



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 August 20, 2026 Hybrid Board Meeting

Trustee	Attendance	Trustee	Attendance
Rob Poirier, Chair	In person	Marcia Hayes-Harris	In person
Julia López, Vice Chair	Absent	Carolyn Jackson	Absent
Vander Corliss, Sec./Treas.	In person	Brian Phillips	Zoom
Andi Blaylock	In person	Cassandra Pinkston	Zoom
Evanna Burkett	Zoom	Donna Schmitt	Absent
Ronald Griffin	In person	Janice Thomas	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 Board Chair Rob Poirier.
- 1b. **Community Comments** – There were no community members present who wished to address the Board.
2. **Trustee Resignation** – Board Chair Rob Poirier updated trustees that Mario Hamell resigned from the board effective August 15, 2026. Staff will notify the Mayor’s Office and the Governance, Finance, and Administration (GFA) Committee will appoint an ad hoc sub-committee to nominate a candidate to fill Mario Hamell’s unexpired term which ends December 31, 2027.
3. **Appointment of Co-Chairs for Newly Formed Board Committees** – Board Chair Rob Poirier announced the appointment of co-chairs of the Governance, Finance and Administration (GFA) and Program and Performance Committees following the bylaws revision approved in April 2026. Andi Blaylock and Dr. Ronald Griffin will serve as co-chairs of the GFA committee and Marcia Hayes-Harris and Janice Thomas will serve as co-chairs of the Program and Performance Committee.

4. **Special Rule of Order to Allow Use of a Consent Agenda** – Board Chair Rob Poirier moved to approve a Special Rule of Order to allow the use of a consent agenda from this point forward in MHB board meetings. Last fiscal year the Executive Committee decided to begin using this parliamentary tool to shorten meeting length, reduce administrative resolutions requiring discussion and separate votes, and ultimately free up more time for the board to focus on strategy, governance, and issues related to MHB’s financial and legal accountability. Vander Corliss seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
5. **Consent Agenda** – The following items were approved:
- a. **June 18, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes**
 - b. **Resolution to Increase Amount and Extend Time** – The amount of FY26 Community Children’s Services Fund underspending for Centerstone’s Incredible Years Program to be utilized in FY27 as a result of the no cost extension approved at the June 18, 2026 meeting, was increased by \$8,976.92 following receipt of its FY26 Q4 stewardship report. Additionally, at the request of the agency, the Board approved changing the end date for the no cost extension from October 31, 2026 until June 30, 2027.
 - c. **Resolution to Approve Board Committee Charters** – As a result of MHB’s April 2026 bylaws revision, committee charters were approved for the newly formed Governance, Finance and Administration (GFA) and Program and Performance Committees. Additionally, updates to the existing Executive Committee charter were also approved.
 - d. **Resolution to Approve Tax Fund Reclassifications for FY26 Community Children’s Services Fund and Community Mental Health Fund Intergenerational Grant Cycle Close-Out** – Passage of the resolution authorized final payment adjustments for three (3) of seven (7) hybrid intergenerational projects from the Community Mental Health Fund and from the Community Children’s Services Fund, based upon actual rather than estimated numbers of participants served following the receipt of FY26 Q4 reporting.
6. **Pulled Consent Items** – There were no items removed from the consent agenda to be discussed during the regular meeting agenda.
7. **Regular Agenda Items**
- a. **Behavioral Health Systems Change Approach and Sustainability Plan Presentations** Behavioral Health Network and Casa de Salud made 30 minute presentations to the board, which included an opportunity for questions. Trustees will vote on funding awards at the September 17, 2026 meeting.
 - b. **FY27 – 29 Application Process Overview to Prepare for Trustee Debriefing** Data and Performance Analyst Xinyue Zhang presented a brief overview of the most recent application process to provide trustees context for the Application Process Debriefing Session scheduled for the August 24, 2026, 11:00 a.m., during the virtual Program and Performance Committee Meeting.

8. **Staff Report** – Executive Director Cassandra Kaufman provided a written report on the major activities and accomplishments of the staff covering the period from June 19, 2026 – August 20, 2026. The report was posted to the Trustee Portal following the meeting.
9. **Closed Session** – There was no closed session.
10. **Adjournment** – There being no further business before the board, Chair Rob Poirier made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ronald Griffin. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting of the City of St. Louis Mental Health Board of Trustees adjourned at 7:30 p.m.