

**LYONS TOWNSHIP MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
February 27, 2023**

The Regular Board Meeting was held on Monday, February 27, 2023 at Township of Lyons, Community Room, 6404 Joliet Road, Countryside, Illinois, 60525. Meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Anthony Przeklasa.

President Anthony Przeklasa asked for the Roll Call.

Commissioner(s) Present: Anthony Przeklasa, Rev. Jeffrey Clemons, Sophia Mallis, Hon. Russell Hartigan, Al Dorobiala, and Steve Palmer.

Commissioner(s) on Phone: None.

Commissioner(s) Absent: William Seith

Staff Present: Ron Melka, Executive Director; and Jazmin Lopez, Administrative Assistant.

Agency Director(s) Present: Alan Morales, The LeaderShop; Angela Curran, Pillars Community Health; and Desiree Scully, Aging Care Connections.

Guest(s) Present: Luanne Galovich, Del Galdo Law Group; Shelly Lustrup, Associate Executive Director, NAMI Metro Suburban; Caitlyn Joycesmith, Director of Advancement, NAMI Metro Suburban; Joe Zuzich, Director of Community Education, NAMI Metro Suburban; Jen Jordan, Recovery Service Manager, NAMI Metro Suburban; Melissa McKay, Vice President of Quality, Helping Hand.

Guest(s) on Phone: None.

**AMENDMENTS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

A **MOTION** was made by Palmer and seconded by Clemons to approve the Agenda. Roll Call: Steve Palmer, Jeffrey Clemons, Anthony Przeklasa, Sophia Mallis, Russell Hartigan, and Al Dorobiala. Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Hearing no Nays, the Agenda was approved.

**REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The Minutes of the Board Meeting held on January 23, 2023 were reviewed.

A **MOTION** was made by Palmer and seconded by Hartigan to approve the Minutes of January 23, 2023. Roll Call: Steve Palmer, Russell Hartigan, Anthony Przeklasa, Jeffrey Clemons, Sophia Mallis, and Al Dorobiala. Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Hearing no Nays, the Minutes were approved.

**PRESENTATION BY NAMI METRO SUBURBAN:**

Shelly Lustrup, Associate Executive Director; Caitlyn Joycesmith, Director of Advancement; Joe Zuzich, Director of Community Education; and Jen Jordan, Recovery Service Manager of NAMI Metro Suburban gave a wonderful presentation on their programs and services offered. As

always, the Commissioners are thankful for NAMI Metro Suburban's presentation and impact on our community.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Ron reported that a total of 3,403 Township of Lyons residents were served and received 102,271 units of service in the Second Quarter of FY2023. This is a 67% increase in the units of service compared to the same quarter of FY2022. The grant application process is going well and applications are due March 31. Ron and Hon. Hartigan attended BEDS' Soup and Bread. Along with Rev. Clemons, Ron attended Pillars Community Health's Feb Fete event.

Ron trained 31 police officers from 20 different jurisdictions, 8 of which were from our Township, at the Village of Lyons in Mental Health First Aid. The State budget address came in and they are providing a number of new grants. The State Association is tracking about 78 bills. Ron talked to Rep. Didech regarding the two bills he brought up. One being language with the Mental Health Authorities Act and the other regarding an Amendment to the Mental Health Act to include "domestic violence." He attended BEDS' 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event at Buckle Down Brewery. They have reopened their church shelters for overnight shelter.

### **AGENCY REPORTS:**

**Alan Morales, The LeaderShop** reported that they had their Trivia Night event in person for the first time since 2019. They had over 150 people attend and reached their income goal. He added that they filled their part-time accounting position.

**Desiree Scully, Aging Care Connections** reported they are preparing for their Aging Well Month event. They are searching for Going the Extra Mile (GEM) nominees, who are older adults that are actively volunteering in the community. Ron will open the event, once again, and will name all of the GEMs.

**Melissa McKay, Helping Hand** reported that their Gallery Night event was a huge success. They had about 200 people attend and raised about \$44,000.00. The Outpatient Clinic has started a parent education series; the topic this month is about sensory and understanding sensory issues. Ron asked about the Mental Health Counseling being at zero, and Melissa stated that the position has been vacant.

**Angela Curran, Pillars Community Health** reported that they had over 240 guests attend their Feb Fete event. They raised just over \$235,000.00. They are having the grand opening for NAMI Metro Suburban's The Loft on 8 Corners on March 8 and several other open houses for the schools and community. On March 13, they are opening BEDS' Summit Service Center, a shelter with 20 beds for after hospitalization housing for homeless individuals. Angela also reported that they are launching a PAIP (Partner Abuse Intervention Program) which is a program is to help abusers identify abusive behaviors in their relationships and learn new skills to resolve conflict successfully. In January, Pathways to Success was launched and is a program that allows the State (HFS) to refer children and families with complex behavioral needs to a local Care Coordination Service Organization (CCSO). Pillars Community Health is the designated CCSO for the entire west suburban Cook County and received 42 eligible families to them. She also explained their waitlist for services and the affect the shortage of mental health professionals has on mental health services.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

NONE.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Statements of Economic Interest**

Notifications to complete the Statement of Economic Interest will be sent to Commissioners via email in March.

**Amendment to “Policy on Support of Agency Fundraisers”**

A **MOTION** was made by Palmer and seconded by Hartigan to approve the Amendment to the “Policy on Support of Agency Fundraisers.” Roll Call: Steve Palmer, Russell Hartigan, Anthony Przeklasa, Jeffrey Clemons, Sophia Mallis, Alan Dorobiala. Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

**TREASURER’S REPORTS:**

Treasurer Sophia Mallis presented the Treasurer Report dated February 27, 2023 as follows:

Beginning Balance as of December 31, 2022:	\$1,529,596.75
Receipts during January 2023:	\$ 886,472.52
Disbursements during January 2023:	\$ 336,545.01
Ending Balance as of January 31, 2023:	\$2,079,524.26

A **MOTION** was made by Palmer, seconded by Clemons to approve the Treasurer’s Reports dated February 27, 2023, as presented. Roll Call: Steve Palmer, Jeffrey Clemons, Anthony Przeklasa, Sophia Mallis, Russell Hartigan, and Al Dorobiala. Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Hearing no Nays, Motion Carried.

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MONTHLY PAYABLES:**

Sophia Mallis presented a Revised list of Twenty-Two (22) Payables totaling \$335,443.30 dated February 27, 2023.

A **MOTION** was made by Palmer and seconded by Mallis to approve the Monthly Payables dated February 27, 2023, as presented. Roll Call: Ayes: Steve Palmer, Sophia Mallis, Anthony Przeklasa, Jeffrey Clemons, Russell Hartigan, and Al Dorobiala. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

NONE

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting was made by Hartigan and seconded by Dorobiala at 7:24 p.m. All in favor. Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Meeting was adjourned.

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Anthony Przeklasa, PhD  
Commission President

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Hon. Russell W. Hartigan  
Secretary