

**Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**April 20, 2012**  
**Embassy Suites**  
**Columbus, Ohio**

**Members Present:** Gwen Robinson, President; Robert Chilton, Second Vice President; Ruthann House, Treasurer; Janice Warner, Secretary; Joe Devany; Robert Hamilton; David Shea; Dave Hannahs; Bambi Baughn; James Powell; Charles Chipps; Gary Ricer; Al Norris; Tom Reed; Ken Kempton

**Members Excused:** David Brightbill, First Vice President; Gary Obloy; Tim Donnellan; Wayne McLaughlin; Deb Gerken; Rodney Reasonover; Jacqueline Middleton

**Staff Present:** Philip E. Cole, Executive Director; Josh Summer, Development Director; Colleen Stoker, Communications Director; Lorie McClain, Program Manager; Neva Dunn, Office Manager; Jim Danes, Consultant; Greg Bollenbacher, Consultant

**Guests Present:** Jim Mermis and Paul Kudlak of the Junto Company; Dave Rinebolt, Executive Director, OP&E ; Larry Price of Price Consulting; Terry Jacobs of WSOS

Ms. Robinson called the meeting to order and asked everyone to take a moment to reflect.

Ms. Warner called the roll. A quorum was established.

Ms. Robinson asked if there were any changes to the agenda. There were not any. Mr. Chipps moved to approve the agenda, Mr. Devany seconded. The agenda was approved.

Mr. Norris moved to approve the minutes, Mr. Reed seconded. The minutes were approved.

**ODOD Report: Nick Sunday**

Nothing to report in Mr. Sunday's absence.

**Finance Report: Ruthann House**

Ms. House asked if there was any follow up that needed to be discussed for the unpaid members. Mr. Cole reported that he had not heard from Lancaster Fairfield and thinks it's an oversight and

Tri-County has special conditions they're working through. DMU hasn't sent a letter stating that they need assistance.

Ms. Robinson stated that last month the board discussed writing these agencies off and asked how we should proceed. Ms. House recommended sending a formal letter asking why they're not paying and what assistance they need. Mr. Kempton asked if there had been previous communications with the agencies. Mr. Cole said there had only been informal communications. Mr. Cole also mentioned that Clark County OIC might not be paying for other reasons and he might need to visit with them personally to discuss further.

Ms. House reported on the financials. She noted that the end dates on the report were not correct and did get extensions. We overspent a little bit on T/TA, but it is covered by conference fees. We're working on a three month extension. Our new contract will run April through March. Mr. Hannahs moved to accept the financial report. Mr. Ricer seconded. The motion passed.

Ms. House said the Finance Committee needs to meet next month to approve the budget. She also noted that the three year bid with Snodgrass may be over and the board needed to approve extending it for 2011. Mr. Chipps moved to do so, Ms. Warner seconded. The motion passed. It will be bid out again this year if needed.

#### **Presidents Report: Gwen Robinson**

Ms. Robinson reported that there would be a conference call at noon with Ted Waters, the attorney in the Head Start lawsuit. Ms. Robinson also reported that she was confronted by one of her board members who was upset that OACAA was supporting de-funding Plan Parenthood. Ms. Robinson requested that Mr. Cole explain our position to the board.

Mr. Cole explained there was a bill that would create tiered funding where county health centers were first and Community Action Agencies would be funded last along with Plan Parenthood. OACAA worked to submit an amendment that would move CAAs up to a first tier standing with county health centers. He has copies of his testimony if anyone is interested, which was in support of CAAs, not against Plan Parenthood.

Ms. Robinson reported that with the Summer Conference it is time for elections of all officers. She has selected Mr. Reasonover to chair the elections committee. With Mr. Norris and Mr. Hamilton to also serve on the committee. If anyone is interested in running for office, they should let them know.

#### **Public Relations Report: Janice Warner**

Ms. Warner deferred to Ms. Stoker. Ms. Stoker discussed the plans for Community Action Month. There will a Food Stamp Challenge April 30-May 4. Template press releases and social media postings were distributed to members for the Challenge and a blog was established with information and for participants to share their experiences. May 8 is Twitter Day where we are asking Community Action supporters across the nation to tweet about Community Action throughout the day using #CommunityAction. There were over 70 participants in the Twitter 99 training to prepare for Twitter Day. A press conference is also scheduled for May 1 at the Statehouse to release the Exemplary Practices report developed by Ohio University that

demonstrates Community Action Agencies' contribution to community economic development. Template press releases and social media postings to promote the report were sent to members and the report will be distributed as soon as it's available.

### **Training and Development Report: Robert Hamilton**

Mr. Hamilton reported that one agency still owes for the Winter Conference. The Summer Conference is scheduled for Monday through Wednesday this year because OCA didn't approve our grant application in time to get better dates. It will be at the Doubletree, which is a good location near shopping and other things, and has free parking. The agenda and registration are on the website. A board meeting is scheduled on Monday at 8 a.m. The board members discussed that they were not in favor of that time slot. Mr. Cole said he would look into changing the time.

### **Social Enterprise/Marketing Report: Robert Chilton**

Mr. Chilton reported that the committee is going to have a meeting next month.

### **Legislative Committee and Executive Director's Report: Phil Cole**

Mr. Cole reported that the legislation to change the name of the Department of Development left out language regarding the Division of Community Services. A handout that accompanied the legislation had it listed there. Mr. Kudlak said they have had conversations with the Department and Representative Hagen is going to take care of it next Tuesday. The House is supposed to amend the bill and vote it out of committee then. Mr. Kudlak will try to get a look at the amendment. He said that there are a lot of issues in the legislature right now, so we need to make sure that it doesn't fall through the cracks. It is a priority and a main focus for Junto. He also reported that he thinks the bill requiring drug testing for benefits is dead, but they will continue to follow up because with term limits opinions always change.

Mr. Cole reported that he testified for HCR 33 reauthorization, which would give WIA greater flexibility. This passed. The HWAP state plan is going to include competition. A strategy meeting was held to discuss this. We are opposed to this and have no idea what the motivation is behind it. He thinks the best thing to do is call William Murdock for a meeting. Mr. Rinebolt said that the utilities and facts are on our side. Utility companies fund Weatherization and some will be willing to step up and support it. Mr. Mermis commented that the HWAP issue is a solution in search of a problem. He has talked to the Governor's Office and the Department of Development and received no answer.

Mr. Cole discussed the new membership levels for NCAF. They want to move forward with the reauthorization and need money to do so. Almost every state has fallen behind in contribution levels. He said he would like OACAA to move into the Leadership Circle level for \$10,000 to set an example. There could be enough unobligated funds from conference. There was discussion about agencies contributing to OACAA to give and if that would count towards an agency's contribution and OACAA's. Mr. Cole will ask David Bradley.

Mr. Cole said he would like to have an Executive Directors meeting to discuss where Community Action is going in the next five years and encouraged everyone to attend.

### **Personnel Report: Tim Donnellan**

Ms. Robinson gave the report in Mr. Donnellan's absence. Ms. Robinson requested authorization for a three percent cost of living raise across the board. Ms. House moved for the raise, Mr. Shea seconded, the motion passed. Mr. Reed suggested we review pay scale regularly.

Ms. Robinson said that the state has recommended OACAA hire its own finance director instead of contracting the position. The committee has asked the executive director to review the job description and post it per guidelines and move forward with hiring someone. More money was given from the state to cover the costs and this is because of staff changes at Pike County. Mr. Hannahs motioned to move forward with hiring a finance director, Mr. Norris seconded, the motion passed.

### **Veteran's Committee: Robert Hamilton**

Mr. Hamilton deferred to Mr. Danes. Mr. Danes reported that a formal proposal was submitted to the state for funding and should be getting out of legal next week. They are looking at doing six pilots and want to start May 1 with June 30, 2013 being the end of funding. Mr. Danes said he is going to have a meeting with the new ODJFS workforce head. She is interested in the program and looking at possibly getting DL money to match. He also reported that HB 490 has a veterans services component that we're looking at to see if we can mesh and what opportunities there are. He is also working with other legislators, such as Senator Steve Stivers to see how we can mesh. Mr. Danes said he would appreciate input. After May 1 they will look at doing an RFQ and look for committee input.

### **Best Practices Report: Bambi Baughn**

Nothing to report

### **Partnership Report: Joe Devany**

The conference planned for August in New York is filling up. Those planning on attending should make their hotel reservations soon. There has not been a Partnership meeting since OACAA's last board meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for late May in New York. There are currently two major sponsors for the convention, Trac Phone at \$50,000 and Irwin Siegel Insurance at \$25,000. The convention this year is earlier than in the past, starting on Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup> and running through Wednesday the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Don continues to travel a lot to state association meetings. A committee of the board continues to work with the administration regarding a new plan for CSBG. Although Mr. Devany has not heard a great deal about the discussions lately, his understanding is that the administration is wanting to key in on evidenced-based program results.

There is a conference call later today on the CDFI, which will be rolled out at the August convention. Ms. Robinson said she heard that elections for officer positions were coming available and asked if Mr. Devany would be interested in running. He said yes.

### **Energy Report: Joe Devany**

Mr. Devany deferred to Mr. Rinebolt. Mr. Rinebolt said NASCSP sent out letters concerning HWAP, but he did not receive the letter and doesn't have appropriations. He was asked to circulate it to the network, but he said no.

Mr. Rinebolt reported that the contract with AEP is finished and they were impressed. It exceeded kilowatt hours. There is now a new contract. He also said he has utility money for HWAP. There is enough utility money to have a bigger program than there was in 2008 even without federal money, but distribution is a problem because the utilities are not in some counties. He also said the DPL, Dominion East Ohio and Duke contracts are in place.

**Head Start Report: Rodney Reasonover**

Nothing to report

**Agency/District Reports**

Nothing to report. Ms. Robinson said she hopes that district representatives are getting input and bringing it to the board so that districts have a voice and are engaged.

**Old Business**

Mr. Kempton said that he received an email from the Inspector General's office that they wanted to come review his Weatherization program for best practices. He was pleased, but concerned and discussed it with Mr. Cole and Mr. Sunday. They came for three hours. In some areas they were knowledgeable, in other areas they were not. He thought it was a good meeting and wanted to make the board aware.

**New Business**

Mr. Shea said he got an email about JFS money for TANF. Ms. Robinson said at the next meeting she wanted to look at bi-law changes. She is reactivating the committee to look at the bi-laws by June.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Ricer. Mr. Reed seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Janice W. Warner, Secretary

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Date