

Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 18, 2023

I. Welcome and Introductions

The Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board meeting was called to order at 1:04 p.m. on September 18, 2023, in Conference Room “A” of the Office of the Attorney General, East office, by Board Chair, Heather Wagers.

Present

Heather Wagers, Office of the Attorney General
Mary Carpenter, Cabinet for Health and Family Services
Mona Womack, Justice and Public Safety Cabinet
Bradly Stotts, Kentucky State Police
Andrea Bruns, Kentucky CASA Network, Inc.
Michelle Sanborn, Children’s Alliance
Steve Shannon, Kentucky Association of Regional Programs
Caroline Ruschell, Children’s Advocacy Centers of Kentucky
Dr. Christina Howard, Kentucky Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics

Present Virtually

Jill Seyfred, Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky

Guests

Stacy Woodrum, Office of the Attorney General
Jami McLemore, Office of the Attorney General
Serah Wiedenhoefer, Office of the Attorney General

II. Financial update by Stacy Woodrum, Office of the Attorney General

Ms. Woodrum provided a financial update for July and August 2023.

Chair Wagers addressed the audit of the Child Victims’ Trust Fund, which is required by law due to the revenue received from the specialty license plate. The audit is due by the end of the month, and all Board members will receive a copy of the signed audit document. The audit will show any receipts the Board received from the Transportation Cabinet.

III. Review of minutes for action by the Board

a. July 17, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes

Ms. Womack pointed out that she was not listed under “Present Virtually,” although she was present at the meeting. Chair Wagers explained that this was an oversight that it would be corrected.

Captain Stotts made a motion to accept the July 17th minutes with the correction. Ms. Sanborn seconded this motion. The motion to approve was unanimous.

b. August 16, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes

Ms. Bruns made a motion to accept the August 16th minutes as presented. Ms. Womack seconded this motion. The motion to approve was unanimous.

IV. Discussion regarding upcoming grant solicitation, application review, and award process

The Board discussed anticipated changes for future grant funding cycles and the impact on grant funding for the current fiscal year. The Board decided to offer a transitional grant cycle based on a six-month Request For Proposal solicitation. Under this temporary solution, the Board will consider applications requesting funding for prevention programming beginning in January 2024 and ending on June 30, 2024.

The Board also discussed the process for addressing requests to reallocate conference sponsorship funding approved by the Board. Chair Wagers and Ms. Seyfred abstained from voting. Ms. Bruns made a motion that any requests to deviate from approved conference sponsorship funding allocations must be submitted to and approved by the Board before reimbursement will be made. Ms. Carpenter seconded the motion. The motion to approve was unanimous.

V. Strategic plan preparation discussion led by Strategic Planning Committee Chair Mona Womack

Ms. Womack reminded the Board of the statutory requirement to prepare a strategic plan covering 2024 to 2026. Toward that end, the Strategic Planning Committee is requesting information from all Board members regarding effective prevention programming, recommendations for effective education designed to reduce abuse and neglect, and gaps in legislation that contribute to unsafe conditions for children. This information will be assimilated to assist the Board in establishing clear areas of focus for the strategic plan, which will drive grant funding in the future.

VI. Committee updates

Ms. Sanborn, chair of the Operations Committee, reported that the committee previously recommended changes to the Board's mission statement and bylaws. These recommendations will be helpful during the strategic planning process and will be recirculated to the Board.

On behalf of the Policy Committee, co-chair Wagers advised that she and co-chair Moody have been discussing ways to stabilize funding for the Child Victims' Trust Fund. The Board reviewed the current revenue stream and discussed ways to diversify funding sources for the future.

VII. Partner updates and announcements

Chair Wagers thanked the Board for funding the "It Saves to Know, Missing Children Conference." which trained over two hundred attendees. The Child Victims' Trust Fund had an exhibit table at the event.

Ms. Bruns provided information regarding CASA's upcoming conference, which will have approximately 400 attendees. The Child Victims' Trust Fund will have an exhibit table at the

event. Additionally, CASA has an opening for a new director in the local office covering Montgomery, Bath, and Menifee Counties.

Ms. Seyfred provided an update about Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky's "Kids Are Worth It!" Conference, which was sponsored by the Board. Approximately 700 people attended the Conference, the second highest attendance in the 27 years of offering the conference. The Child Victims' Trust Fund had an exhibit table at the event.

VIII. Adjournment

Chair Wagers made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Womack seconded this motion. The motion was unanimous, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:31 p.m.

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