

OKLAHOMA COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH
PASTEUR MEDICAL BUILDING
1111 N. LEE AVENUE, SUITE 500
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 24, 2011

MINUTES

Call to order and roll call

Chairman Bouse called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Members present were: Tom Alford, Bart Bouse, Jay Scott Brown, Darlene Callahan, Gene Christian, Ken Couchman, Wanda Felty, Lisa Hammond, Richard Kirby, Ben Loring, Michael O'Brien, Claudette Selph and Brent Thackerson. Sid Brown arrived at 9:12 a.m., Howard Hendrick arrived at 9:16 a.m., and Terry Cline arrived at 9:35 a.m. Members not present were: Janet Barresi and Terri White.

Review and approval of minutes from the January 20, 2011, Regular Commission Meeting
Loring moved, Hammond seconded to approve the minutes from the January 20, 2011, Regular Commission meeting as presented. All members present voted in the affirmative. Motion passed unanimously.

Director's report on agency activities – Lisa Smith

A written report from Ms. Smith was included in the Commission packet. Ms. Smith highlighted some of the information included in this report as follows:

- For the month of February, 2011, the JOIN (Joint Oklahoma Information Network) program received approximately 127,128 hits to their website. This number represents service providers and individuals searching for assistance with children and families. There are 15,618 programs included in the directory, which is representative of 5,115 agencies statewide. A demonstration on the data repository will be presented to the Commission in the coming months.
- A meeting was recently held with the new State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Dr. Janet Barresi. Dr. Barresi expressed her commitment to children, and her interest in attending and participating in the OCCY Commission meetings; however, because the Board of Education normally meets on the same day/time, she will be limited in the number of times she is able to be present.

Oral request for Children's Budget – Commissioner Selph

Commissioner Selph reported on the work has been done through the Legislative Committee at the legislature. The committee is requesting that OCCY staff put together a short update to the 2003 Children's Budget, providing a brief update on all the various programs serving children and families in the State and how they all work together. The update would include different state funding sources that would serve to educate legislators on how funding impacts children in our state.

Commissioner Selph also questioned if it might be a good idea for Commissioners/staff to also include information on how important current funding is and how difficult it would be if those current funds were cut; a creative way to show to our state legislature how important current

funding to children and family programs are, and also to look at the number of children served in the State through the social service areas, including drug and alcohol treatment programs/issues, and how those and other services and programs to children are vastly underfunded.

Selph moved, Kirby seconded for OCCY staff to update the 2003 Children's Budget with a short summary for general use at the legislature and a more in-depth piece for legislators who are involved in children's issues. All members present voted in the affirmative. Motion passed unanimously.

Oral report from the OCCY Legislative Sub-Committee – Commissioner Selph

Commissioner Selph began by thanking the other Commission members (Callahan, Thackerson and Felty), as well as Director, Lisa Smith and Assistant Director, Jack Chapman, for all their time and help in working on HB 1359; a task force to study the foster care system in Oklahoma.

Commissioner Selph reported that this committee has pulled in four national groups by conference call to assist the sub-committee on this bill; the National Conference for State Legislators, the Casey Family Foundation, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center on Child Abuse and Neglect, and the Council on Accreditation.

Commissioner Selph stated that the work that has taken place so far has really been exciting and it is the hope of the Sub-Committee that they will be able to really educate the legislature on what needs to be done to properly fund foster care. Currently, Oklahoma only meets one half of the adequate minimum standards that the Child Welfare League recommends, and it's simply a matter of legislative funding being too low to take care of kids the way they should be.

Report on “Best Bang for your Buck” – Sally Selvidge, Family Outreach Coordinator

Ms. Selvidge presented a power point presentation on the Family Leadership Council and the work that they have accomplished.

There are six service offerings involved in Best Bang for the Buck, and they are:

- Self Directed Services
- Oklahoma ABLE Tech
- Oklahoma Family Network
- OASIS ON the Road Family Perspectives Conference
- Oklahoma Developmental Disabilities Council Dream Night at the Zoo
- SoonerStart

As part of the presentation were descriptions on each of these service offerings and what they do and what they've done since the passing of SB 1015 in May, 2005.

Anyone desiring a copy of the power point presentation can call Debbie McCowan at OCCY at (405) 606-4900.

Oral report on Increasing Access to Healthcare Services – Commissioner Loring

Commissioner Loring stated that one of the Board's statutory obligations is to, each year develop a State Plan for Services to Children and Youth. In 2009, it was decided that the Plan would be developed as a four-year plan and one of the recommendations from that plan was to increase

access to healthcare services for children and families. He asked that Terrie Fritz from the Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) update everyone on how this is being accomplished.

Ms. Fritz reported that the Children's Health Improvement Plan that was recently launched, also has an access to healthcare component and the OHCA is right now dialoguing to make sure that any and all efforts in this access to healthcare issue are combined and make sure that all the services from the various entities/agencies really do relate children's health improvement plan. She stated that the Children's Health Improvement Plan was developed with a very broad-based membership; to look at what would be the very basic strategies that should be employed in Oklahoma to really move children's health and improve some of the indicators in Oklahoma in the area of children's health.

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

Commissioner Thackerson reported that this group meets approximately 6 times a year. He reported that they recently developed a self-study team that Dr. Theilen and Brandy Smith have put together with Southwest Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, Oklahoma.

Commissioner Thackerson also reported that Anthony Kibble from the Office of Juvenile System Oversight has been working with a group in Altus, Oklahoma, on a transitioning program for OJA custody youth.

Report from the Office of Planning and Coordination – Brandy Smith and Dr. Gary Theilen

A written report from the Office of Planning and Coordination was included in the Commission packet.

Report on nominations to the Child Abuse Training and Coordinating Council (CATCC) from the Nomination/Recession Committee – Commissioners Hendrick, Loring and Thackerson

A written report from the Nomination/Recession Committee for ITF and CATCC Nominations was included in the Commission packet.

Hendrick moved, Cline seconded to approve the nominations to the CATCC as follows: Dr. Lois J. Pokorny, representing the Oklahoma Psychological Association, and Martha Buchanan, representing the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. 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 (OJSO) was included in the Commission packet.

Included in the written report were updates to the Systemic Review Issues that were passed by the Legislature in November, 2009.

Update report on the Certification of DHS Shelters – Sara Vincent

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

Public Comment

None

New Business

Commissioner Hendrick reported that the National Association of Childcare Resource and Referral graded all states on their childcare licensing and monitoring programs and Oklahoma was ranked number one in the nation for the all monitoring we've done on all of our childcare centers in the last five years.

Adjournment

Chairman Bouse adjourned the meeting at 10:35 a.m.