



701 Market St., Suite 200, St. Louis, MO 63101
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*** MEETING MINUTES ***

City of St. Louis Mental Health Board of Trustees
Minutes of the April 16, 2026 Hybrid Board Meeting

| Trustee | Attendance | Trustee | Attendance |
|----------------------------|------------|---------------------|------------|
| Donna Schmitt, Chair | In person | Mario Hamell | Absent |
| Robert Poirier, Vice Chair | In person | Marcia Hayes-Harris | In person |
| Julia López, Sec./Treas. | In person | Carolyn Jackson | In person |
| Andi Blaylock | In person | Brian Phillips | In person |
| Evanna Burkett | In person | Cassandra Pinkston | Absent |
| Vander Corliss | Absent | Janice Thomas | Zoom |
| Ronald Griffin | Zoom | | |

Others Attending:
 Matt McBride, General Counsel, Lashly & Baer
 Cassandra Kaufman, Executive Director
 Serena Muhammad, Deputy Director
 MHB Staff

- 1a. **Call to Order** – The regular meeting of the City of St. Louis Mental Health Board of Trustees was called to order at 5:46 p.m. by Chair Donna Schmitt.
- 1b. **Community Comments** – There were no community members present who wished to address the Board.
2. **Approval of the March 2026 Board Minutes** – The motion to approve the March 19, 2026, meeting minutes was made by Marcia Hayes-Harris, seconded by Julia López, and passed unanimously.
3. **Installation of Board Officers** – In accordance with MHB by-laws, officers are installed to begin their one-year terms at the annual meeting in April. Trustees approved the following slate of officers to serve one-year terms beginning April 16, 2026, through April 15, 2027:

Chair – Robert Poirier (1st term)
 Vice Chair – Julia López (1st term)
 Secretary/Treasurer – Vander Corliss (1st term)

Donna Schmitt made the motion seconded by Ronald Griffin, which passed unanimously.

4. **Resolution to Approve Bylaws Revision** – Trustee Donna Schmitt presented the resolution and made the motion to approve recommended updates to MHB’s Bylaws. The motion was seconded by Ronald Griffin and passed unanimously.

5. **Resolution to Approve Release of Lien on Permanent Supportive Housing Property** – Trustee Brian Phillips presented the resolution and made the motion to release the lien to allow for the sale of a permanent supportive housing property on West Florissant owned by Horizon Housing Development Company in exchange for repayment of the remaining balance plus interest. The motion was seconded by Donna Schmitt and passed unanimously.

6. **Resolution to Approve Funding for Joint Summer Camp Public Awareness Campaign and Scholarships** – Trustee Marcia Hayes-Harris presented the resolution and made the motion to approve funding from MHB’s budgeted public awareness line item to support a joint informational and educational campaign conducted in partnership with the Clark-Fox Family Foundation’s Blueprint4 Summer Initiative. The motion was seconded by Andi Blaylock and passed unanimously.

7. **Staff Report** – Executive Director Cassandra Kaufman provided a written report on the major activities and accomplishments of the staff covering the period from March 20, 2026 – April 16, 2026. The report was posted to the Trustee Portal following the meeting.

8. **Closed Session** – Board Chair Robert Poirier made the motion to close the session for the purpose of discussing sealed bids and proposals, and related documents, or documents related to a negotiated contract , pursuant to Section 610.021(12), RSMo. Julia López seconded the motion and Chair Poirier conducted a roll call vote to close the meeting:

| <u>Trustee</u> | <u>Vote</u> | | |
|---------------------|-------------|--------------------|--------|
| Andi Blaylock | Yes | Carolyn Jackson | Yes |
| Evanna Burkett | Yes | Julia López | Yes |
| Vander Corliss | Absent | Brian Phillips | Yes |
| Ronald Griffin | Yes | Cassandra Pinkston | Absent |
| Marcia Hayes-Harris | Yes | Rob Poirier | Yes |
| Mario Hamell | Absent | Donna Schmitt | Yes |
| | | Janice Thomas | Yes |

The closed session began at 6:05 p.m. at which time matters that were the purpose of the closed session were discussed. After adjourning the closed session, the Board returned to its Regular Session at 7:44 p.m. with all 13 Board members present. Board Chair Robert Poirier made the motion to end the closed session, seconded by Brian Phillips. Chair Poirier conducted the roll call to end the closed session:

| <u>Trustee</u> | <u>Vote</u> | | |
|---------------------|-------------|--------------------|--------|
| Andi Blaylock | Yes | Carolyn Jackson | Yes |
| Evanna Burlett | Yes | Julia López | Yes |
| Vander Corliss | Absent | Brian Phillips | Yes |
| Ronald Griffin | Yes | Cassandra Pinkston | Absent |
| Marcia Hayes-Harris | Yes | Rob Poirier | Yes |
| Mario Hamell | Absent | Donna Schmitt | Yes |
| | | Janice Thomas | Yes |

9. **Adjournment** – There being no further business before the Board, Donna Schmitt made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Carolyn Jackson. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting of the City of St. Louis Mental Health Board of Trustees adjourned at 7:45 p.m