



Ohio Association of  
Community Action Agencies

**Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
November 19, 2016  
Renaissance Hotel  
Columbus, Ohio 43215**

**Members Present:** David Brightbill, First Vice-President; Gwen Robinson Second-Vice President; Janice Warner, Secretary; Andrew J. Devany; David Shea; Judith Barris; Douglas Bennett; Ken Kempton; Gary Ricer; Kellie Ailes; Al Norris; Bambi Baughn; Jeffrey Diver; Robert Chilton; Jeffrey Diver.

**Members Excused:** Tom Reed, President; Ruthann House, Treasurer; Joshua Anderson; Deb Gerken; Gary Obloy; Steve Sturgill; Anita Maldonado; Rodney Reasonover; Malcolm Costa.

**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.

**Guests Present:** Paul Kudlak, The Junto Company; Jim Mermis, The Junto Company; Larry Price, L. Price and Associates.

Mr. Brightbill called the meeting to order at 11:25 a.m. A quorum was established.

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

Mr. Norris motioned to approve the October minutes. Mr. Shea seconded. The motion passed.

**Finance Report: Ruthann House**

Mr. Bollenbacher reviewed the report with the board. Ms. Warner moved to accept the financial report. Ms. Robinson seconded. The motion passed.

Mr. Norris suggested that executive directors donate funds to cover the second-half dues of Geauga Community Action Agency as a personal gesture of promoting their success. The board agreed Ms. Dunn would collect and track the donations. No board action necessary.

**President's Report: Tom Reed**

No report.

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

Mr. Cole discussed the Head Start public hearing stating that an ODJFS representative, three program staff, and he attended the meeting. He distributed a copy of his testimony to members of the board. There is no statutory duty for the department to respond to the testimony. Mr. Kudlak stated he met with Senator Lehner, who is a vocal advocate of Head Start and Community



Action. The Senator did not receive notice of the hearing; she was provided with the testimony. Mr. Cole asked the board for direction on the issue of layering of the funding. The board agreed to challenge the Head Start partnership funding issue.

Mr. Cole reported on the success of the district meetings. He stated district five was scheduled for November 28<sup>th</sup> and districts one, two, and three had been completed. Meetings will resume in Spring 2017. Mr. Cole also stated he spoke at the OURS conference and congratulated them on a successful event.

Mr. Cole continued his report discussing HEAP and HWAP funding issues. He reported that the majority of members favored a transfer from HEAP to HWAP though were concerned about losing administrative funds. Mr. Hunt has stated he does not believe administrative funds for HEAP would be affected.

Mr. Brightbill called for a motion to support the change in statutory language to transfer twenty-five percent of HEAP funding to HWAP, providing the transfer does not impact agencies' HEAP administrative grants. Mr. Diver motioned. Mr. Devaney seconded. The motion passed.

Mr. Cole discussed the upcoming LeVeque lease renewal which is expected to increase rent approximately fifty percent. He noted there has not been a rental increase since moving into the building in 2001 and the increase would take the rent to downtown market rate. The building management has also requested the Association relocate to the thirteenth floor. Mr. Cole stated additional office space is being explored to ensure the best location though expressed the importance of staying in the downtown area to which the board agreed. Mr. Bollenbacher reported the 2017 budget report reflects an increase in rental expense.

Mr. Brightbill called for a motion to approve the additional rental expense up to \$15,000 per year. Mr. Devaney motioned. Mr. Ricer seconded. The motion passed.

Mr. Cole continued his report discussing the upcoming state budget and potential challenges regarding HEAP, HWAP, and CSBG allocations. Proposals to revert the statutory change to previous language reducing the amount of CSBG or other possible changes are being discussed by the state. Discussion. Mr. Cole also discussed the unemployment compensation bill which may pass during the lame-duck session. The opposition may cause the bill to be held until July next year. Discussion.

#### **Partnership Report: Andrew "Joe" Devany**

Mr. Devany discussed the Partnership retreat which was held in Memphis, Tennessee on November 9<sup>th</sup> as well as a post-election discussion with Mr. Bradley. He continued his report stating the final ROMA Next Generation comment period had begun. He stated he is carefully watching how CAAs will be rated; Mr. Bradley discussed a possible challenge of the rating system in Congress. Mr. Devaney continued stating the Partnership will submit a grant to the Kellogg Foundation to focus on racial relations. The proposal will contain language geared toward work with local CAAs to help with the racial equality. He also stated the white paper on poverty plan which is conceptualized with getting customers receiving services involved on a national level. A finished product will be available in June 2017. Mr. Devany also discussed



developing a CAA national triage concept for emergency situations, such as natural disasters. A budget of \$3.7 million is proposed for this initiative. He concluded his report inviting the board to attend the conference in January.

**CAPLAW Report: David Brightbill**

Mr. Brightbill reported on the CAPLAW Board meeting held in Salem, Massachusetts and stated the Annual CAPLAW 2017 Calendar is now available. Mr. Brightbill also reported CAPLAW is discussing raising their dues which are currently capped is \$7,500/year. He stated there has not been an increase in several years and discussions are surrounding making it equitable for agencies based on their size but also ensuring membership is not lost. Mr. Brightbill concluded his report stating the next CAPLAW Conference will be located in Denver, Colorado in June 2017.

**Legislative Committee Report: David Brightbill**

No report.

**Public Relations Report: Janice Warner**

Ms. Warner deferred the report to Ms. Clausen. Ms. Clausen reported on the progress of the Legacy Video stating the first part is slated to be released by the end of the year. She also stated agency filming will resume next year. She also stated registration for the Winter Legislative Conference is open and may be accessed through the OACAA Website. Ms. Clausen concluded the report stating the website menu update will be completed by the end of the year.

**Training and Development Report: Rodney Reasonover**

No report.

**Exemplary Programs Report: Bambi Baughn**

No report.

**Membership Committee Report: Gwen Robinson**

No report.

**Personnel Committee: Joshua Anderson**

No report.

**Old Business**

None.

**New Business**

None.

**Open Dialogue**

Ms. Robinson reported a \$15 million levy that will provide preschool services for every eligible child in Cincinnati passed. Those funds will be available in January 2017.



**Adjourn:**

Mr. Brightbill called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:30 p.m. Mr. Ricer moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Devany seconded. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by,

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Janice W. Warner, Secretary

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Date