



701 Market St., Suite 200, St. Louis, MO 63101
(314) 535-6964

*** MEETING MINUTES ***

City of St. Louis Mental Health Board of Trustees
Minutes of the September 18, 2025 Hybrid Board Meeting

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

Others Attending:

Matt McBride, General Counsel, Lashly & Baer
Cassandra Kaufman, Executive Director
Serena Muhammad, Deputy Director
Susan Kabat, Controller
MHB Staff

Public Hearing on the 2025 Tax Rates

Board Chair Donna Schmitt convened the Public Hearing at 5:45 p.m. and invited comments from anyone regarding the proposed 2025 tax rates for the Community Mental Health Fund and the Community Children's Services Fund. It was noted that the proposed rates were publicized in the *St. Louis American* newspaper on September 4, 2025, as well as posted to the City of St. Louis' website and the City of St. Louis Mental Health Board of Trustees' (MHB) website. No one present in-person or virtually through Zoom requested to speak about the tax rates. Trustee Vander Corliss made a motion, seconded by Trustee Marcia Hayes-Harris to adjourn the public hearing. The motion was approved unanimously and the public hearing on the 2025 tax rates adjourned at 5:46 p.m.

Regular Meeting of the City of St. Louis Mental Health Board of Trustees

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 Board Chair Donna Schmitt.

1b. Community Comments – There were no community members present who wished to address the Board.

2. **Approval of the August 2025 Board Minutes** – The motion to approve the August 21, 2025, meeting minutes was made by Carolyn Jackson, seconded by Donna Schmitt, and passed unanimously.
3. **Resolution to Accept the 2025 Estimated Tax Rate for the Community Mental Health Fund** – Finance – Investment Committee Chair Vander Corliss presented the resolution and made the motion to approve the 2025 Estimated Tax Rate of \$0.0878 on each One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) assessed valuation on all real, personal and other taxable property within the City of St. Louis for the Community Mental Health Fund. The motion was seconded by Marcia Hayes-Harris and passed unanimously.
4. **Resolution to Approve the 2025 Estimated Tax Rate for the Community Children's Services Fund** – Finance – Investment Committee Chair Vander Corliss presented the resolution and made the motion to approve the 2025 Estimated Tax Rate of \$0.2396 on each One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) assessed valuation on all real, personal and other taxable property within the City of St. Louis for the Community Children's Services Fund. The motion was seconded by Carolyn Jackson and passed unanimously.
5. **Resolution to Recognize Trustee Linda Grayson** – Chair Donna Schmitt presented a resolution recognizing the service and contributions of former Trustee Linda Grayson, who passed away in June 2025. The board honored Linda's memory by observing one minute of silent reflection.
6. **Resolution to Correct FY26 Funding Award for Hybrid Project** – Executive Director Cassandra Kaufman presented the resolution to correct the FY26 "Hybrid" funding award from the Community Mental Health and Community Children's Services Funds made to Power4STL for the Bullet-Related Injury Clinic that did not include the 3.3% cost of living adjustment. The resolution corrects the error and increases Power4STL's FY26 Hybrid Contract award amount from \$124,731 to \$128,847, a difference of \$4,116 or a 3.3% increase over the project's FY25 award. The motion was made by Donna Schmitt, seconded by Carolyn Jackson, and passed unanimously.
7. **Grant Review Process Feedback and Discussion** – Deputy Director Serena Muhammad presented an overview of the Early Childhood Grant Review Process feedback received from Community Reviewers and Trustees and led a discussion with Trustees to inform the upcoming FY27 – 29 Grant Application Cycle scheduled for Fall 2025/Winter 2026. Trustees provided feedback regarding their experiences and offered ideas for process improvements.
8. **Staff Report** – Executive Director Cassandra Kaufman provided a written report on the major activities and accomplishments of the staff covering the period from August 22, 2025 – September 18, 2025. The report was posted to the Trustee Portal following the meeting.
9. **Adjournment** – There being no further business before the Board, Carolyn Jackson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Marcia Hayes-Harris. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting of the City of St. Louis Mental Health Board of Trustees adjourned at 6:47 p.m.