



Peabody Plaza, 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 January 16, 2025, Hybrid Board Meeting

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

*Others Attending:*  
 Matthew S. McBride, General Counsel  
 Cassandra Kaufman, Executive Director  
 Serena Muhammad, Deputy Director  
 MHB Staff

**Call to Order** – The regular meeting of the City of St. Louis Mental Health Board of Trustees (MHB) was called to order at 5:45 p.m. by Board Chair Donna Schmitt.

**Community Comments** – There were no community members who wished to address the Board.

**Approval of the November 2024 Board Minutes** – The motion to approve the November 21, 2024, meeting minutes was made by Rob Poirier, seconded by Marcia Hayes-Harris, and passed unanimously.

**Appointment of Officers Nominating Committee** – Board Chair Donna Schmitt announced that Carolyn Jackson, Ronald Griffin, Andi Blaylock had agreed to serve as members of the Nominating Committee. Carolyn Jackson agreed to continue her service as Committee Chair. The motion to approve the members of the Nominating Committee was made by Donna Schmitt, seconded by Rob Poirier, and passed unanimously. The Nominating Committee is charged to recommend next year’s slate of officers for election at the March 20 Board meeting.

**Resolution to Approve Updates to Employee Handbook** – Personnel Committee Chair Linda Grayson presented the resolution to approve updates to MHB's Employee Handbook. The motion was seconded by Carolyn Jackson and passed unanimously.

**Resolution to Support Mental Health Care for Childcare Workforce** – Program Committee Member Marcia Hayes-Harris presented the resolution to approve funding from the Community Children's Services – Early Childhood Emerging Needs Fund to increase the availability of mental health services for childcare providers serving city children. The motion was seconded by Vander Corliss and passed unanimously.

**Agency Presentation** – In recognition of National Human Trafficking Awareness Day on January 11, Jordan Campbell, coalition director of C.A.T.E. (Coalition Against Trafficking and Exploitation) from Healing Action Network presented on the issues of human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation in the St. Louis area.

**Staff Report** – Executive Director Cassandra Kaufman provided a written report on the major activities and accomplishments of the staff covering the period from November 22 , 2024 – January 16, 2025. The report was posted to the Trustee Portal following the meeting.

**Adjournment** – There being no further business before the Board, Donna Schmitt made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Cassandra Pinkston. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting of the City of St. Louis Mental Health Board of Trustees adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

***The next meeting will be Thursday, February 20, 2025, at 5:45 PM in the Summit Conference Room, Peabody Plaza 15<sup>th</sup> Floor, 701 Market St., St. Louis, MO 63101.***