

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Date of Meeting: January 14, 2019

Members Present: Chair Deanna West-Torrence, Vice Chair Renee Bessick, Treasurer Jason Murray, Jim Kulig, Pam Siegenthaler, Pat Heydinger, Secretary Dr. Michelle Kowalski (left at 4:20)

Members Excused: Stacy Jackson-Johnson, Richard Grega

Members Absent:

Others Present: Patty Harrelson, Nikki Harless, Chris Zuercher, Kevin Goshe, Recording Secretary Amy Gosser, Jacob Christie, Kay Smith, Stephanie Berry

Others Absent:

The regular monthly Board meeting was held on Monday, January 14, 2019, in the Board Conference Room at Richland County Children Services. Chair West-Torrence called the meeting to order at 3:36 p.m. of Board members present and representing a quorum.

AGENDA

The agenda was revised to include New Hire Introductions as the first order of business. The mini-trainings on the original agenda (“Holiday Kinship Activities” and “Holiday Foster Care Activities”) were removed to make room for discussion with Open Table personnel.

On a motion by Siegenthaler, seconded by Bessick, the Board unanimously approved the revised agenda by all Board members in attendance.

NEW HIRE INTRODUCTIONS

HR Manager Chris Zuercher introduced new caseworker Jacob Christie. Christie has a Bachelor’s degree in Psychology from Cincinnati Christian University. He recently moved to Mansfield from Indiana and will join Terrie Sgro-Perdue’s Ongoing team. The Board members and guests present introduced themselves and welcomed Christie to the Agency.

MINUTES

On a motion by Kulig, seconded by Siegenthaler, the Board unanimously approved the December 10, 2018 Board meeting minutes.

MINI-TRAINING

Stephanie Berry presented the Open Table project. Berry is the Community Implementation Director for Open Table. She is originally from Portland, Oregon. Open Table started out of a church in Phoenix, Arizona. The youth members of the congregation there were helping to feed the local homeless population, but they also wanted to find a way to help those individuals connect with resources and exit homelessness. The youth began meeting with a homeless gentleman once a week, and after 10 months he was able to find a job and a place to live. Berry showed a video of an Open Table graduate (Jessica) who benefitted from being on a table. Volunteers commit to meeting once a week for 12 months. There are 6-8 table members for each youth at a table, and the members each pay \$10/month. Members help to ensure that youth have a “voice and choice” regarding life decisions that they make. They help the youth to develop a life plan, navigate through common life skills, and outline goals and next steps. All of the Open Table training is now done online. Kay Smith is now leading this project within Richland County. A study done in 2015 of 2013 Open Table graduates showed that 95% of them have long-term relationships with at least one or more former table members, 85% have a better job, and 95% are currently self-supporting or will be in the near future. There are a lot of new tables that have started recently in Ohio, especially in Cleveland and Youngstown. West-Torrence said that our goal locally is to have 3 tables up and running this year, each of which will involve youth currently involved with RCCS who are aging out of foster care. There has been a lot of interest shown from individuals in the community we are willing to sit on a table. Harrelson will email a handout to Board members explaining what is involved with the Open Table process. Kulig recognized West-Torrence and Harrelson for their efforts toward this program over the past year. Berry, Smith, Christie and Kowalski all left the meeting at this point.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Executive Director’s Report and Comments

Harrelson mentioned that the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) has been introduced in the Senate. She will keep the Board informed as this progresses.

Harrelson explained the CPOE 11 process in greater detail. CPOE stands for Child Protection Oversight and Evaluation and is a federal standard for oversight evaluation (monitoring safety, permanency, and well-being). RCCS caseworkers who have cases randomly selected during the CPOE process will meet with ODJFS staff to discuss their efforts on the case. This will take place here at the Agency on 1.29.2019.

On a motion by Kulig, seconded by Murray, the Board unanimously accepted the Executive Director’s report.

Executive Committee Report

No report at this time. The Executive Committee met on 1/7/19 to discuss Harrelson’s contract. This will be discussed further in Executive Session.

Finance Director Report

December Finance Report

Goshe distributed and reported on the December 2018 Final Financial Report regarding the revenues and expenditures. This included a beginning balance of \$7,059,695.25, \$833,180.97 in revenue, and \$739,922.23 in expenses with an ending balance of \$7,152,953.99. The ending fund balance reflects 68.0% or 8.2 months of the 2018 budget.

Revenue finished 0.6% higher than budgeted for 2018. The Agency did not receive any unexpected revenue for the month of December. There was one unexpected expense issue in December; the Agency received a rebate from Worker's Compensation and thus did not have to pay the 2018 premium bill. Therefore, expenses were less than anticipated.

On a motion by Murray, seconded by Heydinger, the Board unanimously accepted the December 2018 Final Financial Report.

Resolution 01-14-19-01: Authorization to Sign Auditor Documents

Resolution 01-14-19-01 was proposed for purposes of authorizing specific agency staff to perform the various functions necessary to process payroll, pay bills, and be the point of contact to the Auditor's office.

On a motion by Bessick, seconded by Siegenthaler, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 01-14-19-01 by roll call vote and signature.

Finance Committee Report

No report at this time.

Levy Committee Report

No report at this time.

Personnel Committee Report

No report at this time.

Services and Program Report

No report at this time. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 29th, at 3:00 p.m.

BILLS

Payment of Agency Bills - On a motion by Heydinger, seconded by Bessick, the Board unanimously approved payment by signature of the Agency bills.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 4:41 p.m., Chair West-Torrence recommended an Executive Session. On a motion by Siegenthaler, seconded by Bessick, the Board voted unanimously to move into Executive Session by roll call vote in order to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official, or the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual, unless the public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual requests a public hearing. At that time, each Board member responded as follows: Kulig, “yes”; Bessick, “yes”; Siegenthaler, “yes”; West-Torrence, “yes”; Heydinger, “yes”; and Murray, “yes.” Everyone present with the exception of the Board members were excused at this time.

On a motion by Siegenthaler, seconded by Murray, the Board voted unanimously to return to open session at 5:04 p.m.

Resolution 01-14-19-02: Determination of Executive Director Compensation

Resolution 01-14-19-02 was proposed for purposes of authorizing a 2.0% increase to the hourly rate of pay for Executive Director Harrelson, which is the same percentage increase previously authorized by the Board for the rest of the Agency staff.

On a motion by Heydinger, seconded by Bessick, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 01-14-19-02 by roll call vote and signature.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Siegenthaler, seconded by Bessick, the Board moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Deanna West-Torrence, Chair

Amy Gosser, Recording Secretary