

Rockford, IL

*425 E. State Street
Rockford, IL 61104
www.rockfordil.gov*



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

12:00 PM

City Hall, Second Floor

Community Action Agency Board

I. CALL TO ORDER

- Present** Gina Delrose
Dorothy Redd
Mary Cacioppi
Alderman Jaime Salgado
Alan Zais
Erin Marshall
Jeff Bailey
Mayte Naja
- Absent** Jeremiah Griffin
Tiana McCall
Mary Yoho
Ken Oliver
Alderman Dawn Granath
Shelton Kay

Jeff Bailey arrived at 12:15pm and Faniqua Hughes arrived at 12:31pm.

II. ACTION ON MINUTES

- A.** Approval of Minutes from the meeting held on September 16, 2025. [26-00073](#)

Attachments: [CAA Board Meeting Minutes 9-16-25](#)

Approved

Aye: Delrose, Redd, Cacioppi, Alderman Salgado, Zais, Marshall, Bailey, and Naja

Absent: Griffin, McCall, Yoho, Oliver, Alderman Granath, and Kay

- B.** Approval of Minutes from the meeting held on November 18, 2025. [26-00074](#)

Attachments: [CAA Board Meeting Minutes 11-18-25](#)

Approved

Aye: Delrose, Redd, Cacioppi, Alderman Salgado, Zais, Marshall, Bailey, and Naja

Absent: Griffin, McCall, Yoho, Oliver, Alderman Granath, and Kay

III. PROGRAMMATIC REPORT COMMUNITY SERVICES

- A.** Community Services Programmatic Report [26-00075](#)

Attachments: [Community Services Jan 2026](#)

Discussed

III. PROGRAMMATIC REPORT HEAD START

- A. Head Start Programmatic Report [26-00076](#)

Attachments: [Head Start Jan 2026](#)

Discussed

IV. PROGRAMMATIC REPORT FISCAL

- A. Fiscal Programmatic Report [26-00077](#)

Attachments: [HS Fiscal Report including budgets Jan 2026](#)

Discussed

V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

- A. Excited to be fully seated and able to tell our primary funder Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO). Welcome all new members.
- B. Will be scheduling training through Illinois Association of Community Action Agency (IACAA). They lobby for us at the state and national level and help with strategic planning.
- C. Our department will continue to work closely with both Fire Department and EMS.

VI. OFFICERS REPORTS

- A. Gina DelRose announced that United Way in Belvidere is looking to relocate into a larger space in the Park District facility. The YWCA is looking at daycare funding cuts and watching the potential domino effect. The school expansion is absorbing the school closures.

VII. GUEST REPORT/PRESENTATION

- A. Steve McMaster expressed his concerns about the left hand is not communicating with the right hand. Council does not know Community Action exists. There was a \$250,000 gift given to the Rockford Brake Manufacturing which is great but Head Start needs a building. It seems City feels like Head Start building is less important than Rockford Brake Mfg. I believe that should be given to Community Services 1st. Community Services exists for citizens and there is a need for Community Action to be accessible to community/public. Also, would like to make sure the calendar and information is being updated so public is aware of meetings, etc.

VIII. GENERAL DISCUSSION

- A. Jaime Salgado was wondering if there's more info about the charts (programmatic) on a website. He doesn't want us to have to do any more work to gather info because the minutes do provide context.
 - 1. The Executive Director explained the information for the reports are gathered together from our office and from throughout the community. A key as to what the programs actually look like could be created.
- B. Gina DelRose was wondering if there is an update to the process and utilization of Respite Program.
 - 1. The Executive Director specified that 1 Male & 1 Female are utilizing the program at this time. The program is for those not sick enough to stay in hospital but not well enough to stay in shelter or the streets. This is through Illinois Public Health Department (IPHD).
- C. Jaime Salgado was wondering if we heard anything about the threat to sanctuary cities getting their funding taken away as of February 1st. Also asked what would we like the council legislative to have our lobbyists help with.
 - 1. The Executive Director asserted that we've had no direct communication about any specific cuts and are not sure what it may look like. HUD looks like the most targeted. As of last week, we still are looking okay. We would like to be able to remove the prohibition between Early Childhood Centers and Head Start partnerships.
 - 2. Jaime Salgado expressed the thought of establishing a foundation with tax-deductible donations for our division if this would be allowed.
- D. The Head Start Director announced Head Start just won the lawsuit they went into with other States. Some wording in the lawsuit covered making sure agencies get their grants/awards in a timely fashion due to the impact the shut-down had on grantees.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Proposed 2026 Community Action Agency Board Meeting Schedule [26-00078](#)

Attachments: [2026 CAA Board Meeting Schedule](#)

Approved

Aye: Delrose, Redd, Cacioppi, Alderman Salgado, Zais, Marshall, Bailey, and Naja

Absent: Griffin, McCall, Yoho, Oliver, Alderman Granath, and Kay

X. APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

- A. Appointment of President

Discussed

B. Appointment of Vice-President

Discussed

C. Appointment of Secretary

Discussed

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Motioned by Jeff Bailey. Second by Alan Zais.

All in favor. Motion carries.

End time 1:10pm. Total time 1 hour 2 mins.

The next Community Action Agency Board Meeting is taking place on 12:00pm March 17 at City Hall Conference Room B.

THE CITY OF ROCKFORD INTENDS TO COMPLY WITH THE INTENT AND SPIRIT OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. IF A SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER, PERSONAL P.A. SYSTEM, OR OTHER SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS ARE NEEDED, PLEASE CALL THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT AT (779) 348-7391 AT LEAST 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE, SO WE CAN BE PREPARED TO ASSIST YOU.