

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Date of Meeting: December 12, 2022

Members Present: Chair Pat Heydinger, Vice Chair Nicole Blakley, Secretary Jim Nicholson, Bill Hope, Renee Bessick, Scott Gatchall (3:40 p.m.), Bennie Allen-Stanford (3:40 p.m.)

Members Excused: Treasurer Jason Murray, Mary Stentz

Members Absent:

Others Present: Nikki Harless, Nicole Foulks, Kevin Goshe, Marsha Coleman (3:48 p.m.), Sarah Soliday, Recording Secretary Amy Hackedorn

Others Absent:

The regular monthly Board meeting was held on Monday, December 12, 2022, in the Board Conference Room at Richland County Children Services. Heydinger called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m. of Board members present and representing a quorum.

AGENDA

On a motion by Hope, seconded by Nicholson, the Board unanimously approved the proposed agenda by all Board members in attendance.

MINUTES

On a motion by Blakley, seconded by Hope, the Board unanimously approved the November 14, 2022, regular Board meeting minutes as presented.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Harless informed the Board that we elected to hire Heather Cockley for the vacant attorney position. She will start here at the Agency on 1.19.2023. Hope asked if there are any potential issues with the fact that she used to be a judge locally, but there does not appear to be a conflict of interest on either her end or ours at this time. Harless stated that she submitted both Jonathan Bessick and Jessica Luttrell to the Richland County Commissioners for Board membership consideration. However, Commissioner Vero informed Harless that they would like to appoint Judith Forney instead due to her managerial experience. Our first racial equity training for RCCS management staff will be held on 1.19.2023. Harless will report how these trainings went at the February Board meeting.

Harless reminded everyone that this is the last Board meeting for Renee Bessick. Harless read a plaque commemorating Bessick for her years of service and presented it to Bessick. *Gatchall and Allen-Stanford arrived at this point in the meeting (3:40 p.m.)*. Heydinger asked about vacancies. We

currently have seven (7) casework vacancies, although our three (3) student interns all would like to work here after they graduate next spring. Soliday also received two (2) applications recently, both of whom already have degrees.

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

Executive Committee Report

The Board Executive Committee members met with Harless and Hackedorn immediately prior to the December Board meeting. Heydinger informed the full Board that the annual evaluation process for Executive Director Nikki Harless has begun. The goal is to have this completed by the end of February at the latest. *Coleman arrived at this point in the meeting (3:48 p.m.).*

2023 Board Meeting Schedule

Heydinger directed attention to the 2023 Board Meeting Schedule that was sent out in the Board packets. The proposal is to maintain the current meeting schedule of the second Monday every month at 3:30 p.m.

On a motion by Hope, seconded by Allen-Stanford, the Board unanimously accepted the 2023 Board Meeting Schedule as presented.

Finance Director Report

November Finance Report

Goshe distributed and reported on the November 2022 Final Financial Report regarding the revenues and expenditures. This included a beginning balance of \$9,502,128.20, \$538,859.45 in revenue, and \$917,619.73 in expenses with an ending balance of \$9,123,367.92. The ending fund balance reflects 74.9% or about 9.0 months of the 2022 budget.

Goshe stated that revenue for the year was running 4.9% higher than budgeted at the end of November, and expenses for the year were running 9.3% lower than budgeted. Nicholson asked why the Total Operations/Overhead line is 42.9% lower than budgeted. Goshe responded that this is primarily due to the fact that we have not replaced some of the Agency vehicles that were due to be replaced. Many of the Agency furnaces are also 30+ years old and one has been budgeted for replacement each year. However, none of these have been replaced yet since they are still running well, and replacement parts are still available for them if necessary.

On a motion by Nicholson, seconded by Bessick, the Board unanimously accepted the November 2022 Final Financial Report.

Administrative Agent

Goshe stated that there has been some discussion about transferring the Administrative Agent function from Youth & Family Council to RCCS. We would be the employer of record for any of their employees and be responsible for processing their payroll. RCCS contributes \$112,000 into the

pooled fund every year (plus another \$25,000 in MSY funding mandated by the State), and other members contribute various amounts as well. The Council has its own budget and pays for the three Service Coordinators. Harless spoke with Commissioner Darrell Banks today. He would prefer to keep this at JFS so that the Commissioners have oversight of the Director of this segment. All of the Board members present unanimously agreed that this is not something that we should pursue at this time. The issue will be revisited at a later date if necessary.

Finance Committee Report

No report at this time.

Personnel Committee Report

No report at this time.

Services and Program Report

No report at this time.

BILLS

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

Heydinger advised the Board members to consider which committee(s) they would like to be on in 2023.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Nicholson, seconded by Allen-Stanford, the Board moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Pat Heydinger, RCCS Board Chair

Amy Hackedorn, Recording Secretary