

Lorain County Children Services

Board Meeting

Wednesday, November 16, 2022 @ 5:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order

Board Secretary Christina Doran called the meeting to order at 5:06 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, Dan Gross, Martin Heberling, Tamara Newton, Mallory Santiago

Excused: Kenneth Glynn, Tawana Jackson, Andrew Lipian, Jim Miller

Also Present: Kristen Fox-Berki, Executive Director

B. Review Agenda

Board Secretary Christina Doran asked if there were any additions or changes to the Board Meeting Agenda submitted for the November 16, 2022, Board meeting. No additions or changes made.

C. Review and Approve Minutes

Board Secretary Christina Doran asked if there were any additions or changes to the Board Meeting Minutes submitted for the October 19, 2022, Board meeting. Hearing none, the minutes are approved as distributed.

II. Public Comment

Board Secretary Christina Doran 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

Tabled. Board Chair Jim Miller was provided with a copy of the contract and an outline for the performance review.

2. Policy 5.12 Executive Director Performance

Tabled.

3. Policy 7.14 Client Grievance

Kristen Fox-Berki provided the Board with the Ombudsman Quarterly Report from July 1, 2022, through September 30, 2022, including the number of Grievances Filed, Public Complaints, Telephone Calls, Emails, Walk-ins, New Requests for Ombudsman Services this Quarter, Requests Resolved that were pending from the last Quarter and New Requests within this Quarter. Kristen

Fox-Berki then reviewed the Resolved Request Pending from the Previous Quarter, and each of the New Requests.

B. Unresolved Action Items

1. Visitation Center

APA Leigh Prugh is researching how to proceed, and once completed, will provide the information to Board Chair Jim Miller.

IV. Executive Director's Report

A. Policy 4.6 New Hires/Leaves

New Hires for the month of October:

1. Pamela Thompson, Direct Services Caseworker 10/11/22
2. Melissa Elliot, Direct Services Caseworker 10/11/22
3. Samuel Arriaga Jr., Direct Services Caseworker 10/12/22

No Leaves for the month of October.

B. Policy 6.6 Adoption, Foster and Kinship Rates

Kristen Fox-Berki provided the Board with the current rates for foster care, kinship and adoption. In 2022, foster care rates were increased by \$1.00 in each age category and kinship rates were increased by \$100 per child (from \$300 to \$400). There are no recommended changes for 2023. Adoption rates are determined by the State.

V. Fiscal Reports

None.

VI. New Business

A. New Items for Discussion and Approval

1. Policy 6.3a Contracts

Kristen Fox-Berki provided, and the Board reviewed, two Lorain County Children and Families First Council (LCCFFC) contracts for 1) the Village Network and 2) the Forensic Psychologist Center of Northeast Ohio. As the Administrative Agent, the LCCS Board must approve all LCCFFC contracts.

MOTION: A motion was made by Lee Armbruster, seconded by Dan Gross to approve the LCCFFC contracts presented. Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes:	Lee Armbruster, Roberto Davila, Christina Doran, Dan Gross, Martin Heberling, Tamara Newton, Mallory Santiago
Nays:	None- 0
Abstentions:	None- 0

Kristen Fox Berki provided the Board with an article from the Chronicle Telegram highlighting an LCCS employee. This is a great way to promote the agency, and social work.

There were seven (7) children services agencies on the November 2022 ballot and all the levies passed.

VII. Executive Session *(to discuss litigation, personnel matters and other matters required to be kept confidential by law)*
None.

VIII. Announcements
The next Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 21, 2021, which is close to the Christmas holiday. The Board agrees to reschedule the December Board meeting to December 14, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.

IX. Adjourn
MOTION: It was moved by Roberto Davila, seconded by Martin Heberling to adjourn the Board meeting at 5:22 p.m. Motion carried.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for December 14, 2022 (*Rescheduled from 12/21/22*), 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