



**Ohio Association of
Community Action Agencies**

**Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies
Board of Trustees Meeting
September 18, 2015
Sheraton on Capitol Square
Columbus, Ohio**

Members Present: Tom Reed, President; David Brightbill, First Vice President; Gwen Robinson, Second Vice President; Ruthann House, Treasurer; Janice Warner, Secretary; Deb Gerken; Joshua Anderson, Andrew J. Devany; David Shea; Judith Barris; Ken Kempton; Gary Obloy; Wayne McLaughlin; Anita Maldonado; Steve Sturgill; Alvin Norris; Bambi Baughn; Rodney Reasonover; Robert Chilton.

Members Excused: Douglas Bennet; Gary Ricer; Jeffrey Diver; Malcolm Costa.

Staff Present: Philip E. Cole, Executive Director; Josh Summer, Development Director; Kathryn Clausen, Communications Director; Greg Bollenbacher, Fiscal Director; Lorie McClain, Program Manager; Neva Dunn, Office Manager.

Guests Present: Paul Kudlak, The Junto Company; Larry Price, LPrice & Associates.

Mr. Reed called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m. A quorum was established.

Ms. House motioned to approve the agenda. Mr. Kempton seconded. The motion passed.

Ms. Robinson motioned to approve the July 23, 2015 minutes. Mr. Reasonover seconded. The motion passed.

Finance Report: Ruthann House

Ms. House reviewed the financial report with the board and stated there were no concerns. Ms. House then motioned to approve the financial report and place on file for audit. Mr. Reasonover seconded. The motion passed.

Ms. House noted a motion was made out of committee to accept the audit report as presented in the OCATO meeting. Mr. McLaughlin seconded. The motion passed.

Ms. House noted a motion was made out of committee to expand the 401K plan trustees to include the executive director, fiscal director, and board treasurer. Mr. Devany seconded. The motion passed.

President's Report: Tom Reed

Mr. Reed announced the board committee chairpersons as follows: David Brightbill, Legislative; Gwen Robinson, Membership; Ruthann House, Finance; Josh Anderson, Personnel; Janice Warner, Public Relations; Ken Kempton, Bylaws; Bo Chilton, Social Enterprise; Bambi Baughn, Best Practices; Joe Devany, Energy; Steve Sturgill, Workforce Development; Gary Obloy, Head Start; and Rodney Reasonover, Training and Development.



Mr. Reed noted the chairpersons will appointment members to the committees. Committee members do not have to be members of the board of trustees.

Executive Director's and Legislative Report: Philip E. Cole

Mr. Cole reported to the board that OACAA has consulted with Jefferson County CAO, at the request of their board, to conduct a financial and management review. A review of their fiscal condition has been completed and interviews and surveys of board and staff have been completed. The review team has a meeting scheduled to compile recommendations to their board, which will be presented in October.

Mr. Cole also proposed an OACAA strategic plan and proposed, due to time restrictions, that the staff complete a preliminary review of the strategic plan then move to the Executive Committee for further review and evaluation with facilitation. After the Executive Committee has accepted the strategic plan, it will then be formalized for board review and approval.

Mr. Cole reported the House Committee on Community and Family Advancement is holding hearings on poverty and related issues and that the committee leadership desires to work with CAAs. D.R. Gossett of Lawrence County testified about some of his projects at the last hearing which was in East Liverpool. Both Mr. Gossett and Mr. Cole will continue to be part of the meetings.

Mr. Cole recently met with Stud Johnson of Connected Nation, which is the umbrella corporation for Connected Ohio and its program Digital Works. The company reportedly trains employees to work in call centers for various companies including Apple, IBM, United Healthcare and more. The company wants to partner with CAAs. Mr. Cole solicited feedback from the board. Mr. Norris and Ms. Maldonado stated they both have had positive experiences and partnerships with the company.

Mr. Cole discussed work with Rep. Reese of the Community-Police Task Force regarding voting rights and recommendations. According to Public Safety Director Born, the recommendations of the Task Force are proceeding toward adoption. Mr. Cole also discussed a poverty awareness week press conference held the day prior along with Advocates for Ohio's Future and other partnership organizations. Mr. Cole's testimony was provided to the board for review.

Mr. Cole reviewed Ohio's Biennial budget issues with the board. Discussion.

Mr. Cole stated the legal firm the association has consulted with for agency assistance is dissolving and the partners are moving to Bricker and Eckler. Mr. Cole requested approval from the board to continue consulting with the partners at their new firm on an as-needed basis due to their strong experience with Community Action. Individual contracts, if necessary in the future, will require separate board approval.

Mr. Devany motioned to accept the informal contract with Bricker and Eckler. Ms. House seconded. Mr. Chilton and Ms. Maldonado abstained. The motion passed.



Public Relations Report: Janice Warner

Ms. Warner deferred the report to Kathryn Clausen. Ms. Clausen directed the board to the PR report included in their packets, which included outreach statistics. She also stated the website update will be completed by the end of the year and the PR Group will have their next call in October. Ms. Clausen also discussed a legacy video project and will be contacting directors throughout the network to schedule or assist setting up interviews with long-term members of the Ohio network. In addition, Ms. Clausen stated she will be taking photographs of new board members at the next meeting and will be available to other board members wishing to have new photographs taken.

Best Practices Report: Bambi Baughn

No report.

Partnership Report: Joe Devany

Mr. Devany directed the board to the written report included in their packets. He also noted the Vets program has been extended and that the Partnership will hold a board retreat for members in November.

Energy Report: Joe Devany

Mr. Devany reported to the board that an HWAP PAC meeting was held in August and another is scheduled to be held at the end of September to discuss the upcoming bid process. DSA is seeking a third party to review the application. Discussion.

Rodney Reasonover: Head Start

No report.

CAPLAW Report: David Brightbill

Mr. Brightbill announced the passing of Winston Ross, who acted as the President of the CAPLAW board of directors. Condolences were expressed.

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Open Dialogue

Ms. Robinson announced that she was selected by the Jewish Federation of Cincinnati to join them and thirty others in Israel to study early education and their practices in teaching a diverse nation. The trip will be fully funded by the Federation.

Ms. Warner motioned to adjourn the meeting at 12:32 p.m. Mr. Kempton seconded. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.



End:
Respectfully submitted,

Janice W. Warner, Secretary

Date