

Lorain County Children Services

Board Meeting

Wednesday, May 17, 2023 @ 5:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order

Board Chair Jim Miller called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. at the Lorain County Administration Building, 226 Middle Ave., 4th Floor, Room A, Elyria, Ohio 44035.

A. Roll Call

Present: Lee Armbruster, Roberto Davila, Christina Doran, Kenneth Glynn, Dan Gross, Tawana Jackson, Andrew Lipian, Jim Miller, Tamara Newton

Excused: Martin Heberling, Mallory Santiago

Also Present: Kristen Fox-Berki, Executive Director

B. Review Agenda

Board Chair Jim Miller asked if there were any additions or changes to the Board Meeting Agenda submitted for the May 17, 2023, Board meeting. No additions or changes made.

C. Review and Approve Minutes

Board Chair Jim Miller asked if there were any additions or changes to the Board Meeting Minutes submitted for the April 19, 2022, Board meeting. Hearing none, the minutes are approved as distributed.

II. Public Comment

Board Chair Jim Miller noted that there was no one from the public present and wishing to address the Board.

III. Old Business

A. Tabled Items

1. Policy 5.6 Executive Director Contract

The Board received a copy of the previous Executive Director employment agreement. Changes will be made to reflect Kristen Fox-Berki's current salary and vacation accrual. A copy of the revised contract will be provided to the Board to review for the June Board meeting.

2. Policy 5.12 Executive Director Performance

Resolved.

B. Unresolved Action Items

1. Visitation Center

The former Lorain County Visitors Center located at 8025 Leavitt Road, Amherst, Ohio 44001 was identified as a possible location for the visitation center. It is currently vacant and owned by the County. The Board is invited to tour the building immediately following today's Board meeting.

IV. Executive Director’s Report

A. Policy 4.6 New Hires/Leaves

New Hires for the month of April:

1. Willisha Sharp, DS Caseworker 4/10/23
2. Tyeleisha Noble, DS Caseworker 4/10/23
3. Sasha Martinez, Case Aide 4/10/23
4. Ricky Ferguson, DS Caseworker 4/10/23
5. Melissa Abrams, DS Administrative Assistant 4/10/23
6. Lucinda Spayde, Fiscal Account Clerk 4/24/23
7. Vickie Smith, DS Caseworker, 4/24/23
8. Mary Aspery, DS Caseworker 4/24/23

Leaves for the month of April:

1. Taylor Kleinhans, DS Caseworker 4/21/23
2. Megan Ansted, DS Caseworker 4/27/23

Kristen Fox-Berki provided the Board with demographic data for LCCS staff. In addition, information was provided in various categories including management, DS and FBC departments, gender, education, age and veterans. Race and ethnicity demographics were provided for Elyria and Lorain, which make up the majority of the client population. The Board requests further data including 1) data by gender, 2) data by race for staff vs. clients, to include children in LCCS custody and in-home cases 3) data regarding staff retention vs. minority retention and 4) race statistics for foster parents.

B. Policy 8.1 Annual Report

Kristen Fox-Berki provided the Board with the 2022 Annual Report and the 2022 CQI Report and reviewed them with the Board. The Board welcomes a presentation from the Short-Term Trauma Caseworker, Constance Chrosniak for the June or July Board meeting.

LCCFFC Contract Approval

MOTION: A motion was made by Christina Doran, seconded by Kenneth Glynn to approve the LCCFFC advertising contract with Lamar. Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes:	Lee Armbruster, Roberto Davila, Christina Doran, Kenneth Glynn, Dan Gross, Tawana Jackson, Andrew Lipian, Jim Miller, Tamara Newton
Nays:	None- 0
Abstentions:	None- 0

MOTION: A motion was made by Christina Doran, seconded by Roberto Davila to approve the LCCFFC Professional Services Agreement with William and Maria Humphreys. Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes:	Lee Armbruster, Roberto Davila, Christina Doran, Kenneth Glynn, Dan Gross, Tawana Jackson, Andrew Lipian, Jim Miller, Tamara Newton
Nays:	None- 0
Abstentions:	None- 0

Kristen Fox-Berki reminded the Board that the Hero for a Day fundraiser for the Friends of Children Services to raise levy funds will be held on June 10, 2023, and encouraged the Board members to invite the community to attend.

V. Fiscal Reports

None.

VI. New Business

A. New Items for Discussion and Approval

None.

VII. Executive Session (to discuss litigation, personnel matters and other matters required to be kept confidential by law)

None.

VIII. Announcements

None.

IX. Adjourn

MOTION: It was moved by Roberto Davila, seconded by Lee Armbruster to adjourn the Board meeting at 5:46 p.m. Motion carried.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 21, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. at the Lorain County Administration Building, 226 Middle Ave., 4th Floor, Room A, Elyria, Ohio 44035.

Minutes Prepared by:
Kimberly Kassam, Administrative Supervisor

Approved by:
Christina Doran, Board Secretary