



COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

August 18, 2023
10:00 a.m.

Commissioners present in person: Jackie Aaron, Ellen Buettner, Melinda Freundt, Jonathan Hall, Jason Hicks, Rachel Holt, Lindsay Laird, Brenda Myers, Keith Reed, John Schneider, Deborah Shropshire, Carrie Slatton-Hodges

Guests present: Jeff Linkenbach and Carla Ritz, The Montana Institute

Staff present: Annette Wisk Jacobi, Mark James, Kathleen Arrieta

Welcome, Introductions, and Determination of Quorum

— *Chairperson John Schneider*

Chairperson Schneider called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. with a quorum present.

Introduction of The Montana Institute Facilitators: Jeff Linkenbach and Carla Ritz

— *Annette Wisk Jacobi*

Director Jacobi introduced Jeff Linkenbach and Carla Ritz to the Commissioners and briefly spoke about The Montana Institute.

Activity: Introduction of Commissioners

— *Jeff Linkenbach and Carla Ritz*

The Commissioners were asked to introduce themselves and share how they came to work within the child-serving system.

Presentation: Review of OCCY Activities, Budget, and Staffing

— *Annette Wisk Jacobi*

Item was not presented due to time constraints.

Presentation: Frameworks - Positive Community Norms and The Science of the Positive

— *Jeff Linkenbach and Carla Ritz*

The facilitators presented an overview of Dr. Linkenbach's research regarding the Science of the Positive. His work has shown how positive factors impact culture and individuals' experiences. Utilizing his framework, entities can measure and grow the desired positive behaviors – within individuals, families, workplaces, and communities.

The idea of positive community norms was illustrated by showing the websites of several different human service agencies from around the country including Oklahoma. Most of the homepages were positive, highlighting healthy ideals.

Presentation: OCCY Commissioner Survey Results

— *Jeff Linkenbach and Carla Ritz*

Before the meeting, Commissioners were asked to fill out a survey about the successes and challenges about Oklahoma’s child-serving systems. The survey results were used to talk about actual norms vs perceived norms. An example included that juvenile justice cases are perceived as being much higher than in past decades, but in actuality, the rates have declined.

Break for Lunch

Activity: Utilize Community Café Model to Explore Collective Efforts for Upcoming Years

— *Commissioners*

The Commissioner broke into workgroups to have discussions about improving the child-serving systems in Oklahoma.

Activity: Closing Reflections

— *Annette Wisk Jacobi*

The Commissioners then discussed the common themes mentioned from the smaller work group discussions. Highlights included:

- OCCY plays a unique role in bringing agencies together and working toward the same goals.
 - The collective work should focus on the community level. If the community is supported, then the community will support the children.
 - Make the positive visible.
 - To make big changes, change must begin at the smaller, local level.
 - The supportive programs that families need must be available before the need arises.
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Adjournment

— *Chairperson John Schneider*

Chairperson Schneider adjourned the meeting at 2:06 p.m.