

**Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies
Board of Trustees Meeting
June 19, 2012
Doubletree Columbus-Worthington
Columbus, Ohio**

Members Present: Gwen Robinson, President; David Brightbill, First Vice President; Ruthann House, Treasurer; Janice Warner, Secretary; Joe Devany; Robert Hamilton; David Shea; James Powell; Tom Reed; Al Norris; Tim Donnellan; Jacqueline Middleton; Wayne McLaughlin; Deb Gerken

Members Excused: Robert Chilton, Second Vice President; Charles Chipps; Gary Ricer; Gary Obloy; Dave Hannahs; Bambi Baughn; Ken Kempton; Rodney Reasonover

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

Guests Present: Jim Mermis and Paul Kudlak of the Junto Company; John Evans, CAC EHR Board Member; Jim Danes, Consultant

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. Mr. Reed announced that during District 4's meeting Cheryl Thiessen, executive director of Jackson-Vinton Community Action was elected to the board to replace Dave Hannahs who has retired. Ms. Robinson informed the board that Andrew Binegar was replacing Mr. Hannahs as the executive director of Pickaway County Community Action. She also informed the board that Mr. Chipps had a heart attack.

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

Ms. Gerken moved to approve the minutes, Mr. Shea seconded. The minutes were approved.

ODOD Report

Nothing to report

Finance Report: Ruthann House

Ms. House reported that the audit being done by Snodgrass is progressing. She hopes to present the findings in August. The budget is still being finalized. Mr. Bollenbacher is working on including the veterans program. She informed the board that we have moved from a deficit to a strong financial position over the past six years.

Mr. Norris moved to accept the financial report. Ms. Warner seconded. The motion passed.

Ms. House reported on the membership dues still unpaid. She said that Tri-County CLS still owes, Clark County OIC has decided not to join and DMU has paid a portion of their dues and sent a letter requesting a waiver and assistance, which she read to the board. Mr. Devany explained that DMU's dues are higher than comparable agencies because they bought votes in the past. A discussion was had about lowering their dues to past rates or permitting a waiver.

Mr. Devany made a motion to grant DMU's request to waive the first six month's dues. Mr. Brighbill seconded, the motion passed.

Mr. Devany made another motion to contact Rochelle Twining at DMU and offer the opportunity to rescind two votes, taking their dues back to 1980 levels. Mr. McLaughlin seconded, the motion passed.

Presidents Report: Gwen Robinson

Ms. Robinson thanked the OACAA staff for putting together the Summer Conference, especially doing so last minute while waiting for contract approval from the state. She reported that next year the conference will be in Cincinnati and discussed potential opportunities for the conference. Ms. Robinson also reported that a membership meeting was going to be held that day and committee chairs needed to have their reports. Elections are also being held at the membership meeting, but since the chair, Mr. Reasonover was not going to be there she requested Mr. Hamilton give the report.

There was a discussion on how voting would work. Those members who have not paid, Clark County OIC, Tri-County CLS and DMU, will not be able to vote.

Social Enterprise/Marketing Report: Robert Chilton

Nothing to report

Public Relations Report: Janice Warner

Ms. Warner deferred to Ms. Stoker. Ms. Stoker gave an updated report on the results from Twitter Day that showed OACAA was the most popular tweeter that day, meaning we had the most mentions and retweets. We were also in the top ten for the number of tweets sent, the top five for the number of impressions and Cincinnati was in the top 20 for the most reach. She also thanked HAPCAP, Adams-Brown and WSOS for hosting events to promote the economic development report produced by OU.

Training and Development Report: Robert Hamilton

Mr. Hamilton reported that 153 people paid in advance for the Summer Conference. He then reviewed the list of on-site trainings scheduled. Ms. Robinson stated she had talked to one of her IC's and that she expected more resources from the program. Mr. Hamilton said the program was re-evaluated last year and that the reason resources are limited is because of the amount of ICs. Ms. Robinson asked how the program is being marketed. Mr. Summer said it is good to learn from a peer and many ICs have years of experience, advanced degrees and work in the field. OACAA has limited staff and the ICs make up for that.

Mr. Summer said that the agency receives free training and ICs use their vacation time to conduct training so it does not interfere with agency work, but it does offer a reward to the staff member because they can make extra money and increase their capacity. It also helps build a stronger network.

Mr. Hamilton said that as part of the application process to become an IC, executive directors have to recommend their staff member and have the opportunity not to do so if they do not want their staff to participate. He said he encourages executive directors to recommend staff to serve because since we have a limited number of ICs we continue to call on the same people. If more people participated, it would reduce the strain.

Legislative Committee and Executive Director's Report: Phil Cole

Mr. Cole reported that the Department of Development bill changing the name to the Development Services Agency passed, but it did not include the Division of Community Services. The funding is still there, but the compliance language, definitions and other provisions were not in the bill. It is still part of state law though because it was not repealed.

Mr. Kudlak explained how this came about with various stalls in the House and Senate. He said it is going to be taken care of during the lame duck session in November. The governor has not actually signed the bill yet and it doesn't go into effect until three months after it's signed. Mr. Kudlak will make getting this sorted out his top priority.

Mr. Cole said that Green Solutions Property Services wanted to meet with agencies about the money the attorney general's office is providing to demolish blighted properties. Several agencies are already involved in this through local government agencies. Mr. Cole said anyone who wanted to meet with the company should meet in the Alder Room at 2 p.m.

Mr. Cole emphasized that we need to keep supporting NCAF. The newly-established legislative posse is meeting today at the end of Mr. Mermis and Mr. Kudlak's workshop where they will discuss how it will work once they see who is involved and determine the best use of resources. Ms. Robinson asked if the posse will be using their own funds for travel and expenses. Mr. Cole said yes, it has to be unrestricted or personal funds. Mr. Kudlak said it is not going to be a day-to-day operation, but as issues come up, such as drug testing for welfare benefits, which is going to come up again. They will utilize relationships members have or create new ones and will alert members via email and create a plan of what to do and how to educate legislators.

Personnel Report: Tim Donnellan

Nothing to report

Veteran's Committee: Robert Hamilton

Mr. Hamilton reported that RFPs were sent out to the six pilot agencies, not for competition purposes, but to determine program specifics and costs. They were due on the 14th. Out of the \$900,000 available (10 percent of the \$1 million grant goes towards admin.) \$842,477 will be expended to proposed programs. The next step is to issue contracts. One problem is the programs will have to be entered into OCEAN and we are not sure how many barriers there will be. We also don't have an agreement with OCA to serve people over 125 percent of the poverty level and this program is at 200 percent. We will need a waiver. There may be an additional \$55,000 the committee will determine how to use. He recommends it be awarded as a lump sum for special projects.

Best Practices Report: Bambi Baughn

Nothing to report

Partnership Report: Joe Devany

Mr. Devany reported that the Partnership Board reviewed the annual audit report. It was a good, clean audit; however, the Partnership did not take in as much money as in the previous year, partly because attendance at the annual convention in San Francisco was not as high as the previous year.

The Community Economic Development Project will be offering loans this year. Additional information was to be available at the CAPLAW conference and the annual convention.

A donation of \$10,000 was made to NCAF and an additional donation of \$10,000 is scheduled for the annual convention. The Partnership is encouraging all member organizations to make contributions to NCAF and Club 199.

Elections will be held at the conference in New York this year. Two representatives from Region V are seeking election to the board, Dalitso Sulamoyo, the director of the Illinois state association is seeking the office of 2nd vice-chair and Peter Kilde of Wisconsin is seeking to retain his seat as 3rd vice-chair. The reservations for the conference hotel are filling up. There is a nice secondary hotel within walking distance.

Don Mathis is continuing to work closely with many committees in Washington. Mr. Devany gave an update to the committee on the information that we had regarding the Head Start suit. The Region IV representative, Paul Dole is on the board and up-to-date on the recent developments. They discussed inviting Ted Waters to the annual convention to discuss matters. There will be a Head Start open meeting at the conference. David Bradley will be at the conference and will speak on Monday.

Energy Report: Joe Devany

Mr. Devany reported on the Energy Policy Council meeting held on June 14, 2012. He said that no advance funding or monthly funding will be available for HWAP providers until mid- to late-

July and advance funding will only be ten percent. Some agencies are funding it through corporate funds, some are using lines of credit and some are laying staff off. The state realizes that they have put us in a difficult position and they are resigned to the possibility of layoffs.

Agencies need to work to get their management plans through the system. To date only about 12 have been approved. Mr. Devany said his agency had a hard time with it.

There will be an additional \$10 million available for the current HWAP program; however, it will probably be September or October before we see these funds. Mr. Rinebolt reported at the meeting that all the utility contracts except Duke are in place.

Mr. Devany also reported that after a lengthy discussion, the committee voted not to approve the portion of the addendum to the state plan that was submitted to DOE dealing with a bid process for HWAP.

There was also a presentation on the value of doing multi-family units or setting aside a certain percentage of funds for this purpose. A study in Wisconsin was cited as the source that this was more effective than doing single-family units. Jack Laverty of Columbia Gas was quick to point out that Wisconsin housing is not typical of any other housing stock in the country and that he believes the survey is not consistent for other states, such as Ohio. A number of rural providers indicated that multi-family units in many cases were not an option for them.

Head Start Report: Rodney Reasonover

Nothing to report

Agency/District Reports

Mr. Norris reported that at the District 5 meeting they discussed politics, elections, and the OACAA elections. Mr. Diver who had been critical of OACAA in the past said in the meeting that he recommended thanking the OACAA staff for doing a fantastic job and is now supportive. Mr. Reed reiterated that Ms. Thiessen was elected to the board in the District 4 meeting.

Old Business

No old business

New Business

Mr. Devany stated that the national conference next year is going to be held in Chicago to represent Region V.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Janice W. Warner, Secretary

Date