

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

REGULAR MEETING
MAY 21, 2010

MINUTES

Call to order and roll call

Chairman Bouse called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Members present were: Bart Bouse, Sid Brown, Darlene Callahan, Terry Cline, Ken Couchman, Wanda Felty, Howard Hendrick, Richard Kirby, and Ben Loring. Terri White arrived at 9:26 a.m. Members not present were: Tom Alford, Gene Christian, Mike Fogarty, Sandy Garrett, Terrica Grunewald, Lisa Hammond, Mike O'Brien, Claudette Selph, and Brent Thackerson.

Review and approval of minutes from the March 25, 2010, Regular Commission Meeting
Cline moved, Loring seconded to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2010, 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 the Director, Lisa Smith, was included in the Commission packet.

She began her presentation thanking Doris Simms for filling in for the absence of Debbie McCowan who was attending her granddaughter's Pre-K graduation.

Ms. Smith reported that HB 3394 passed both the House and Senate, and was signed by the Governor, effective November 1, 2010. This bill allows an additional two year term to be served by those Commissioners appointed by the Governor; i.e. a total now of 8 years can be served.

SB 697 – This was one of the Children's Cabinet bills; and it went dormant and was not heard by the House or Senate.

SB 1612 – Creating a Taskforce on Children of Incarcerated Parents; bill has stalled in Senate conference committee.

Director Smith reported that the OCCY is taking only an additional 6% cut (13.5% overall) from the FY 2011 budget. However, Dr. Cline reported that the State Department of Health did not fare as well in their budget cuts (7.5%), and he feels this is due to a lack of understanding about prevention and early intervention programs.

Howard Hendrick from the Department of Human Services stated that their report actually appeared to have given them (DHS) additional monies, but in fact, they took on some additional liabilities; i.e. funding the child advocacy centers and restoring some of the cuts to the Senior Nutrition Program, etc.

Report from the Nominating Committee on appointments and reappointments to the Child Abuse Training and Coordinating Council – Commissioners Howard Hendrick, Ben Loring, and Brent Thackerson

A written report from the Nominating Committee was included in the Commission packet. One

change to this report was noted; **Mr.** A.J. Griffin should be **Ms.** A.J. Griffin.

Kirby moved, Cline seconded to approve the reappointments of Ms. A.J. Griffin, representing the Oklahoma Association of Youth Services; Mr. Jerry Fry, representing the Post Adjudication Review Board; and Dr. Steven P. Wells, representing the National Association of Social Workers – Oklahoma Chapter, and the new appointment of Dr. Robert Powitzky, representing the Oklahoma Psychological Association, to CATCC. 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.

Director Smith reported that Joanne Verity, Programs Manager for the OJSO has announced that she will be retiring August 1, 2010, and she wanted thank Ms. Verity for her service to the OCCY.

With this retirement, Director Smith stated that we are in transition in the Oversight department; she has taken over the supervision of all child welfare related oversight, as well as that of the certification we are doing on the DHS operated facilities. Jack Chapman, Assistant Director, has taken over supervision of the facility related oversight. She stated that the plan right now is not to fill the position immediately, but to save some of those funds.

Ms. Verity summarized the report in the packet as follows:

During the reporting period of March 13, 2010 through May 7, 2010, the OJSO completed 18 reports on facility visits; three did not require a response because there were no violations found and no areas of concern to be addressed. The remaining 15 all did respond to violations or areas of concern noted; 2 of these required follow-up; one having to do with an incident that should have been reported to the Office of Client Advocacy and one having to do with what took place during an exit conference at a facility. All of the reports along with responses will be on the OCCY website for anyone's purview after today's meeting.

During the same reporting period, Ms. Verity noted that the OJSO closed 73 inquiries; 6 were information/referral; 4 requests for assistance, and the remaining (67) were complaints.

In regards to systemic reviews, Ms. Verity stated that the report on substance use, death/near death, has been completed and will be reported to the Commission at the June 2010, meeting. On the systemic issue of "transition", she stated that that report too has been completed, having made visits to all OJA Level E group homes, and being in dialogue with DHS on their independent living program. That too will be reported to the Commission at the June meeting.

Ms. Verity reported that in D.A. deprived reviews, the OJSO is meeting with four (4) Assistant District Attorney's in June, and will be sending out a survey to all Oklahoma ADAs with a request for response by a specific deadline.

Jack Chapman added that discussions have been had with several detention facilities regarding how the OJSO does exit interviews with them; getting information, findings that are discovered and disclosed, as well as record keeping. He distributed to Commissioners a copy of a "Facility Exit Checklist" that will now be used by OJSO staff to document areas of concern/violation(s), as well as any program (facility) strengths (special kudos) that are found by the staff.

Update on the certification of DHS operated shelters – Sara Vincent

A written report on the certification of DHS operated shelters was included in the Commission packet.

Ms. Vincent stated that on March 25, 2010, she returned to the Laura Dester Shelter where she issued to them a 45-day temporary certification. She later returned on May 7, 2010 to complete a monitoring visit, after which they were issued an annual certification.

Regarding the Pauline Mayer shelter, Ms. Vincent reported that she held a monitoring visit with them on April 28, 2010, and completed the review on May 3, 2010.

Further information and more detail of what has taken place at each of the shelters can be found in the written report that was included in the Commission packet.

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

A written report from the Office of Planning Coordination (P&C) was included in the Commission packet.

Ms. Smith reported that there has been a great deal of work going on with CPBs across the state since the last report made to the Commission in March. They are providing Intensive Technical Assistance (ITA) to approximately 10 CPBs, with a total of 48 meetings attended by P&C staff since the last Commission meeting.

She indicated that the P&C staff continues to provide coordination assistance to the remaining 34 CPBs. This type of assistance includes special project funding consultations, and other general assistance as needed.

Ms. Smith stated that this year there has been a change in the funding criteria that is now being required of CPBs applying for operational funds for projects in their community(ies); the project must now be related to one or more of the goals that were adopted by the Commission at its last retreat.

Dr. Gary Theilen provided an update on the Canadian County Health Access Network. He reported that Canadian County recently received a grant in the amount of \$300,000 through the Oklahoma Health Care Authority to set up an access network that will improve access and quality of care in Canadian County. This network is to begin operation July 1, 2010.

Public Comment

None

New Business

Grant Moak announced that the Governor did approve the permanent rules on the Commission's ability to certify the DHS run facilities; Laura Dester Shelter and the Pauline Mayer Shelter.

Adjournment

Chairman Bouse adjourned the meeting at 9:53 a.m.