

**OKLAHOMA COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH**  
1111 N. LEE AVENUE, SUITE 500  
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

**REGULAR MEETING**  
JUNE 16, 2011

**MINUTES**

**Call to order and roll call**

Chairman Bouse called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. Members present were: Bart Bouse, Sid Brown, Darlene Callahan, Gene Christian, Terry Cline, Ken Couchman, Wanda Felty, Richard Kirby, Ben Loring, Michael O'Brien, and Brent Thackerson. Howard Hendrick arrived at 9:09 a.m., Jay Scott Brown arrived at 9:45 a.m., and Tom Alford arrived at 9:50 a.m. Members not present were: Janet Barresi, Mike Fogarty, Lisa Hammond, Claudette Selph, and Terri White.

**Review and approval of minutes from the March 24, 2011, Regular Commission Meeting**  
Cline moved, Callahan seconded to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2011, Regular Commission meeting as presented. All members present voted in the affirmative

**Director's report on agency activities – Lisa Smith**

**Report from the OCCY Legislative Sub-Committee – Commissioner Claudette Selph**  
(Commissioner Selph was unable to attend this meeting)

A written report from Director Smith was included in the Commission packet.

She briefly went over this report, as well as, reported on the most recent activities of the OCCY Legislative Sub-Committee as follows:

Ms. Smith highlighted this month, the Post Adjudication Review Board program. This program is comprised of volunteers, who over the last year, donated approximately 11,000 volunteer hours reviewing cases of deprived and delinquent children.

In reference to the Legislative Sub-Committee, Ms. Smith reported that there are two taskforces that were assigned to the OCCY this year; (1) the Foster Care System Improvement Task Force and (2) Children of Incarcerated Parents Task Force. The OCCY is partnering with the Office of Child Advocacy on both of these task forces and each so far has had two meetings.

Director Smith complimented the actions of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Governor, for the quick response in appointing members to both these task forces so that work could get under way.

**Oral report on the VideoConferencing Project at the O.U. Health Sciences Center – Dr. Janet Wilson, Candace Shaw and Sherri Snyder**

Ms. Snyder began this presentation stating that the Children's Advocacy Centers of Oklahoma had requested some federal funding to implement certain programs here in the state; while they did not receive their requested amount, they did receive part of the funding and with these funds

they developed a videoconferencing project, that in partnership with the O.U. Health Sciences Center, brought in technology that allows for the dissemination of information, trainings, and meetings, out into the state in a way that is extremely beneficial.

**How it all works and what this technology is used for:**

Ms. Snyder stated that each Advocacy Center is required to Peer Review cases that come into the centers. These peer reviews cover several disciplines; medical, forensic interviewing, mental health, etc.

In one medical peer review they were able to have 7 sites included through the videoconferencing technology; representing 12 medical personnel. Having and using this technology saved 49 hours of actual labor to produce and conduct, and saved \$765.00 in mileage reimbursement costs.

This technology is and can also be used for trainings.

Dr. Wilson added to this presentation stating that Oklahoma is the 2<sup>nd</sup> state in the country to have established a statewide child abuse telecommunications system; its name here in Oklahoma is KidSafe Telenet.

Candace Shaw also added to the presentation stating this technology will one day be available to everyone person, be it by desktop computer, laptop, cell phones, etc. The role of the O.U. Health Sciences Center is to assist in operationalizing this technology into the community.

**Oral Report from the Planning and Coordination Steering Committee – Commissioner Ben Loring**

Commissioner Loring reported that this Committee would be having a meeting immediately following today's Commission meeting.

The Committee is working on several issues; they are working with Dr. Theilen and Brandy Smith on a self-study of the Office of Planning and Coordination division of the OCCY, as well as finalizing their plans for the Retreat currently scheduled for August, 2011.

He reported that there is a sub-group of this committee that is currently working with the OKDHS Stakeholder Collaborative that will enhance what is being done for children through the OKDHS.

They are also working on the Healthcare Access initiative, and Terrie Fritz from the Oklahoma Health Care Authority reported that one of the priorities of this Initiative has been to improve access to healthcare around the state, and how it's done and how all the players are collaborating has been one of the things that have been regularly discussed. She stated that the State Department of Health has put into a place a health improvement plan for the State of Oklahoma that includes a major section on children's health and how to improve the health of children in Oklahoma.

**Oral report from the Strengthening Custody and Transition Services Advisory Team – Commissioner Brent Thackerson**

Commissioner Thackerson reported that this Committee met recently and they also have been part of the work on the self study that is being worked on by Dr. Gary Theilen and Brandy Smith; that study has also been looking at the Boys Lion Ranch, as well as the COJC facility of the Office of Juvenile Affairs. So far, as the result of some the information received during the self study

assessment, the Department of Rehabilitation Services agreed to hire and pay for a Level IV Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor that will be going into COJC and working with the youth in that facility.

Commissioner Thackerson also reported on the Jackson County Community-based transition program. There are currently three young ladies in the program there and the community is in the process of helping them find jobs, as well as providing mentoring services.

He further stated that Dr. Theilen and Brandy Smith have been spending a lot of time in Texas, Rogers and Ottawa counties working on the community shelter plans; Commissioner Christian has also been very involved with this.

**Report on the FY'2012 OCCY Budget – Chairman Bart Bouse, Lisa Smith, Jack Chapman and Diane Lewis**

A copy of the FY'2012 OCCY Budget was emailed to all Commissioners prior to today's meeting; the total budget to be approved is \$3,213,000.

Hendrick moved, O'Brien seconded to approve the FY'2012 OCCY Budget in the amount of \$3,213,000 as presented, as well as to allow the Director to move carryover from FY'2011 to FY'2012 to budget for additional funds to be made available to OCCY during FY'2012, if available; to adjust budgetary amounts within the major categories as necessary and to re-budget as necessary if it is determined that the Interagency Coordinating Council stays at OCCY and if sufficient funding is provided by an outside source for the ICC during FY'2012. All such adjustments would be reported to the full Commission. All members present voted in the affirmative. Motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion and possible action on the 2010 State Plan and Annual Report for the OCCY – Jack Chapman**

Included in the Commission packet was a draft copy of the 2010 State Plan and Annual Report for the OCCY.

Loring moved, Callahan seconded to approve the 2010 State Plan and Annual Report for the OCCY as presented. All members present voted in the affirmative. Motion passed unanimously.

**Report from the Office of Juvenile System Oversight – Lisa Smith and Jack Chapman**

A written report from the Office of Juvenile System Oversight was included in the Commission packet.

Ms. Smith reported that from January to March, 2011, the OJSO received 66 new complaints; however, from March to June, 2011, 126 complaints were received.

**Report from the Office of Planning and Coordination – Brandy Smith**

A written report from Ms. Smith was included in the Commission packet. Ms. Smith highlighted some of the items included in the report.

At the local level, Ms. Smith stated that the Office of Planning and Coordination annually does special project funding to communities through a competitive application process; last year those

communities receiving the funding were required to submit outcome reports on what was done with the funding they received from the agency, these reports will help the P&C Office in determining if the agency continues to do this type of funding and if so, how it can be done better.

Ms. Smith reported on the State Plan Update; the P&C office continues to provide staff support for the Partners for a Healthy Canadian County HAN site, along with Dr. Gary Theilen they have been through the self study process and are in the process of hiring a director to oversee the HAN project, they also have been recruiting for additional members to their board, and it is being planned that one of those persons would be available to present at the OCCY Retreat on their plan to improve the healthcare system in Canadian County.

Ms. Smith stated that they have also received a request from the Western Oklahoma Family Care Center of Elk City; they want to open up a free health clinic. They have asked P&C staff to do a study on whether this is feasible to have in their community.

The Office of Planning and Coordination continues to support several sites who are working on expanding some health care services, working on access to health care; about four sites that the P&C staff facilitated agreements with for mental health providers and schools are now out stationing mental health providers in their school systems.

Ms. Smith stated they P&C staff are planning for Commissioners and others to hear presentations at this year's Retreat on the overall progress of the State Plan, and in 2013, they hope to compile a big overall outcome to determine if the Commission wishes to continue working on the same goals we have currently, or if we should move on to something else.

**Report on nominations to the Interagency Child Abuse Prevention Task Force (ITF) from the Nomination/Recession Committee – Commissioners Hendrick, Loring, and Thackerson**  
Hendrick moved, Loring seconded to approve the nominations of Ms. Cynthia Bernardi-Valenzuela, representing the Oklahoma Department of Education, and Ms. Charlotte (Char) Carter, MNM, representing persons having expertise in the identification and treatment of families at risk of child abuse and neglect who are representatives of private agencies, programs and services for the prevention of child abuse and neglect and who do not receive funds from the Child Abuse Prevention Fund, to the Interagency Child Abuse Prevention Task Force as presented. All members present voted in the affirmative. Motion passed unanimously.

**Update report on the Certification of DHS Shelters – Sara Vincent**

A written report from Ms. Vincent was included in the Commission packet.

**Report on the Post Adjudication Review Advisory Board Program – Mark James, Program Coordinator**

A written report from the Post Adjudication Review Advisory Board Program was included in the Commission packet. There was also included a copy of the 2010 PARB Annual Report and the State PARB Advisory Board Annual Recommendations.

Mr. James reported that in 2010 the PARB had 352 volunteers serving on Review Boards across the state. They are independent citizen led reviews throughout the state and are charged with approving every deprived court case that is in the respective counties.

The Review Boards purpose is to serve in an advisory capacity to the local judge, providing an independent set of eyes and ears to provide an outside perspective and ultimately a recommendation on what they think the best interests are for each child involved.

The 352 volunteers combined spent approximately 11,000 hours in the review of cases in CY 2010, and in the past, this number has been even greater than that.

### **Public Comment**

None

### **New Business**

Jay Scott Brown reported that Dr. Robert Block is resigning as the Chief Child Abuse Examiner of the State of Oklahoma to become the new president of the American Academy of Pediatrics, and he wanted to know where we were at in finding a replacement for him and this position.

Lisa Smith responded that the Board of Child Abuse Examination at their last meeting in April, 2011, voted to make sure that the next Chief Child Abuse Examiner is board certified in the sub-specialty of child abuse and neglect, and currently there are only five physicians who have this sub-specialty, Dr. Block being one of them.

Dr. Block will be meeting with each of the physicians and then making a recommendation to the full board (Board of Child Abuse Examination) at their next meeting in July.

### **Adjournment**

Chairman Bouse adjourned the meeting at 10:47 a.m.