



REGION VI HEAD START ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA

Monday, July 21, 2021
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. –Mountain Time
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. –Central Time

MEETING MINUTES

- I. Opening Business Items
 - A. Call to Order/Greetings/Welcome – President Gloria Lopez (9:07 a.m. MT/10:07 a.m. CT)
 - B. Roll Call & Establish Quorum – President Lopez – There wasn't a quorum present. Voting agenda items were tabled until a quorum was established with the attendance of Weldon Beard. Alferma Giles volunteered to take the meeting minutes.

ATTENDANCE: (President Gloria Lopez) roll call:

AR: Jacqueline Burton, Jackie Govan, Angela Blankenship (guest), attending for Rhonda Ahrent
LA: Wanda Taylor & Kahree Wahid
NM: Gloria Lopez, Misty Pugmire, Crystal Pena (new to the board), Olga Valenzuela-Zavala
OK: Kathy Castleberry, Anthony Stafford, Suzie Powers & Paula Brown
TX: Albert Black & Alferma Giles

- II. Approval of Agenda – President Lopez requested tabled until a quorum was present. Once quorum was established.
- III. Approval of Minutes: Tabled, February 7, 2020 (forthcoming) & April 19, 2021 (final review and edits needed). Minutes were taken by Alferma Giles and Misty Pugmire.
- IV. General Standard Reports
 - A. Treasurer's Report – Report presented by President Lopez in the absence of Weldon Beard. Refer to the June/2021 Report, with the updates/corrections: Payment to the web developer will post on 7/23.

The scholarship amounts should reflect the following changes allowable for each state's selected awardee:

1. Allie J Mitchell - \$1,000.00
2. Head Start Staff - \$1,000.00
3. Goodie Wickland - \$500.00
4. Volunteer of the Year – Plaque
5. Friend of Head Start – Plaque

The funds of \$5,000.00 for OK HSA Seed Money was waved, and a request to return the funds to the Region VI HSA account.

The Board paused collaboration reports for Jackie Govan to share information re: Region VI HSA Conference/2022 hosted by the ARHSA, and for the board to approval during quorum.

- Jackie will visit convention centers in AR in August & September to confirm a location for the 2022 conference.
- The board approved to host the conference September 27-30, 2022.
- The board voted on the conference theme: People, Purpose, Passion: The Pathway to Success.
- Concern: Dates for the Fall Leadership Conference my conflict with the Reg VI HSA Conference. Rhonda Taylor confirmed September 19-22, 2022 as the dates for the actual dates).

Weldon Beard joined the meeting at 10:52 a.m. CT – Quorum established. President Lopez presented the action items for the board’s approval during the time Mr. Beard was present: Meeting Agenda, Minutes (tabled), Financial Report with noted changes, Scholarship updates, Region VI HSA Conference September 27-30, 2022 and the conference theme.

There was a brief discussion regarding an established quorum. President Lopez shared that once a quorum is established, it remains as long as the meeting does not adjourn. Jackie Govan clarified what is stated in the Roberts Rules of Order.

President Lopez directed the meeting back to the standing agenda following the board vote to approve the action items. Moved by Jackie Govan, Second by Albert Black. Motion carried.

B. State Collaboration Reports (AR-LA-NM-OK-TX) – Collaboration Directors

- AR/Jackie Govan – See the board report posted on the Region VI HSA Website. Additional items reported:
 - Jackie requested pictures from board members to post on the website.
 - Jackie shared that the AHSA Conference is scheduled to take place August 31- September 3, 2021; however, the board will decide if the conference will take place face-to-face or virtually, due to the rise in COVID-19 in AR.
- LA/Kahree Wahid – Verbal report:
 - Needs Assessment contract with Fahrenheit Consulting Group and grant application submittal took priority, and was submitted on 6/30/21.
 - Collaboration Report will be posted on the Region VI HSA website.
 - Continue to work on priorities, CCAP funds for before/after care, and HS providers becoming CCAP providers.
 - Influx of federal funds offers opportunities for early childhood in the state.
 - EHS partnerships are expanding and other child care programs are interested in participating.
 - Providers data though EDLink allows documentation sharing on children and is more comprehensive than TSGOLD that was previously used.

- State Dept of Ed – Family Engagement meeting was held, to present to public schools and birth-5, re: returning to the HS Early Childhood Outcomes Framework base.
 - Working to support the LA National Guard to serve children on weekends. Surveyed conducted to determine needs.
 - Homelessness – developed an MOU with programs serving homeless families. Work is taking place at this time to complete the signing of the MOU.
 - Disabilities MOU in progress at this time.
 - Opioid Abuse meeting took place on 7/20. Looking forward to working on this initiative.
 - Served on the host committee for the Early Childhood Conference held in New Orleans, July 7-10, 2021. Kahree took a child care administration to the conference to support collaborations with child care administrators.
 - Participated in a racial equity call on 7/20.
 - Kahree shared about barriers to enrollment and discrimination with NHSA. The finding was to utilize services to those who wouldn't otherwise use HS.
- NM/Olga Valenzuela-Zavala
 - The Early Learning Guidelines are under revision, the Head Start State Collaboration Director is participating in a weekly meeting supporting the revision of the Infant Toddler section.
 - At the monthly Migrant Seasonal Head Start meeting, program was presented with information on higher education from CNM and ECECD scholarships.
 - The New Mexico Head Start State Collaboration Office in conjunction with New Mexico State Coordinator/Education for Homeless Children and Youth and Region VI Early Childhood Education Specialist are working on developing a series of training opportunities for Head Start programs and LEA homeless liaisons across the state to increase collaboration efforts that will support families in transition and/or experiencing homelessness. The goal is to align best practices across all Region VI states. A meeting with Head Start and LEA homeless liaison took place in June a form that helps identify families in transition/homeless was shared, as well as a referral form that can be used at both ends HS/LEA's.
 - EHS/CCP meeting happening in July to do shared support, and guidance as to how to better leverage funds.
 - Opioid Campaign- 1st video on over dose has been posted at our ECECD webpage for programs to access and utilize as needed for training purposes. The 2nd video on developing a safety plan is on its way to be soon released, and the 3rd video on stigma of opioid/substance misuse will be released right after.
 - A series of 5 training on Embracing Equity was designed for all ECECD staff and is currently taking place. These will align all programs within the department in understanding equity and having an equal vision when providing services. ECECD continues to develop the Equity Council.

- The Head Start State Collaboration Director has been appointed to participate in the ICC-Interagency Coordinating Council and will attend orientation on July 29, 2021.
- The HSSCD continues to participate and collaborate with Navajo Nation Collaborative Meetings and supported their Strategic Plan. Also attends the bi-weekly tribal liaison communication meetings, and consultation with tribal program as needed.
- OK/Paula Brown
 - Making beginning progress on the transition Summit. I've met with OSDE and ECE staff and have a few volunteers from my Advisory Committee.
 - Also making progress with the Homelessness liaisons in order to pull together regional Homelessness summits in order to connect with the various local staff and Communities of Care.
 - Have provided several letters of support for grant applications. One specially will work with Oklahoma's Head Start teachers if it is awarded.
 - I have added 2 additional University level people to my advisory committee. I now have The University of Central Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, and The University of Oklahoma's ECE department heads on my advisory committee. They will help with the professional development and teacher preparation going forward.
 - Re-certified my "The Growing Brain certification through Zero to Three."
 - I was actively involved with the Child Care plan as they submitted it. I've also been very pleased with how inclusive childcare in Oklahoma has been with Oklahoma's Head Start programs.
 - I'm scheduling in-person visits with all of Oklahoma's Head Start programs starting in the fall.
 - Working hard on the Region VI Head Start Conference.
 - Will be presenting 1 session on The Growing Brain and facilitating 1 session for the Region VI Conference.
 - I will have a new grandbaby in January 2022!
- TX/Alferma Giles – See the board report posted on the Region VI HSA Website

C. State Advisory Reports – (AR-LA-NM-OK-TX) – State Presidents

AR: Jana Bays – Absent. See comments noted in Jackie Govan's report.

LA: Rhonda Taylor – Rebranding LAHSA so that grantees to introduce herself as president. Kahree is excited to see Rhonda as president and commended her work. Rhonda's email address: rbtaylor@ccano.org.

NM: Crystal Pena – New president

- Board meeting was held on 7/22/21.
- Head Start representatives at the state advisory committee meeting.
- House bill passed to support homeless youth.
- Quarterly meetings with ECE to support collaboration and partnerships with school districts. The last meeting was held on 6/18.
- Virtual conference – NMHSA is planning at this time.
- Email address: crystal.pena@helpnm.com

- Reaching out to migrant/seasonal program to support teachers to ensure they have the qualifications that they need.
- Discussion on early learning priorities are taking place at this time
- NM celebrated 1 year in the new office. The new early childhood department has been approved.
- Staff focused on grantees loss in staff, enrollment and reaching families.

OK: Cathy Castleberry

- Region VI HSA Conference in two weeks.
- Rise in COVID-19 cases and deaths in the state
- Concern for enrollment. Parents are not sure of children attending in the fall. Concerns for 2-year old's wearing mask and staffing
- Funding for HS is a concern
- New OKHSA President, Christine Boliger will take office on 9/1/21
- Reminder to register for the Region VI HSA Conference if you haven't. Most trainings will be available for 30 days following the conference
- SOCIO will serve as the virtual conference platform

TX: Weldon Beard – No report. Weldon had to leave the meeting.

D. NHSA Report – NHSA Representatives (President Lopez)

- New Officers: Linda Meredith, President
- Child Tax Credit Parent Connection
- Ann Linehan Retirement Tribute Invitation to all Regions –August 17th NHSA Event –she will retire after many years of service on August 31, 2021
- Dollar per Child Campaign –not too doing so well
- Membership Campaign –encouraging all program to become members; survey to be done to find out why program are not becoming members
- Early Childhood Innovation Summit ---August 9-10, 2021 (Virtual) CDA Council Announcement
- Fall Leadership in Arlington, VA ---September 20-23, 2021 (Face to Face)
- Parent/Family Engagement Conference in Orlando, Florida –December 13-16, 2021
- Strategies for the Present and Future (Supporting Staff, Improving Policy, & Securing Funding)
 - Strengthen Head Start: Address the pain points in the field and prepare HS for 2021 and beyond
 - Strengthen Head Start Brand: Create a powerful convincing narrative that conveys the benefits and uniqueness of Head Start pre-natal to five intervention
 - Strengthen NHSA: Make sure NHSA has the knowledge, resources and capacity to meet the goals for Head Start
- Letter to Honorable Xavier Becerra, Secretary of US Department of Health and Human Services to add Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to its definition of public assistance for the purpose of Head Start eligibility
- Reauthorization of Head Start ---possibility sometime next year
- Appropriations of Head Start ---may see an increase in COLA, Quality Improvement, EHS Expansion w/ Child Care Partnerships
- Head Start looking for Head Start Alumni
- American Rescue Funds ---make sure grantees spenddown their funds
- Collaboration with Child Care –Head Start needs to be at the table when discussing how to spenddown child care funding.

- Early Head Start Rising ---fund EHS to equal HS (500,000 children to benefit)
- Full Funding for Head Start ---being discussed
- Universal Pre-K ---Start with Head Start --has become the message
- Post Board Books on the Region VI Website (a lot of reading material but beneficial)

Your representation: Gloria Lopez, James Evans and Albert Black ----still need a parent!

V. Standing Committee Reports – Committee Chairs

1. Audit/Budget/Finance –Weldon Beard (Absent. Report presented by President Lopez).
2. Scholarship/Awards/Recognition –Alferma Giles (See the report posted on the website). Request to update the changes to the scholarship application for approval.
3. Communication/Public Relations – No report
4. Policy & Procedures – No report
5. By-Laws –Jackie Govan
 - Jackie clarified Robert’s Rules of Order/Quorum definition.
 - Jackie requested the support of state collaboration directors to review Region VI HSA By-Laws. (AR-NM & OK, even year selections); (LA & TX, odd year board selections).
 - The Nominating Committee will work on the slate of officers. Invite more people to meeting to learn about the association.
 - The historian and secretary positions are vacant and the parliamentarian is the last president. President Lopez will appoint a parliamentarian

VI. Conference Planning Reports – Conference Chairs

- A. 2020 Virtual Conference Final Report – New Mexico (Sandy Trujillo)
New Mexico officially closed the 2020 conference. Funds reported to the Region VI HSA, \$30,336.00, with the addition of the \$5,000.00 seed money from OK added. Final total submitted from the NMHSA \$35,336.00. Conference check will be submitted to Weldon Beard via his PO box.
- B. 2021 Virtual Conference – Oklahoma (Kathy Castleberry)
See comments in OK presidents’ report. Kathy shared that the challenge that they had planning the 2021 conference was securing vendors to participate virtually.

VII. Old Business - None

VIII. New Business

- Ann Linehan tribute – As soon as President Lopez knows, she will send information to the board and collaboration directors.
- NHSA Representatives – Retroactive to July 1, 2021 –not voted on; a nominating committee is needed to begin the election process of officers and representatives to NHSA.
- 2022 Region VI HSA Conference Meeting tentative face-to-face in AR October 13, 2021 from 10:00 – 1:00 p.m.

A. Region VI Meeting Schedule

- August 2, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. CT/9:00 a.m. MT and October 13, 2021
- AR will host the board meeting on 8/2/21 via Zoom and email the meeting link to the board.

IX. Announcements - None

X. Adjournment – President Lopez at 1:14 p.m. CT/12:14 p.m. MT
Moved by Kahree Wahid and second by Jacqueline Burton

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Alferma Giles.