

MINNESOTA FAMILY SUPPORT & RECOVERY COUNCIL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - MINUTES
3/16/2023
ZOOM

Members present: Patrick Hest, Jennifer Cooklock, Michele Schreifels, Lori Hanson, Dawn Johnson, Davis Luna, Karen Bryngelson, Heidi Haefner, Sara Wangsness, , Rebecca Morrisette, Yvonne Cobb, Autumn Nelson, Joe Peck, Sandy Slocum, Kimberly Johnson, Karen Wolff, Rhonda Jaeger, Sandy Thorne, Tina Frey, Ben Stromberg, Trish Skophammer, Tammy Owens, Heather Raboin, Jessica Raymond, Kristen Brolsma, Jami Goodrum, Lori Lofrano, Jamie Wirth

Excused: Miles Hendrickson, Lisa Kontz, Scott Wotzka, Dave Lovik

Absent: Amy Overacker

1. CALL TO ORDER – Patrick - 11:05 AM
 - A. Roll Call
 - B. Welcome

2. SECRETARY’S REPORT (Lori e-mailed out prior to the meeting) Lori corrected Jami Goodrum’s name prior to sending. Motion by Sandy Thorne to approve the minutes from the January 19th, 2023, meeting. Sandy Slocum 2nd. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

3. TREASURER’S REPORT - Dawn (sent our prior to meeting)
All 2022 funds are in and one payment for 2023 has been made (speaker down payment).
Treasurer’s report put on the record.

4. COLLABORATIVE REPORTS
 - A. Child Support Advisory Board – Minutes from last meetings to be sent after the meeting.
Sandy Thorne –
 - System modernization – moving ahead. Instead of from scratch, taking PRISM and updating the programming code. An easier, more cost-effective update. “Refactoring and Replatforming” (updated coding and a better user experience)
 - Lots of legislature items
 - COLA huge this year...13.6 % - may be a lot of motions or reactive with mods after the fact. There is talk on the workgroup to see if COLA is still needed.
 - MN Child Support Online – Would like worker-initiated message availability as well as client initiated
 - SAVES grant
 - Medical Assistance renewals restarting after pause for COVID – starts 4/2023 for July renewals. In monthly increments through 5/2024.
 - MN passed self-assessment in all areas!
 - B. MCRA – Lori Hanson for Dave Lovik
Met 2/27 - Public Assistance Overpayments, Estate Recovery, Probate topics. Next meeting in April, in person.
Sandy S added that though we had a Zoom option, we tried to meet in person. Due to weather (and other reasons) not many showed up in person. It was decided to have the

January (winter) meeting via Zoom going forward and the Spring/Summer meetings in person.

C. MACSSA – Jami Goodrum

Self-sufficiency area met on Tues 3/14 - wondered about an update on the Cost of Care workgroup.

*Trish responded that it has been slow going – time has been spent on foundation/grounding, definitions, DEI. There is interim guidance from CSD is out there.

*Ben commented that it is interesting and be aware that counties are doing things differently, all over the place, and rest assured that you aren't the only one doing what you're doing.

*Sandy S – likes that this hopefully will result in a policy, not just a recommendation
Discussion on FTI. Use continuing? Processes? Storage? Having DHS handle it?

D. MCAA – Autumn Nelson for Lisa Kontz

Webinar planned for Wed 6/28 from Noon – 1:00 pm – This will be a panel discussion exploring the ethical issues that arise for counties when sharing data with competing interests in the child support/child protection arena. Some attorneys do both. Ben on the panel.

E. CLV – Autumn for Lisa

Next executive committee/co-chairs meeting 4/6 – 4 chairs meet with executive committee. Talk about proposals, tweaks that may be needed, updating of state policy.

5. DEI Topic – Trish Skophammer

Anyone interested in sharing at future meetings, let Patrick know.

Trish – 2 videos, discussion. Cross over for Black History and Women's History Months

*Maya Angelou

* National Park Service – “Still I Rise” by Maya Angelou

Great videos!

Lori H volunteered to present on “Language Matters” at the next meeting in June.

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. Honorary Board – Amy – Any updates? None at this time... Amy not here today.

B. Communications Committee – Heidi Haefner has agreed to chair this committee. Thanks Heidi! High priority – to get DE&I info onto the website.

Sandy T asked if Heidi would be the contact for conference info... yes.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Redistricting between official redistricting years. Merging of counties (Pope and Grant) brought this to light. They are in two different districts and we won't be doing redistricting until 2026. Thankfully this doesn't affect the board as no members are from those counties at this time. Lori will send out a proposed amendment to the by-laws Article X.

The board can vote and then it will be sent to the membership by August 31st to be voted on at the annual meeting.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Legislative (Chair - Lisa Kontz) Autumn (super excited to share! 😊 Thanks Autumn. Nice job!)

A lot going on!

Legislative Committee asking the board to take a vote:

2 DHS bills – one policy, one budget

1) DHS Policy Bill (HF1403/SF 2818)

- includes a couple child support technical corrections related to interest and to the deviation reason that was added last year.
- House General Register, Senate Committee – HHS

2) DHS Budget Bill (HF2900/SF2966) and (HF2910/SF2890)

- Includes CLV proposals Medical Support and low income from Guidelines CLV, DL Work group proposals (worker discretion); funding for quadrennial review; Social Security Derivative Benefits (lump sum can pay arrears)
- Just introduced in both House and Senate, referred to committee

Recommend that board supports two bills: DHS staff will re-choose themselves from the vote. Decided to split the actions into two motions, one for the policy bill and one for the budget bill.

Jami Goodrum motioned - MFSRC to support the technical fix bill HF1403 and SF2818. 2nd by Autumn Nelson.

In favor: 24

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 4

Motion passed unanimously by all voting members.

Jami Goodrum – Motion for MFSRC to support the budget bills: HF2900/SF2966 and HF2910/SF2890.

In favor: 24

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 4

Motion passed unanimously by all voting members.

DHS – Proposal for new Department of Children, Youth and Families

- Multiple bills: HF2320/SF2401; HF2321/SF2398; HF2322/SF2399; HF2323/SF2400
- Proposal for a new Department of Children, Youth and Families. Planning is in the beginning phases. Unknown whether this is going to get the traction needed to pass the legislature.
- DHS is the largest state agency with much complexity. Governor Waltz' agenda is to focus on children and families and with this separation, and pulling various pieces of agencies together, there is the belief that this will allow for work to be centralized and be more efficient.

Other Bills:

- HF2467/SF2464 Foster Care SSI Trust – Trish mentioned that there is a look back provision (back to 1973), may have to pay that back. One bill includes that language, one does not.

Federal Update:

What may happen at the federal level, but may be 8-10 years out...NCSEA talking about:

- *ending all retained collections (no PA/NPA “buckets”)
- *changing performance measures

- B. Membership/Nominating Committee (Chair - Michele)
First call for nominations sent out to the membership. Various categories.
- C. Conference Committee (Chair – Jennifer Cooklock)
Officially Oct 1-4 at Treasure Island – contract signed.
Lori L will do Sunday keynote/presentation.
Theme decided: MFSRC’s Golden Anniversary: Celebrating Past, Present, and Future.
Good start on sessions. 2-3 sessions per time slot.
Keynotes planned.
Conference is shaping up!
We will continue to partner with MCAA and also will partner with the Magistrates this year.
Question came up regarding if we need to move dates up (for registration, sessions, etc) as we have to release hotel rooms 45 days before conference in order to not be charged. No... should be ok.
- D. Communications Committee (Chair – Heidi Haefner)
Nothing – Heidi just learning the ropes! 😊
Jen has put Heidi in contact with Becky, the webmaster. 2022 stuff should be archived now.
- E. DE&I Committee (Chairs – Trish, Davis)
Appreciate the opportunity and request was to do a DEI topic each meeting. Addressed! See above.
May have a DEI ice breaker at future meetings.
Push to get the DEI position statements on the website.

MISC:

Patrick: Conference Costs: Range \$250-300. Should we have a flat rate or prorate?
Commuter adjustment?
Discussion. Pretty much all in agreement that one conference fee for all. As commuters won’t have a hotel cost, we won’t offer an alternate conference fee.

Trish Skophammer motioned to adjourn, Sandy Slocum 2nd. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

Reminder – If you are interested in being on any of the Committees besides Legislative and Conference, please let the Chairperson know!

UPCOMING MEETINGS
April 20, 2023 (Program Only)
June 15, 2023

Legislative and Program Committees meet at 9, with full board following at 11.