

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Date of Meeting: February 10, 2020

Members Present: Chair Jim Kulig, Vice Chair Pat Heydinger, Secretary Deanna West-Torrence, Nicole Blakley, Rick Grega, Jim Nicholson, Renee Bessick (4:25 p.m.)

Members Excused: Treasurer Jason Murray

Members Absent:

Others Present: Nikki Harless, Chris Zuercher, Kevin Goshe, Marsha Coleman, Recording Secretary Amy Hackedorn, Jennifer Cole, Angie Poth, Andrew Starr, Vickie Graves, Casey Neff

Others Absent:

The regular monthly Board meeting was held on Monday, February 10, 2020, in the Board Conference Room at Richland County Children Services. Chair Kulig called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. of Board members present and representing a quorum.

AGENDA

There is need to add New Hire Introductions to the agenda.

On a motion by Grega, seconded by West-Torrence, the Board unanimously approved the revised agenda by all Board members in attendance.

NEW HIRE INTRODUCTIONS

HR Manager Chris Zuercher introduced the latest Agency new hire. Jennifer Cole (BS) started at the Agency today (2.10.2020) as a caseworker on Teresa Coll's Ongoing team. Cole has a bachelor's degree in Psychology and recently moved back to Ohio from Pennsylvania (where she worked as a career advisor). The Board members present introduced themselves and welcomed Cole to the Agency. Cole left the meeting at this point (3:35 p.m.).

MINUTES

On a motion by West-Torrence, seconded by Grega, the Board unanimously approved the January 13, 2020 regular Board meeting minutes.

MINI-TRAINING

Ocie Hill Visitation Center

RCCS Records/Program Support Manager Angie Poth presented a slideshow containing images from the Ocie Hill visitation space that we are currently leasing. Poth stated that it took almost eight months for her team to clean and remodel the two rooms in order to make them appropriate for family visits. The Family Support Specialist (FSS) team started conducting visits there today. This takes the place of our former external visitation center at the Healing Hearts location on Lexington Avenue. We may also be able to utilize the gymnasium located in the lower level of Ocie Hill, but Poth has not received confirmation of that yet. Several clients have expressed gratitude for the fact that Ocie Hill is closer to where they live, and there is also a bus stop at that location (so it makes travel easier for many of the families with whom we work). Graves said that we have been engaging fathers more, which is a good thing. It is often hard to help parents develop a bond with their children and learn how to interact with them in a healthy manner. RCCS FSS workers often help to mentor and assist parents with this process. Families can visit anywhere from 1-3 times per week depending on their case plan progress. Kulig asked the team to give periodic updates to the Board on the Ocie Hill space and how it continues to work for the Agency long-term. Poth, Starr, Neff and Graves left the meeting at this point (4:04 p.m.).

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director's Report and Comments

Harless reported on her meeting with Pastor John Avery. Avery had supposedly already met with Allie Watson from Richland Foundation regarding the possibility of him opening a group home in Richland County. Harless is going to meet with him again to explore ways that he can help the children of this community.

Kulig asked about the alternate work schedule for RCCS staff. Harless explained that we piloted this program with two casework teams last quarter, and it seemed to work really well for them. Following the positive feedback, we opened this up to all caseworkers who were interested in trying this model.

On a motion by Grega, seconded by Blakley, the Board unanimously accepted the Executive Director's report.

Executive Committee Report

Changing the March 2020 Board Meeting Date

The plan is for the Executive Committee to continue to meet at 2:30 prior to each Board meeting, as they did today. The first order of business discussed was to move the date of the March Board meeting to March 16th (instead of March 9th). The Committee recommended this course of action after ascertaining that a quorum could still be reached on 3.16.2020.

On a motion by West-Torrence, seconded by Heydinger, the Board unanimously agreed to change the date of the March 2020 Board meeting from 3.9.2020 to 3.16.2020.

Recommendations for Board Nominations

Don Moroney discovered that it was a conflict of interest for him to serve on our Board while also serving as a CASA volunteer. The CASA Director for the state of Ohio confirmed that this is a conflict on their end because our Board members would naturally have a vested interest in children services operations, and any attorney in court could theoretically call that individual's dedication to the family into question.

Kulig stated that it may be helpful to have another individual from the community with a financial background on our Board. Hackedorn knows a gentleman who has expressed an interest in serving, and she will find out if he could submit a resume and letter of intent for the Board to review. Any current Board member who would like to submit the name of a different individual should contact Hackedorn or Harless.

2020 Board Committee Assignments

The Executive Committee proposed member assignments for 2020 Board committees, including a vacancy on the Personnel Committee that will be filled by the next individual appointed to the Board by the Commissioners. Kulig stated that the Committee would also like to remove the phrase "including insurance for the Agency" from the Executive Committee duties paragraph and amend the Budget and Finance Committee meeting timeline to reflect them meeting "at least four times a year or as needed" instead of "at least once each quarter."

On a motion by Grega, seconded by Blakley, the Board unanimously agreed to accept the proposed 2020 Committee assignments and verbiage changes as designated.

Bessick arrived at this point (4:25 p.m.).

Finance Director Report

January Finance Report

Goshe distributed and reported on the January 2020 Final Financial Report regarding the revenues and expenditures. This included a beginning balance of \$6,497,965.10, \$172,548.69 in revenue, and \$1,010,495.76 in expenses with an ending balance of \$5,660,018.03. The ending fund balance reflects 50.2% or 6.0 months of the 2020 budget.

Goshe reminded the Board that our January revenue was less than it would be traditionally since JFS gave us our normal January reimbursement in October of 2019. This was about \$250,000. January and February are historically low-revenue months. All of the expenditures occurred from the operating budget. The expenses were up to 9.0% of the budgeted amount. This was mainly due to January being a 3-pay month. Under Protect Ohio, we would receive \$150,000 a month. Under the traditional IV-E reimbursement model, we only received \$123,572.13 total for both October and November, so there is a significant difference in reimbursement amounts under the IV-E model.

On a motion by West-Torrence, seconded by Bessick, the Board unanimously accepted the January 2020 Final Financial Report.

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 2.20.2020.

BILLS

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 4:36 p.m, Chair Kulig recommended an Executive Session. On a motion by Grega, seconded by West-Torrence, the Board voted unanimously to move into Executive Session by roll call vote in order to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion and/or compensation of a public employee or official. At that time, each Board member responded as follows: Kulig, “yes”; Blakley, “yes”; Nicholson, “yes”; West-Torrence, “yes”; Grega, “yes”; Bessick, “yes”; and Heydinger, “yes.” Kulig asked Harless, Coleman, Zuercher, Goshe and Hackedorn to stay.

On a motion by Grega, seconded by Bessick, the Board voted unanimously to return to open session at 4:58 p.m. There was no member of the public waiting to enter the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by West-Torrence, seconded by Grega, the Board moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:
Jim Kulig, RCCS Board Chair
Amy Hackedorn, Recording Secretary