



MID-ILLINOIS MEDICAL DISTRICT

Mid-Illinois Medical District Commission

4:00 p.m., Thursday, April 10, 2025

MINUTES

Present:

Ryan Croke, President

Tessica Dooley, Commissioner

Aaron Gurnsey*, Vice President

Jack Mazzotti, Commissioner

Nicole Florence*, Commissioner

John Stremsterfer, Commissioner

Brian Zilm*, Commissioner

Staff Support: Abby Powell*, Ramona Metzger

Absent: Joe Hurwitz, Brian McFadden, Erica Austin

Other Guests: Mike Disco (City of Springfield); Steve Welch (Representative Scherer); Miriam Wallace (UIS) Faith Ritchie (DCEO); Robert Ellison (Memorial Health); Mark McHugh (Envision Unlimited); Angela Isit; Emily Powell (Envision Unlimited); Scott Reader (Illinois Times); Allen Mays (SIU Med); Belynda Allend (DCEO); Ashelyn Daniels (North Arrow Partners)

*denotes attendance by zoom

1. Call to order and roll call

President CROKE called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm after noting a quorum was present. Attendance as indicated above.

2. Minutes of the February 13, 2025 Commission meeting

On a motion by STREMSTERFER seconded by DOOLEY, commission members unanimously approved the minutes of the February 13, 2025 meeting.

3. Financial Report

No financial reports were available to review.

4. Stakeholder Updates:

- Dr. Florence (Memorial) reports that the new Memorial Health CEO has arrived. She has a strong interest in mental health issues.
- Robert Ellison (Memorial) adds that the new CEO will become more active in the community in the following months.
- Brian Zilm (Congresswoman Budzinski) announced that the Congresswoman will be hosting a town hall in Chatham next month.



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- Ryan Croke noted that there is real threat to Medicaid unfolding from events at the federal level and the Department of Healthcare and Family Services is concerned about the impact this will have statewide and on medical hubs like Springfield. The State is committed to advocating for people who rely on Medicaid.
- Steve Welch (Representative Scherer) noted that Representative Scherer can be available for meetings and activities within the district and encourages the Commission to reach out to the Representative as opportunities present.

5. Public Comment:

- Miriam Wallace (UIS) notes that in addition to the patients who would experience immediate harm from reductions in Medicaid, the families and caregivers will also experience adverse impacts.

6. Old Business

7. New business

- Project update on Hope Springs Phase 2, presented by Ashley Daniels from North Arrow Partners & Mark McHugh from Envision Unlimited. This project will increase the number of supportive housing units in Springfield. The first phase of the project was at 9th and North Grand. The second phase will be located at 848 N. 9th Street and have 24 studio units with laundry, parking, and community spaces available.
- STREMSSTERFER asks if there is anything the Commission can do to support the project. Mark McHugh asked the Commission to share the positive impact that of the first phase of the project and encourage support on the proposed second phase.

8. Adjourn

On a motion from MAZOTTI, 2ND from CROKE, the meeting adjourned at 4:244 p.m.

Submitted by:

Joe Hurwitz, MIMD Commission Secretary