

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Date of Meeting: May 14, 2018

Members Present: Chair Deanna West-Torrence, Secretary Dr. Michelle Kowalski, Jim Kulig, Richard Grega, Pam Siegenthaler, Pat Heydinger, Stacy Jackson-Johnson (3:43 p.m.)

Members Excused: Vice Chair Renee Bessick, Treasurer Jason Murray

Members Absent:

Others Present: Patty Harrelson, Nikki Harless, Chris Zuercher, Kevin Goshe, Katherine Oslie, Athena Crider, Recording Secretary Amy Gosser

Others Absent:

The regular monthly Board meeting was held on Monday, May 14, 2018, in the Board Conference Room at Richland County Children Services Board. Chair West-Torrence called the meeting to order at 3:34 p.m. of Board members present and representing a quorum.

NEW HIRE INTRODUCTIONS

Zuercher introduced two new RCCS caseworkers, Katherine Oslie and Athena Crider. Oslie just graduated from Mount Vernon Nazarene University (MVNU) with her BSW and joined Terrie Sgro-Perdue's Ongoing team on 4.10.2018. Crider (BSW LSW) previously worked for Ashland County Department of Job and Family Services, and she joined Charity Hamler's Ongoing team on 4.19.2018. The Board members present introduced themselves and welcomed both Oslie and Crider to the Agency. Oslie and Crider left the meeting at this point (3:40 p.m.).

AGENDA

Due to the time constraints of two Board members, the agenda was shortened appropriately. Director of Community Outreach and Programming Tim Harless will now give the synopsis of his Chicago trip for the Annie E. Casey foundation meeting at the June Board meeting, and the community stakeholder survey discussion will also be moved to the June Board meeting. The Executive Session was removed as well.

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

MINUTES

Siegenthaler requested that the words “1 mill” be added somewhere in the paragraph on page 3 of the April minutes pertaining to the RCCS levy.

On a motion by Siegenthaler, seconded by Kowalski, the Board unanimously approved the April 9, 2018 Board meeting minutes with the suggested revision.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Executive Director’s Report and Comments

Harrelson reported on the union. There is a decertification election that begins tomorrow (May 15th) and runs through May 29th. We will know the results on June 6th when the ballots are counted in front of everyone in Columbus by the State Employment Relations Board (SERB). SERB meets again on June 21st. If a union is voted in, the fact-finder will then write his report.

Siegenthaler requested that part “e” be corrected to say 2018-2019. Harrelson stated that we have put out a RFP (Request for Proposal) for foster care recruitment. We are also working on implementing Binti software for foster parent recruitment. The Open Table concept has been an ongoing discussion between Harrelson and West-Torrence (in her role at NECIC) as another initiative to implement moving forward. NECIC already has the infrastructure in place and may seek funding from the Ada Ford Foundation.

Future financial concerns were discussed. Harrelson stated that we will know more about funding for waiver states after the next Protect OH meeting on May 22, 2018. Our reimbursement process will become considerably murkier in the next 24 months. The federal government has cut back reimbursement for the costs of group home placements over 14 days, so this will significantly affect our budget moving forward.

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

Executive Committee Report

No report at this time.

Finance Director Report

February Finance Report

Goshe distributed and reported on the April 2018 Final Financial Report regarding the revenues and expenditures. This included a beginning balance of \$6,214,140.06, \$2,175,205.00 in revenue, and \$783,063.87 in expenses with an ending balance of

\$7,606,281.19. The ending fund balance reflects 72.3% or 8.7 months of the 2018 budget.

Goshe reported on revenue. This is about 4.2% higher than budgeted at the end of April. The first tax payment we received in 2018 was about \$70,000 higher than it was last year. With expenses, we are about 2.7% lower than budgeted. The fund balance is up about \$405,000. Grega asked why the TANF revenue line is so low. Goshe stated that we sent them a bill a few weeks ago for this contract, and so we will get a check to be reflected next month. We can only bill them once per quarter (every 3 months). For health insurance, we had to budget more last year so that we could pay back the county as necessary for run-out expenses. Direct Parental Placement (DPP) allows us to pay the bill for the placement of kids who are still in the custody of their parents, but placement must be made with a licensed foster parent.

The results of the most recent financial audit were good, so Kulig asked that Kevin and his team be acknowledged for their hard work in this area.

On a motion by Siegenthaler, seconded by Jackson-Johnson, the Board unanimously accepted the April 2018 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

The Committee met on 5.1.2018. Kulig asked whether this new format is helpful to the Board in improving their knowledge of Agency activities. Kulig mentioned that Katina Bays (from the State) volunteered to do a Quality Review for us, and after we willingly welcomed her in we discovered that we have been doing well in this area. The staff appreciated the feedback. Under community contacts, supervised visits at the Agency and at the Lexington Avenue location were 596 in the first quarter (an increase from 356 visits during the same time last year). This shows that more visits are happening with families, which is both good and bad. It is good because the visits are happening, but it is also bad because it reflects that there are more children

in Agency custody. Kulig also highlighted the fidelity numbers for Family Team Meetings (FTMs). Last year this was only between 40-50%, but for the first quarter of 2018 it was at 58% and seems to be rising. The Committee asked staff present at the Committee meeting to pinpoint when they would be happy with this number, and caseworker Tiffany Rouse stated that she is still hoping for 70%. An increase in fidelity theoretically means that there is an increase in positive outcomes with cases. To meet fidelity at an FTM meeting, there must be at least one parent, caseworker, supervisor, support person, and facilitator present (either by phone or in person). We tend to have trouble getting support people there. These individuals can be anyone who is support for the parent. There are a few workers who are not successful at recruiting people to attend meetings, so we are starting to look at patterns of not meeting fidelity for individual workers. Kulig stated that the Board should continue to consider the usefulness of this report moving forward.

On a motion by Grega, seconded by Jackson-Johnson, the Board unanimously approved the 1st Quarter PQI report.

BILLS

Payment of Agency Bills - On a motion by Grega, seconded by Kulig, 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 Heydinger, the Board moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Deanna West-Torrence, Chair

Amy Gosser, Recording Secretary