



**Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
February 17, 2017  
Sheraton on Capitol Square  
Columbus, Ohio 43215**

**Members Present:** Tom Reed, President; Ruthann House, Treasurer; Janice Warner, Secretary; Deb Gerken; David Shea; Judith Barris; Douglas Bennett; Ken Kempton; Gary Obloy; Steve Sturgill; Anita Maldonado; Kellie Ailes; Alvin Norris; Bambi Baughn; Jeffrey Diver; Rodney Reasonover; Robert Chilton; Malcolm Costa.

**Members Excused:** David Brightbill, First Vice-President; Gwen Robinson Second-Vice President; Joshua Anderson; Andrew J. Devany; Gary Ricer.

**Staff Present:** Philip E. Cole, Executive Director; Josh Summer, Development Director; Greg Bollenbacher, Fiscal Director; Kathryn A. Clausen, Communications Director; Lorie McClain, Program Manager; Neva Dunn, Office Manager, Jeannette M. Jarrett; Operations and Support Assistant; Naima Ilmi, Policy Intern.

**Guests Present:** Paul Kudlak, The Junto Company; Jim Mermis, The Junto Company; Larry Price, L. Price, and Associates; Yvonne Freeman, OURS; Jackie Boehnlein, Lorain County Community Action, Inc.; Terry Jacobs, WSOS Community Action.

Mr. Reed called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m. A quorum was established.

Mr. Diver motioned to approve the agenda. Ms. Warner seconded. The motion passed.

Mr. Chilton motioned to approve the January minutes. Mr. Kempton seconded. The motion passed.

**Finance Report: Ruthann House**

Ms. House reviewed the financial report with the board and made a motion out of committee to accept the reports and place on file for audit. Mr. Sturgill seconded. The motion passed.

**President's Report: Tom Reed**

No report.

**Executive Director's Report: Philip E. Cole**

Mr. Cole provided an update on the Payday Lending reform that was tabled last month. A bill has not been introduced but there is great support for one. The motion was taken from the table and Mr. Norris moved to support the concept of payday lending reform but to review any bills introduced before fully endorsing legislation. Mr. Sturgill seconded. The motion passed.



Mr. Cole reported that he and Mr. Kudlak are scheduling a meeting with Senator Lehner, Chair of the Senate Education Committee, to discuss strategies regarding the ODJFS Publicly Funded Childcare layering issue. Ms. House noted her agency had created a FAQ sheet detailing how the rule affects WSOS programs and services. Mr. Kudlak suggested there was support to move this forward with a change through the budget.

Mr. Cole expressed the board's concerns to COHHIO about recordation fees. COHHIO is seeking General Revenue Funds to increase the support of the Housing Trust Fund. There were questions about the use of GRF money and the risks that those funds could be taken from other low-income programs. No action was taken.

Mr. Cole stated he does not anticipate problems with the HEAP/HWAP transfer process. OPAE is taking the lead on the transfer and OACAA has offered assistance if needed. Mr. Cole informed the board that he could ask Mr. Alwein to update the board during a future board meeting.

The board requested Mr. Cole look into obtaining a no-cost extension for the Healthier Buckeye Grant because the program got off to a late start and it will be difficult to expend the funds prior to June 30<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Cole stated he would move forward with this request.

Mr. Cole discussed advocacy and development options through possible collaboration with Mr. Jai Chabria and Mr. J.D. Vance. This will be in the form of two contracts. Mr. Chabria will work with OACAA on the state and local level making non-government connections inside Columbus and local government connections throughout the rest of the state. Any concerns or conflicts regarding the use of grant funds will be discussed with ODSA. The cost is \$5000/month and would be set on a month-to-month basis. Ms. House motioned to enter into a contract with Mercury through the TTA PY17 grant contingent upon ODSA approval. Mr. Obloy seconded. The motion passed.

The second contract proposed is with Mr. Chabria and Mr. Vance outside of Mercury to develop poverty solutions which could be tested through Ohio's CAA. If the solutions were successful, they would then be advocated at the national level. No action was taken.

Mr. Cole confirmed that Mr. Vance would attend the March NCAF conference as the closing speaker. Mr. Cole also stated that he and Mr. Bradley had discussed the mood that is pervasive in Washington D.C. at this time. Mr. Cole encouraged the network to positively engage legislators and continue building relationships. He also discussed the Healthy Homes Network's initiative with Senator Peggy Lehner which would be similar to the 1999 program on which OACAA collaborated. OACAA was invited to participate. More details will be provided when available.

Mr. Cole invited Mr. Bennett to discuss the current events at CEOGC. Mr. Bennett stated the CEO and board of directors are currently working through disagreements though the programs being administered continue to be strong. Discussion.



**Partnership Report: Joe Devaney**

Mr. Cole reported in Mr. Devaney's absence. He stated he and Community Research Partners would meet with the Columbus Foundation and potentially the Annie Casey Foundation to discuss funding to complete the research proposal that was originally submitted to the Partnership.

**CAPLAW Report: David Brightbill**

No report.

**Legislative Committee Report: David Brightbill**

No report.

**Public Relations Report: Janice Warner**

Ms. Warner deferred the report to Ms. Clausen. Ms. Clausen reviewed statistics from the mobile conference app. She reported that just under 50% of attendees utilized the app and survey results showed that those who did would use it again. She further stated a few glitches occurred, and she and Ms. McClain have scheduled a meeting with the app developers to determine the cause and solutions. Ms. Clausen also stated to offset the cost of the mobile app the printed program will be reduced. The Training and Development Committee approved, eliminated or significantly reducing speaker bios from the program to reduce the number of printed pages and lower costs. Ms. Clausen confirmed there are no plans to fully replace a printed schedule which can be submitted to fiscal departments for confirmation of training attendance.

Ms. Clausen stated that she and Ms. Warner are planning to attend the Partnership's branding conference which is slated to be scheduled in April in Chicago. Both will present ideas and feedback received during the Roundtable discussion at the conference, including a possible CA seal which may contribute to brand unification.

**Training and Development Report: Rodney Reasonover**

Mr. Reasonover reported the committee is currently working on Summer Conference and will present a detailed report at the April meeting. The conference will be held in Dublin, Ohio. He also reviewed upcoming training topics and dates for stand-alone conferences and specialty trainings scheduled throughout the year.

**Exemplary Programs Report: Bambi Baughn**

No report.

**Membership Committee Report: Gwen Robinson**

Mr. Cole reported in Ms. Robinson's absence. The committee has discussed plans for the development of a CA Alumni Association, and a possible off-site reception to be held during the Summer Conference. The reception will include executive directors and administrators who are retired or are retiring within the next two years. This will be an opportunity for up and coming administrators to take advantage of the wealth of knowledge that these people possess.

**Personnel Committee: Joshua Anderson**

No report.



**Old Business**

None.

**New Business**

Mr. Reed announced Ms. Maldonado resigned from the board and had accepted a position as CEO at California Human Development Community Action in Santa Rosa, CA. The agency serves 31 northern California counties with a high population of migrant and seasonal farmworkers. Mr. Chilton and Mr. Costa gave her a special tribute.

**Open Dialogue**

None.

**Adjourn:**

Mr. Sturgill called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11: 57 p.m. Ms. Warner seconded. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by,

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Janice W. Warner, Secretary

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Date