

**Texas Council of Child Welfare Boards, Inc.**  
**Full Board Meeting**  
**Wyndham Garden Hotel, Austin, TX**  
**March 23, 2016 Meeting Minutes**

President David Cory called to order the meeting of the Texas Council of Child Welfare Boards, Inc. at 9:07am. Patsy Baggett established a quorum and the following were in attendance:

Region 1: Anna Rigler, Faye Sigle  
Region 2: Patsy Baggett, Roberta Broussard  
Region 3: None  
Region 4: Sandy Hilliard  
Region 5: Steve Meadows, Tim Allen  
Region 6: Jeanette Elias  
Region 7: David Woodbury, David Williams  
Region 8: Carole Foster  
Region 9: Laura Keith  
Region 10: Vicki Maline, Karen Cook  
Region 11: None  
MAL: David Cory, Joel Levine, Catherine Earley  
ED: Shannon Ireland  
CPS: Janet Jackson

David opened the meeting with an overview of what we would be doing today. He also reminded everyone to fill out the travel expense form. He asked that we not staple the receipts to the form. Please fill out the form completely, so Shannon does not have to fill out 17 or more forms. Do not forget to add your receipts and to make copies or take pictures of them.

There was a presentation about the Care Portal. Lela Walls, Care Portal Regional Field Manager showed a video off of the website. The Care Portal was started by a couple who traveled overseas and saw the plight of orphans. They got the local churches to help families in need working through the church. Because some families could not afford to take care of their children, mother's would drop their children off at the orphanage, so this couple decided to do what needed to be done to help families keep their children. After seeing success in other countries, they decided to help in the United State and focus on helping children in the Child Welfare System.

Val Jackson, a faith-based specialist with DFPS, also presented information about the Care Portal. The Care Portal is CPS and the church working together. It is based on the idea that: "everybody can't do everything, but everybody can do something." careportal.org is the website and there is a video on-line. The Care Portal not only helps families and children, it also helps caseworkers meet the needs of the children and families in the Child Welfare System.

**Committee Reports:**

**Education Committee: Anna Rigler, Chair**

Jeanne Stamp is stepping down as Education Chair and Anna Rigler is now the Chair.

Prevent Child Abuse Conference, (PCAT) was in Dallas in January. Jeanne Stamp stated that the conference was well attended. If a board member attends the PCAT conference, TCCWB gets a portion of the registration fee. The next conference is scheduled for February 27 & 28, 2017 at the Omni Colonnade Hotel in San Antonio, 2017. David shared an email from Renee Scoggins, that Prevent Child Abuse Texas has a new director, Libby Carroll. There was discussion about possible educational training for future board meetings. Jeanne Stamp suggested Darlene Ellison, Shannon Ireland suggested Stacy Bruce, and David Cory suggested Partnerships for Children.

### **Foster Care Re-Branding Committee: Catherine Earley, Chair**

Catherine Earley reported they are making great progress on Foster Care Re-Branding. Carol Foster is developing a Case for Support, not only for the Foster Care Re-Branding Committee, but also for the entire TCCWB which will help in future endeavors. Right now Carol is seeking additional statistics regarding successful past projects that were impactful for the local CWB and the TCCWB. Anyone who has any specific projects that were successful and impactful, send a brief blurb to Carole Foster so she can add it to her Case for Support. Catherine stated that when you are seeking funding, you want to prove to the potential donor that you are worth the investment. Anything we can add to the case for support will be helpful. We are partnering with ATX Television Festival in Austin. We want to put on a writer's workshop to educate the writers about the reality of Foster Care. Carole is also spearheading grant writing. David Williams is working on securing a trademark for our logo. We obtained a couple of urls, not .org or .com. We are making progress on securing a website. The Re-Branding Committee voted on a motion January 21st to fund a website proposal for the Ira Lieberman/Ajuxt media group.

Catherine also reported that we are partnering with St. Joseph University and the Beautiful Social Collaborative from Philadelphia. The students made us their project. We have 4 interns. They are helping us with the website, getting the information for the website, creating FB and Twitter and are currently planning a site visit. We are working with the Emergency Shelter in Wichita Falls so the students can get an idea of what goes on so they can better serve us. They are considering keeping us for 2 semesters as their project. If we are funded, they will train us for one year and then we will take over the website. Catherine talked about the possibility of using interns from WTU in the future.

PROPOSAL: There is a motion from the Foster Care Rebranding committee to approve \$4250 to purchase the Fostering Brighter Futures website as proposed by Ajuxt media group.

There was discussion. There was question about how much money was in our discretionary fund. Shannon stated there was \$9974. David Cory called the motion to question. It was unanimous.

### **Resource Committee: Vicki Maline, Chair**

Vicki reported that the committee is going to see how the TCCWB can collaborate with Together We Rise. We will see if there is a Texas organization and contact them. Later, there was much discussion about the color and size of the bags that children use for carrying their possessions. It was decided that Patsy Baguette will send Vicki a pattern that is used in her county.

The committee will provide education for the Text4baby campaign.

Vicki reported that we are waiting for the Case for Support because that is what McDonalds needs before we can continue with the McDonald liners.

The committee will see what tchotchkes we still have, and what needs to be purchased.

The resource committee will work with Shannon to put all of our resources on the website.

### **Awards Committee: Jeannette Elias, Chair - Sandy Hilliard gave the report:**

The theme for the Awards Banquet in September will be: All-American Stars. The colors will be red, white, and blue. Linda Topp will get the plaques. The entree will be Bacon Wrapped Pork Chop. Courtney Jones will be the speaker for the awards banquet. Courtney is a Foster Care Alum, who transitioned out of the foster care system, attended collage, has her masters in Social Work and is starting her own non-profit company helping children in need.

Nominations are due June 1st. There will be an electronic vote; the regional president will notify the winner, and the awards chair will follow up with a letter.

There was discussion about having some entertainment for the awards banquet. Janet Jackson suggested a group of kids out of Wichita Falls. Patsy will check on this and the rewards committee will explore the options. David Cory stated that we needed a budget for the awards luncheon. Sandy reported that the price is \$22 to \$23 a plate. David Cory brought up the possibility of a nomination for Judge Specia. It was decided that the TCCWB charge the awards committee to nominate Judge Specia for a Life Time Achievement Award for the awards banquet in September 2016.

**Advocacy Committee: Janet Stansbury, Chair**

Janet is not present. Joel mentioned that the committee would like to do more with Alcohol Fetal Syndrome. He reported that September is Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Month and suggested doing something with that in mind. Joel said he will get with Janet about advocacy.

There was discussion about the Round Table, CPS, Children's Commission and Advocacy. We as a board will not necessarily agree with all of their positions. David Cory stated that we are an interface between CPS and the Community. David Cory stated that he wanted us as a board to go home energized and get things done.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:39pm