickson and Lead Attorney) for Attorney Services. Member Johnson seconded the motion. The firm has no perceived conflicts. They came recommended by ACHMAI. Chair Hossain asked if it would be an issue having an attorney travel from Wheaton to meetings. Once approved by the board, the law firm will send an engagement letter. The rate for the firm is \$200/hr.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Hossain, Johnson, Moore, Sebor, Dorfman, Thoren

Nays:

Abstention:

Absent: Lewis

11. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTING SERVICES FIRM

Member Moore moved to engage Lauterbach & Amen for accounting services. Member Johnson seconded the motion. Township Manager Gedville informed the board he was given a different amount verbally than the amount quoted in the written proposal. The proposal also engages the board for services through September not a full year. He has asked Lauterbach and Amen for clarifications. Member Moore amended her motion to include the language "at a rate up to \$208 per month" with appropriate changes to the engagement letter. Member Johnson seconded the motion as amended.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Hossain, Johnson, Moore, Sebor, Dorfman, Thoren

Nays:

Abstention:

Absent: Lewis

12. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF UPDATED COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Member Moore made a motion to appoint Member Sebor to the Programs Committee. Member Johnson seconded the motion. Having a four-member committee does not change the Open Meeting Act requirements. If there is ever an issue where there is a tie vote on the committee, it would be resolved by a vote of the full board.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Hossain, Johnson, Moore, Sebor, Dorfman, Thoren

Nays:

Abstention:

Absent: Lewis

13. PRESENTATION ON THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS

Member Dorfman presented materials to the board and members of the public from NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness. Through his work at NAMI, member Dorfman mans the phone lines and hears some of the issues Vernon Township residents call about when looking for assistance. The most common call he takes are from elderly parents that are getting too old to take care of their mentally ill children that require care.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Member Sebor motioned to adjourn at 9:21pm, seconded by Member Thoren.