

Clay County 708
Mental Health Board
Minutes

Date : October 7, 2025

Members present via zoom: Jonathon Akers, Samantha Weidner, Lara Casolari, Brandi Young, Kelly Colclasure, Christine Boyd, and Nancy Hinton

Members absent: None

-The meeting began at 11:31 am

-Due to many presenters being present, there were introductions made.

-Reviewed last meeting minutes and these were accepted by a motion by Jonathon and a second from Kelly, minutes were accepted unanimously.

-Presentations were made. Melissa Kelly and Jill Wright from Safe, Ariane Souder and Jody Gillum from the Clay Co Hospital, Pastor Mike Davis from Friendship Connection, Keith Powell from SafeFamilies, Samantha Weidner with CADA, and the Clay Co Sherriff all came to do a presentation asking for funding. Curtis Leib from probation sent a letter explaining what they would use funding for but couldn't attend in person. There was much discussion about the seven entities asking for funding and the different strengths and weaknesses they each provide for residents of Clay County. This discussion happened after the presenters left the meeting. All who had received funds last year had submitted an After-Action Report to explain how they had utilized the funds. This will be something we will be asking to be submitted by October each year. A decision was made with a motion by Lara, seconded by Brandi and voted unanimously on by the members, with Samantha Weidner abstaining. The members decided to divide the \$40,000.00 as follows: \$20,000 to the Clay Co Hospital; \$8,000 to Friendship Connection of Clay County; \$3,000 to the Sherriff's Department; \$2,500 to Probation and \$3,500.00 to SAFE; \$2,000 to CADA and \$1,500 to SafeFamilies. This information will be submitted to the Clay Co Treasurer's Office.

-Spoke briefly about the accounting report that was sent out to those who had gotten funds last year and if there should be changes made to the form. A blank one was handed out to the members with the ask if there are any suggested changes that the members reach out to the chairperson individually with those suggested changes.

-Discussed the CESSA meeting and the latest information and if any members attended the last meeting that was held. Jonathon had attended the last meeting and it appears that Clay County is moving ahead with a plan. It is similar to the Deflection Program as well but it is different in some ways. It has been difficult because Lawrence County Health Department who handle the Crisis cases in Clay County haven't made it to the table for the discussions.

-Lara is up for reappointment in December and will be submitted to the county board for such. Some members were wondering when they were first appointed to the 708 Board and also how long their term is. The Chairperson will do their best to look this up and get it out to all the different members.

-There was some discussion in regards to the 708 Board not having written guidelines and requirements. It was decided that there should be something in place but it will not be as extensive as the guidelines for Effingham County that was presented to the Board as a whole by Christine Boyd. Since this Chairperson has been in place as Chairperson there has not been written guidelines or requirements. This would be something good to have on file.

- Tentative meetings for 2026 will be as follows: March 24th (noon); May 19th (11am); August 18th (11am); and October 13th (11am), as long as the conference room at the Clay Co Health Department is available.

-Meeting was adjourned at 2:18pm by a motion by Samantha and seconded by Kelly

Respectfully submitted,

Clay Co 708, Mental Health Board

Chairperson