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## COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

**April 14, 2023  
9:00 a.m.**

Commissioners present in person: Ginarie Harrington, Jason Hicks, Rachel Holt, Kalie Kerth, Lindsay Laird, Keith Reed, John Schneider, Deborah Shropshire, and Mike Warren

Commissioners present virtually: Jonathan Hall, Brenda Myers, and Bradley Wilson

Guests present: David McLeod (OU School of Social Work), Lorri Essary (Oklahoma State Department of Health – OSDH), Megan Patton (Office of Management and Enterprise Services), Betty Hawkins-Emery (OCCY Parent Partnership Board), Susan Gibson (OSDH), Sandra Balzer (Oklahoma Office of Attorney General), Lana Turner-Anderson (OCCY PPB), Lisa White (OU Evaluation Team), Wanda Felty (OU Health Sciences Center), Constanza Nizza (Office of Juvenile Affairs), Melanie Gartside (OSDH), Kethzia Martinez (OSDH), Alicia Gebhard (OSDH), and John Delara (OSDH)

Staff present: Annette Wisk Jacobi, Mark James, Rob Agnew, Kathleen Arrieta, James Boykin, Danielle Dill, Marcia Johnson, Lizz Kaup, Ellen Lohrenz, Joseph McGrath, Keith Pirtle, Lisa Rhoades, Isabel Rodriguez, Cherra Taylor, and Mahboob ul Haq

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### **Welcome, Introductions, and Determination of Quorum**

— *Chairperson John Schneider*

*Chairperson Schneider* called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. with a quorum present.

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### **Public Comments**

No public comments were given.

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### **Review of the Minutes from the February 24, 2023 Special Commission Meeting**

— *Chairperson Schneider*

### **A handout was provided.**

Director Shropshire asked that her name be added to the attendance list, as she did attend, but was not listed as such.

*Director Holt moved to approve the minutes with the correction of adding Director Shropshire as attending. Commissioner Laird seconded the motion. The majority of members present voted in the affirmative. Commissioner Kerth abstained from the vote. The motion passed.*

**Presentation: OCCY Children of Incarcerated Parents (CIP) 2022 Annual Report and Partnership Evaluation**

— David McLeod, Ph.D, MSW

*Chair, OCCY CIP Advisory Committee*

*OU Associate Director & Associate Professor / Anne Zarrow School of Social Work*

— Lisa White, Senior Research Associate, University of Oklahoma ETEAM

***A handout was provided.***

Dr. McLeod recognized Danielle Dill and the team at OCCY for their efforts. The productivity of the CIP Workgroup has dramatically increased in the past few years due to their efforts.

The OCCY CIP Workgroup is statutorily charged to develop resources for those who serve children of incarcerated parents and provide a yearly report to the legislature about the mentoring project for children with an incarcerated parent funded through OCCY. There are currently 25,000 to 30,000 such children in Oklahoma and upwards of 75,000 when one includes children who have a formerly incarcerated parent. Some highlights of the presentation include:

- Oklahoma incarcerates individuals at a higher rate than most of the nation and children of incarcerated parents are up to 5 times more likely than their peers to become incarcerated.
- OCCY supports a doctoral fellow candidate at Oklahoma State University to research the impact incarceration on children and youth.
- The Fatherhood Summit was held in October 2022, with Governor Stitt in attendance. It featured a panel of fathers who had experienced incarceration and featured fatherhood expert Ken Canfield, PhD.
- The education toolkit designed to support children of incarcerated parents and their caregivers has recently been updated.
- The CIP Work Group worked collaboratively to apply for a federal grant for the first time. The Oklahoma Department of Corrections is serving as the Primary Investigator and was awarded the grant from the US Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. This grant now supports Oklahoma child serving agencies Girl Scouts of Eastern Oklahoma and New Hope.

Ms. White then gave an overview of the OU ETEAM (Educational Training, Evaluation, Assessment, and Measurement), which is a full-service research and evaluation department at the University of Oklahoma. ETEAM works with agencies to manage and understand data, track outcomes, improve program processes by targeting areas of improvement.

The ETEAM began working with the OCCY Post Adjudication Review Board (PARB) a few years ago to standardize data collection and build a web-based database. PARB members can now enter case review information and recommendations in a standardized fashion. Over the past year, the ETEAM has worked with each OCCY department to build database modules for them.

One of the departments that the ETEAM has been working with is the OCCY Office of Planning and Coordination (P&C). P&C is difficult to evaluate because their focus is facilitating, organizing, collaborating, etc. a multitude of projects. However, Ms. White explained that most of their efforts can be evaluated by using the Partnership Effectiveness Continuum Tool. The ETEAM recently utilized this tool when surveying members of the CIP Work Group. Twenty-two members scored the Work Group and OCCY's role in supporting the work on this 1-100 scale and the results are as follows:

1. Partnership Vision (76%)
2. Institutional Leadership (81%)
3. Communication and Collaboration (91%)
4. Joint Ownership and Accountability for Results (66%)
5. System Alignment, Integration, and Sustainability (72%)
6. Response to Local Context (81%)

The ETEAM recommendations were to continue

- disseminating information, being inclusive, communicating, and collaborating
- developing a strategic plan collaboratively with CIP members
- collecting data and presenting evaluation results at CIP partnership meetings

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### **Presentation and Approval of the Finance Report**

— Megan Patton, OMES Financial Manager

***A handout was provided.***

Ms. Patton provided an overview of the financial report through March 31, 2023.

*Judge Warren moved to approve the Finance Report. Director Shropshire seconded the motion. All members present voted in the affirmative. The motion passed.*

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### **Presentation of the Finance Report**

— Mahboob ul Haq

***A handout was provided.***

Mr. ul Haq provided an in-depth presentation and explanation of the current budget.

- As of March 31, 2023, OCCY has encumbered and/or spent \$3.67 M of the \$4.82 M budget (approximately 76%).
- OCCY is on target to utilize 88% to 90% of the current year's budget.
- OCCY has requested a flat budget for FY 2024 and is working to finalize the budget.

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### **OCCY Parent Partnership Board (PPB) Report**

— Dr. Lana-Turner Addison, PPB Co-Chair

***A handout was provided.***

Dr. Turner-Addison thanked the OCCY Commissioners and Staff for recognizing the importance of parent voice in decision-making processes at the individual, local, state, and national levels. She then gave an overview of the expertise she brings to the PPB and how her life experiences have compelled her to engage in non-profit work and advocacy.

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**Presentation of the Proposed SFY 2024 Child Abuse Prevention Contracts for Compliance with the State Plan for the Prevention of Child Abuse Prevention per 63 O.S. § 1-227.4 (B.1)**

— Susan Gibson, Program Manager for the Office of Child Abuse Prevention, Oklahoma State Department of Health.

**A handout was provided.**

Ms. Gibson gave an overview of the award recommendations for SFY 2024 and the formula for distributing the funds provided to the Office of Child Abuse Prevention (OCAP). Eight contracts are recommended for awards this year. These eight contracts would provide home visiting services in 23 counties. Discussion highlights:

- The total money that is available for the awards for SFY 2024 is \$2 million. This amount has not increased since 2018.
- Every bidder fills out the same RFP.
- There are not enough funds to award contracts to all bidders and this may cause some counties, even those with a high number of child abuse and neglect cases, not to have an OCAP-funded program in their area.
- There are other home visiting programs throughout the state – not funded by OCAP. Some counties might have multiple home visiting options available for families. Others may have none.

**Judge Warren moved to approve the recommendations as presented. Director Shropshire seconded the motion. All members present voted in the affirmative. The motion passed.**

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**Presentation: Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Grant and Home Visiting Programs (MIECHV)**

— Lorri J. Essary, Director Family Support & Prevention Services

The MIECHV program is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and designed to strengthen and improve programs under Title V, Maternal and Child Health; improve coordination of services for at-risk communities; and identify and provide services to improve outcomes for families in at-risk communities. It provides home visiting by specially-trained professionals who serve pregnant women and families with a child under the age of six years old. In Oklahoma, MIECHV funds support the following home visiting models:

- Children First: Known nationally as Nurse-Family Partnership, this model utilizes nurses who work with moms to improve pregnancy outcomes, child health and development, and the family's economic self-sufficiency.
- Parents as Teachers: This model promotes optimal early development, learning and health of children by supporting and engaging parents and caregivers.
- Safe Care: Viewed as an intensive model, Safe Care home visitors focus on parent infant/child interactions, home safety, and infant/child health.

**A handout was provided.**

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**Legislative Report***— Marcia Johnson***A handout was provided.**

During previous meetings, OCCY Commissioners voted to support several bills. The following bills are still moving forward:

- SB907 and HB1017 which would create a state-funded system to provide high-quality legal representation for children and parents in child abuse and neglect cases.
- HB1029 which would direct the Oklahoma State Department of Education to adopt a standardized form to report data about student homelessness.
- HB2513 which would expand the Handle with Care program to additional school districts.
- SB681 which would require passengers under 16 years old to be buckled when riding in the back seat of a car.
- SB696 which would modify and make current language pertaining to OCCY functions.

In addition, the administrative rules change submitted by OCCY are still moving through the process. These changes would delete obsolete language.

The OCCY Commissioners chose not to pursue a bill which would provide stipends to former foster youth because the mechanism for doing so was unclear. However, funding may still be provided to the Oklahoma Human Services for this effort through the OKDHS appropriations bill.

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**Director's Report: A Report Regarding Agency Activities and Personnel Changes***— Director Jacobi***A written report was provided.**

Director Jacobi introduced James Boykin, Community Planner, the newest employee within the Office of Planning and Coordination. He will soon be joined by another new employee thanks to our contract with the Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness for work related to the federal Preschool Development Grant. Director Jacobi then thanked Danielle Dill and the P&C Staff for seeking out additional funding opportunities.

On April 5<sup>th</sup>, the PARB held an institute prior to the Annual Oklahoma Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect. It was a great success! Congratulations to Keith Pirtle and his team. Director Jacobi noted that volunteers are always needed for local PARBs across the state.

The Medical Marijuana Workgroup continues to meet and expand. It's now focusing on three areas: 1) accidental ingestion of marijuana products by young children, 2) youth access and consumption of marijuana and 3) marijuana use by pregnant women.

She thanked Director Holt and District Attorney Hicks for helping with the Juvenile Competency Workgroup.

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**Chairperson Comments**

— *Chairperson John Schneider*

Chairperson Schneider thanked everyone for attending.

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**Adjournment**

— *Chairperson John Schneider*

**Director Shropshire moved to adjourn the meeting. Director Holt seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 11:23 a.m.**