

TEXAS COUNCIL OF CHILD WELFARE BOARDS, INC.
FULL BOARD MEETING
WYNDHAM GARDEN HOTEL, AUSTIN, TX
SEPTEMBER 10, 2015
MINUTES

President David Cory called to order the meeting of the Texas Council of Child Welfare Boards, Inc. at 9:20A.M. Patsy Baggett established a quorum. Members present were Sandy Hilliard, Nancy Preston, Tim Allen, Jeannette Elias, Laura Keith, David Woodberry, Anna Rigler, Carole Foster, Karen Cook, Vicki Maline, David Williams, Joel Levine, Faye Sigle, Nancy Mumford, Sarah Gordon, Patsy Baggett, and Janet Stansbury.

A correction to the March minutes adding Tim Allen to the attending list. The March minutes were approved as corrected and the August 6th Conference Call minutes were approved.

The Treasurer's Report was distributed and approved.

Will Francis of NASW (National Association of Social Workers) Texas Chapter, distributed a questionnaire asking what topics were of interest for those in child welfare. He asked for educational ideas. What would work best: short articles, 5 minute video, webinars, etc. There was discussion.

Judge Carol Hurley spoke on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, what it is and the difficulties that come with growing up with FASD for the children and the parents. She spoke on a personal level, as she has 2 adopted daughters who were found to have FASD. Judge Hurley showed the documentary, Moment to Moment: Teens Growing Up with FASD. The video was educational and eye opening.

Irene Clements was scheduled to give a program on National Trends in Foster Care, but was unable to do so due to illness.

Catherine Earley made a proposal to the board about getting on board and helping with Rebranding Foster Care. There was much discussion and motions were made later in the meeting.

Valinda Bolton DFPS gave the State Office Report from DFPS. She reported that the CPS Transformation continues to move forward and is successful. She related three points that need to be reported to the local and regional CWB's. There will be semi-annual "resource fairs" in each region to help staff understand what services are available locally. The CWB's and Regional Councils of each region will be asked to participate and provide volunteers, refreshments and possibly door prizes to help out. Regarding gifts to CPS staff, it is allowed to provide a meal, small gift, etc. every now and then, valued at less than \$50 to TDFPS staff members without creating a conflict of interest. Criminal and CPS background checks are required by all CWB's. Valinda stated that each CWB is a result of a contract between a County Commissioners Court and TDFPS. The Texas Family

Code provides that the contractual provisions may be set by TDFPS and background checks are required. Any statements to the contrary in a TCCWB operations manual, a regional rule, or a county CWB bylaws is now being superseded by this TDFPS policy statement.

Shannon Ireland gave the Executive Director's Report. She reported that contracts are signed and budgets are the same. Shannon reported on the progress of the new specialty license plate campaign, Drive4Change and the steps each CWB needs to take to qualify for money from the drive4change campaign.

Standing Committee Reports were given:

Advocacy Committee: Janet Stansbury reported that Capitol Day was great even though it had been postponed due to bad weather. She said that there was a great turnout. There was a good turnout for the Rally and that the Lt. Governor was impressed.

Resource Development Committee: Vicki Maline reported that the goal to have a new poster for the license plates was successful. A new poster and campaign for drive4change was in full swing and hopefully would draw more interest to the License plate. She reported that the McDonald Tray Liners were still a work in progress. The Bylaws had been updated. Regional information was being updated and region contact info was on the website with contact info. The vendor list is still being updated.

Awards Committee: Jeannette Elias gave a report on the upcoming awards banquet on Friday, September 11th. She reported that Dave Topp was ill, so Dave and Lynda would not be able to attend the banquet and present the checks. Jeannette reported that the RSVPs to the website has worked very well. She said that 85 RSVPs had been given. Final details about the upcoming banquet were discussed.

The red line bylaws were submitted by the Executive Committee and approved unanimously. The bylaws now designate the Council's Fiscal Year and prohibit comments by the ED on current or past TDFPS investigations. Discussions with media should be limited to programs or statistical reviews.

David Cory passed out the 2015-2016 Meeting Schedule and there was one change made. The March 24th & 25th, Thursday & Friday, Full Board Meeting was changed to March 22nd & 23rd, Tuesday and Wednesday.

The Play It Safe price list was distributed. David Cory reported that the price had been lowered considerably with no license required. He said they are thinking about going with a peer network instead of providing training.

There was discussion about Catherine Earley's proposal to the board about Rebranding Foster Care. A motion was made by David Williams to accept the proposal, Patsy Hilliard seconded the motion and it passed. Catherine Earley will be appointed as a member-at-large of the Council and chair an ad hoc Re-branding Foster Care Committee. David Cory appointed Carole Foster, Nancy Preston, David Williams, Joel Levine, Janet Stansbury, Patsy Baggett, and David Woodberry to the committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:17pm.