

Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board
Special Meeting Minutes
February 20, 2023

I. Call to Order

The Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. on February 20, 2023, in Conference Room A of the Office of the Attorney General, East Office, by Board chair, Heather Wagers.

II. Roll Call by Heather Wagers

Present

Heather Wagers, Office of Attorney General
Jill Seyfred, Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky
Andrea Bruns, Kentucky CASA Network, Inc.

Virtual attendees

Mona Womack, Justice and Public Safety Cabinet
Mary Carpenter, Cabinet for Health and Family Services
Bradly Stotts, Kentucky State Police
Jaime Kirtley Pittenger, Kentucky Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Michelle Sanborn, Children's Alliance
Eboni Thompson, Kentucky Administrative Office of the Courts (Left the meeting at 2:25 pm., no impact on quorum.)
Shannon Moody, Kentucky Youth Advocates
Caroline Ruschell, Children's Advocacy Centers of Kentucky

Guests

Ali Parham, Office of Attorney General
Jami McLemore, Office of Attorney General
Serah Wiedenhoefer, Office of Attorney General
Caroline Rinehart, Office of Attorney General
Stacy Woodrum, Office of Attorney General
Brittany Nichols, Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Kentucky Department for Public Health
Catherine Frye, Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Kentucky Department for Public Health
Courtney Short, Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Kentucky Department for Public Health

III. Review of the November 21, 2022 Minutes for Action by the Board

Ms. Seyfred requested two changes. The first requested change appears in item number VI, paragraph 2, line 4 to correct the reference to Illuminate Colorado, which is an organization or agency rather than a program. The second requested change appears in the title for item number VII to correct the spelling of Kentucky Youth Advocates. Ms. Womack made a motion to approve the minutes with the corrections noted. Ms. Bruns seconded the motion. The motion was unanimous.

IV. Safe Sleep Efforts in Kentucky, Kentucky Department for Public Health

Brittany Nichols, Courtney Short, and Catherine Frye from the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Department of Public Health, provided information on Safe Sleep that included Prevention, Promotion, and Protection. They provided an overview of Kentucky SUID cases, risk factors beyond safe sleep, KY SUID Cases 2016-2021, SUID categorization, and local community successes. They addressed what Kentucky is doing to address safe sleep, successes in Kentucky, and known gaps in safe sleep.

V. Financial Update by Stacy Woodrum, Office of Attorney General

Stacy Woodrum provided the financial report for November, December, and January. Ms. Wagers stated that the budget includes all items paid for by the Child Victims' Trust Fund.

VI. Review of Sponsorship Applications for Action by the Board

Three conference sponsorship applications were submitted to the Board. Prior to the Board's consideration of the applications, Ms. Seyfred and Ms. Carpenter left the meeting due to conflicts with reviewing the conference funding grant applications.

a. Lake Cumberland Community Action Agency

Ms. Bruns requested additional information regarding the agenda and the speakers who would be presenting the programming. The Board considered ways in which to fund portions of the conference, but ultimately determined that the application lacked sufficient specificity to grant any funding at this point.

b. Pennyrile Allied Community Services, conference in Hopkinsville, Kentucky

Ms. Wagers questioned how the conference will connect the topic of homelessness to the issue of child maltreatment in ways that will allow for funding from the Child Victims' Trust Fund. She requested clarification on the program contents and made a motion to continue deliberations to the March 16, 2023 Board meeting. Captain Stotts seconded the motion. The motion was unanimous.

c. Pennyrile Allied Community Services, conference in Paducah Kentucky

Ms. Womack stated that she was uncomfortable awarding funding without any information regarding the speakers, such as names, qualifications, and fees for the engagement. Ms. Bruns made a motion to continue deliberations to the March 16, 2023 Board meeting. Ms. Wagers seconded the motion. The motion was unanimous.

Ms. Seyfred and Ms. Carpenter returned to the meeting after the voting.

VII. Update on status of retaining a facilitator by Heather Wagers, Proxy Chairperson

Ms. Wagers informed the Board that a facilitator was contacted but additional information was necessary regarding the proposed services. Ms. Carpenter suggested contacting the Facilitation Center at Eastern Kentucky University and Ms. Seyfred suggested a facilitator from U of L. Both women will provide contact information to TAPP staff. TAPP staff will provide information at the next Board meeting.

VIII. Discussion of Child Fatality and Near Fatality External Review Panel Annual Report and latest Child Maltreatment Report

Ms. Wagers suggested assigning a committee to review the reports and make recommendations to the Board for possible action. Ms. Bruns suggested the creation of a Policy Committee. Ms. Seyfred noted that the Operations Committee previously discussed the possibility of creating a committee to address various policy issues. Ms. Wagers made a motion to create a Policy Committee that would provide the Board with guidance and input regarding reports, state and federal legislative proposals, and state and federal administrative regulations relating to child maltreatment issues. The motion was seconded by Ms. Womack. The motion was unanimous.

Ms. Moody and Ms. Wagers volunteered to co-chair the Policy Committee. Ms. Sanborn, Ms. Womack, Ms. Carpenter, Dr. Pittenger, Ms. Seyfred, and Ms. Bruns volunteered to serve on the Policy Committee.

IX. Discussion of applying for funding from the Opioid Abatement Advisory Commission

The Board discussed viability of applying for funding. TAPP staff will investigate further into this matter and report to the Board.

X. Discussion of grant solicitation and priorities for upcoming fiscal year (July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024), FY 24

The grant funding application was discussed. Ms. Wagers expressed her belief that language in the grant funding application should be updated to reflect the Board's new direction and offered to provide suggested modifications. Ms. Bruns said that the Grants Management Committee will review the suggestions and provide feedback to the Board.

XI. Committee Update

a. Grants Management, Chair Andrea Bruns

Ms. Bruns reported that no meetings occurred in 2023. The committee is waiting for direction from a facilitator.

b. Marketing & Development, Chair Steve Shannon

Ms. Wagers reported that there have not been any meetings since 2022.

c. Operations & Finance, Chair Michelle Sanborn

Ms. Sanborn reported that no meetings have been held since 2022. The committee is awaiting information relative to the direction of the Board.

d. Strategic Planning, Chair Mona Womack

Ms. Womack advised the Board that the year-end report was completed by the committee. Ms. Wages stated that the report was disseminated as required.

XII. Partner Updates and Announcements

Ms. Seyfred advised the Board that Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky developed an information sheet for first responders, a tip sheet card, and a video. These materials will be distributed to agencies throughout the Commonwealth.

Ms. Bruns reported that there are now 89 CASA offices throughout the Commonwealth. CASA is working to establish offices in all 120 counties of the Commonwealth.

Ms. Wagers advised the Board of a recent child abuse prevention program presented by Kentucky Kids on the Block who is a Child Victims' Trust Fund grant recipient. TAPP staff and the area's local prosecutors attended the presentation and then met to discuss child sexual abuse. As a result of the programming, two disclosures were made by children in attendance

XIII. Adjournment

Ms. Wagers made a motion to adjourn, and Ms. Seyfred seconded the motion. The motion was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 2:48 p.m.