



Illinois Association of Problem-Solving Courts

[www.ilapsc.org](http://www.ilapsc.org)

## Minutes of the IAPSC Board Meeting

April 30, 2015 at 12:00 pm

ILEAS – 1701 E. Main, Urbana, IL

**Call In Information: 877-903-2255  
ID 7581828**

The board members of the Illinois Association of Problem Solving Courts met in person and via telephone conference on April 30, 2015 at 12:00pm. The following board members were present, in person at the ILEAS meeting room:

Judge Ford  
Judge Sawyer  
Sarah Carlson  
Baron Heintz  
Hugh Brady

The following board members appeared via telephone:

Judge Bowden  
Michelle Rock  
Scott Block  
Alicia Kusiak  
Al Pizza  
Judge Fox  
Cheryl Meyers  
Carrie Thomas  
Judge Holmgren  
Lynn Pedigo  
Craig Cooper  
Judge Sanders

Also present was Mary Gubbe Lee, Assistant Director of the Center of Excellence

## **I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 12:10pm.

## **II. Review and Approval of Minutes**

Judge Fox made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Hugh Brady. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

## **III. Welcome/Introductions/Announcements**

Judge Ford reported that the Supreme Court committee is working on a draft of standards for problem solving courts. The draft will be going to the Supreme Court for review during the May session. Judge Ford and Judge Holmgren are on the committee. Judge Ford described the contents of the draft standards.

Judge Steve Sawyer, a member of the Governor's Criminal Justice Reform Commission, reported that the commission has met twice. The goal is to reduce the prison population within 10 years. Judge Sawyer outlined the goals of the Commission and the committees that he is on and asked for input from the board.

## **IV. Committee Reports**

### **A. Executive Committee**

#### **1. Treasurer's Report:**

Carrie Thomas, for Michael Roman, who was unable to attend the meeting, reported the following:

1. Crowne Plaza- deposit paid for 2015 conference
2. COE- 1<sup>st</sup> payment made for 2015 conf coordination
3. Sue Adams-paid for services to ILAPSC website
4. Payment made for renewal of Event Espresso services for ILAPSC website
5. US Bank-Debit card received and activated
6. US Bank-Craig Cooper added as signer to account as of 3/6/15
7. Crown Plaza refund for last year's conference deposited
8. Paypal-account updated with new debit card info for monthly service fee payment
9. Mental Health Court-payment of \$115.00 sent to AG for proper dissolution(closed out 2/25/15)

10. 2 ILAPSC membership applications recd along with payments
11. ILAPSC does not have to register with AG's office due to our 501 c 6 status "we do not solicit contributions for the public" per Benning Group
12. Registered Agent with SOS for ILAPSC has been changed to M.Roman from Judge Panichi
13. "Financial policy" for Treasure position to be drafted by the executive committee or the entire board.

2. Internal Audit: The Board will conduct an internal audit at the yearly retreat in November.

B. Nominating committee

A call for nominations has been sent out to board members and is posted on the website. Once the committee receives nominations, they will be forwarded to Judge Ford for review.

C. Government/Legislative Committee

Hugh Brady reported that the Governor proposed decreased funding to mental health (\$87 million); substance abuse (\$50 million) and services to the homeless (\$30 million).

Hugh referenced the following handouts, all of which were forwarded to board members via e-mail:

- A summary of house and senate bills that affect mental health
- A document prepared by Representative Greg Harris, dated April 29, 2015, entitled "Impacts of Governor Rauner's Proposed FY2016 Budget."
- A Thresholds report regarding the ACA and Governor Rauner's proposed budget.
- Statistics and talking points regarding the proposed budget and its effect upon mental health, substance abuse and Medicaid.
- A document entitled "Finding a Revenue Solution is Critical"

Hugh relayed that one particular mental health provider lost funding for 1,400 people out of the roughly 4,500 they serve. Hugh further reported that mental health facilities are closing.

A Thresholds study revealed that following a cut in funding of \$113 million to mental health and substance abuse services between FY 2009-2011, a hospital association reported the cost to treat people in the emergency room for mental health and substance abuse related ailments increased by \$131 million.

Hugh reported that the house unanimously passed a bill (HB 4096) which removes restrictions to the Individual Care Grants, grants for children under the age of 21 with severe mental health needs requiring intensive outpatient services or residential treatment. HB 4096 will allow more children and families to benefit from the grant.

Speaker Madigan is trying to build support to reverse the cuts DHS and garner support for tax increases. Per Hugh, the Speaker wants agencies to pass a board resolution encouraging the General Assembly to pass a budget that does not diminish human services. NAMI chapters and mental health agencies are passing resolutions. Hugh suggested that the IAPSC Board pass a resolution. A discussion is had on that issue.

Baron Heintz made a motion based upon the Barrington NAMI resolution which encourages the restoration of funds to mental health. The motion was seconded by Michelle Rock. The motion carried by unanimous vote. Sample resolutions will be sent to the board for review and proposals should be sent to Judge Ford.

Michelle Rock reported that a letter will be sent out to coordinators in the state and forwarded to the board regarding federal support for drug court funding. Hugh made a motion that the IAPSC send such letter to our Senators, which was seconded by Craig Cooper. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Michelle summarized 3 pending bills which contain language affecting drug court. She has prepared a memo which summaries these bills which will be forwarded, via e-mail, to the board. Judge Ford will write a letter on behalf of our association commenting on the bills with the emphasis on best practice standards.

D. Technology Committee

Craig Cooper reported ongoing conversations and progress with the Winnebago County IT department. The MOU has been drafted and is awaiting a signed copy from the IT depart to finalize.

Michelle Rock and Mary Lee indicated that Sue Adams suggests that we update our website so that it is “app friendly” in the future.

E. Public Awareness Committee

Nothing to Report.

F. Conference Committee

Mary Lee reported that the speakers are confirmed, including Chief Justice Rita Garmin. The projected income from the conference is based upon attendance figures from last year. We are still looking for sponsors and evening events. Mary

Lee is working with Sue to change registration procedures. Sarah Carlson volunteered to put together a trivia event for the evening segment. Any trivia ideas should be sent to Sara.

Baron Heintz completed a proposed website policy which was forwarded to Board before the meeting. The Board is asked to make suggestions. After revisions are made, the policy will be sent to the Board, via e-mail.

**V. Miscellaneous discussion**

A motion is made to send a letter of thanks to Jan Leone from the board and send flowers or a card for retirement. The Motion is seconded by Judge Ford. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Judge Holmgren announced that the AOIC is hosting a one-day, evidenced based sentencing conference in Lombard on October 21, 2015.

Alicia Kusiak announced that the fundraiser for this Sunday has been cancelled.

**VI. Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting will be in Chicago on Judge Panichi's boat on July 17.

A motion to adjourn was made by Hugh Brady and seconded by Baron Heintz. The meeting was adjourned.