

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Date of Meeting: July 10, 2017

Members Present: Vice Chair Jim Kulig, Deanna West-Torrence, Richard Grega, Lynn Friebel, Stacy Jackson-Johnson (3:35 p.m.), Treasurer Jason Murray (3:40 p.m.), Dr. Michelle Kowalski (3:59 p.m.)

Members Excused: Chair Renee Bessick, Secretary Pam Siegenthaler

Members Absent:

Others Present: Patty Harrelson, Nikki Harless, Chris Zuercher, Kevin Goshe, Recording Secretary Amy Gosser, Tiffany Rouse, Jessica Tager

Others Absent:

The regular monthly Board meeting was held on Monday, July 10, 2017, in the Board Conference Room at Richland County Children Services Board. Vice Chair Kulig unofficially called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. in absence of a quorum for purposes of discussing business that did not necessitate a majority presence.

MINI-TRAINING

Harless gave an update on the RED Team. This is a new Screening process for all of the referral reports that come into the Agency. RED stands for Review, Evaluate, & Decide. A team of Agency employees meet every morning at 10 a.m. and also every Friday at 2:30 in order to decide as a group whether or not we should screen in each individual referral for further investigation or services. The purpose of this is to try to become more consistent as an Agency with our screening process. The screening supervisor is in there every day, along with another supervisor, a screener, and a caseworker. Harless attends these meetings as well for right now. All of the workers who have participated so far seem to be excited to do this. The process allows the Agency to still make a decision within 24 hours of the initial call, and it makes us more invested and accountable for what we are deciding. The meetings usually take about a half hour depending on how many calls need to be evaluated. This also helps workers to understand the decision-making process behind screening cases. Previously, workers were assigned throughout the day as the cases came in, but now they are only assigned right after the RED Team meets. This alleviates some of the anxiety for workers related to getting cases throughout the day and makes that process more predictable. This also takes a lot of pressure off of the Screening Supervisor since screening in calls is now a group decision. Each Intake team is in the rotation for getting cases, so workers usually know when they might be getting a case. If a closed case gets reopened within 6 months, that same worker gets it back since they know the family. Employees have been making recommendations throughout the process and changes have been made as necessary.

****** Following the arrival of Jackson-Johnson at 3:35 p.m., a quorum of members was reached and the August Board meeting was officially called to order at this time. ******

AGENDA

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

NEW HIRE INTRODUCTIONS

Zuercher introduced new RCCS caseworker Jessica Tager. Tager started at the Agency on 6.29.2017 and is joining Brandi Berry's Ongoing team. She grew up here and graduated from St. Pete's. She returned to Mansfield following her graduation from Slippery Rock in Pennsylvania with a BSW. She was highly recommended, and so Zuercher expects that she will do a good job. The Board introduced themselves and welcomed Tager to Richland County Children Services. Tager left the meeting at this point.

MINUTES

On a motion by Jackson-Johnson, seconded by West-Torrence, the Board unanimously approved the June 12, 2017 Board meeting minutes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director's Report and Comments

Harrelson discussed the contents of the Executive Director's report. Caseworker Sean Crawford put in his resignation recently. He is moving closer to Columbus and will be working for Delaware County. Zuercher can compile a list of reasons for recent resignations to submit to the Board, but almost all of the exiting employees recently have expressed a positive attitude toward the Agency.

We discovered that we need to do a better job of educating our workers regarding healthcare. The recent survey gave us some good points where we can have an impact. Eleven employees did not realize that we have an Agency Benefits Team. Many people also do not realize how VEBA works, and they think they can spend the money however they want. Zuercher will bring general data and trends to the Personnel Committee as applicable.

Harrelson will engage Tim Schaffner to assist with strategic planning closer to the Board retreat. Harrelson should have the 250+ page lawsuit next week at some point regarding the opiate lawsuit. She is thankful that the Board is supportive of this. Our law firm is going after the distributors of the drugs as well (Cardinal Health, etc.), in addition to the pharmaceutical companies.

On a motion by Jackson-Johnson, seconded by Friebel, the Board unanimously accepted the Executive Director's report.

Executive Committee Report

No report at this time.

Finance Director Report

Finance Report

Goshe distributed and reported on the June 2017 Final Financial Report regarding the revenues and expenditures. This included a beginning balance of \$7,389,722.62, \$838,064.00 in revenue, and \$718,176.03 in expenses with an ending balance of \$7,509,610.59. The ending fund balance reflects 76.3% or 9.2 months of the 2017 budget.

Revenue is about 5.9% higher than we expected at this point. The state has taken over writing checks for the Kinship Permanency Incentive, so we should not have to issue any more payments out of this line. The only expense line that is higher than budgeted is the adoption line (it is currently 5.5% higher than budgeted).

On a motion by Murray, seconded by Friebel, the Board unanimously accepted the June 2017 Final Financial Report.

Finance Committee Report

No report at this time. The Finance Committee met regarding the upcoming levy in 2018. They are starting to discuss whether to go for a replacement or renewal.

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. At their May meeting, the S&P Committee discussed the relevance of what they review and what information is helpful for the Board to be aware of. It might be better for the Board to focus on several items specifically versus many items. This will be discussed further at an upcoming Board meeting, so that each member may have a voice regarding what information they deem appropriate for consideration.

BILLS

Payment of Agency Bills - On a motion by Friebel, seconded by Jackson-Johnson, the Board unanimously approved payment by signature of the Agency bills.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board did not convene an Executive Session on this date.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Grega, seconded by West-Torrence, the Board moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:21 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jim Kulig, Vice Chair

Amy Gosser, Recording Secretary