



**REGION VI HEAD START ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

**Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 11, 2022**

I. Opening Business Items

- A. Presentation & Seating of New Members –Albert Black, Vice-President acknowledged the following new members to the Region VI Board, Laurie Gassaway, Oklahoma Staff Alternate, and Sarah Scott, Oklahoma Parent Representative---both were not in attendance.
- B. Call to Order/Greetings/Welcome – Meeting was called to order by Gloria Lopez, President at 8:05 am (MT); 9:05 am (CT) in-person in Jonesboro, Arkansas and virtually through zoom. She welcomed everyone in attendance and thanked them for their continual commitment.
- C. Roll Call & Establish Quorum – Roll Call taken by Crystal Pena, Misty Pugmire joined meeting after roll call --12 out of 20 votes present; quorum established.

<u>Representative</u>	<u>Alternate</u>	Vote ✓
Arkansas		
○ Susan Templeton, Director	○ Sarah Wilhite, Director	
X Jacqueline Burton, Staff	○ Tequila Smith, Staff	✓
○ Parent:	○ Parent:	
X Jackie Govan, Friend	X Rhonda Ahrent, Friend	✓
Louisiana		
X Rhonda Tayler, Director	X Michelle Joubert, Director	✓
X Erika Arvie, Staff	○ Staff:	✓
○ Parent:	○ Parent:	
X Kahree Wahid, Friend	○ Friend:	✓
New Mexico		
X Gloria Lopez, Director	X Misty Pugmire, Director	✓
X Crystal Pena, Staff	○ Staff:	✓
○ Parent:	○ Parent:	
X Luis Quinones, Friend	○ Friend:	✓
Oklahoma		
X Kathy Castleberry, Director	○ Anthony Stafford, Director	✓
X Susie Powers, Staff	○ Laurie Gassaway, Staff	✓
○ Sarah Scott, Parent	○ Parent:	
X Paula Brown, Friend	○ Friend:	✓
Texas		
○ Weldon T. Beard, Director	○ Venetia Peacock, Director	
○ Staff:	○ Staff:	
○ Parent:	○ Parent:	
X Albert L. Black, Friend	○ Friend:	✓
		12 /20 (11 or more)

Board Advisors in attendance were State Presidents: Jackie Burton (AR), Rhonda Taylor (LA), Crystal Pena (NM) and Christin Bolinger (OK). Collaboration Directors: Jackie Govan (AR), Kahree Wahid (LA), Paula Brown (OK) and Alferma Giles (TX). Advisors in attendance were Manuela Rendon.

- II. **Approval of Agenda** – Gloria Lopez, President asked for the agenda to be reviewed and called for the motion.

Jacqueline Burton makes motion to approve agenda as presented and Jackie Govan seconds. All in favor, motion carried.

- III. **Approval of Minutes** –Gloria Lopez, President asked for the meeting minutes of January 10, 2022 to be reviewed and called for the motion.

Paula Brown makes motion to approve the meeting minutes of January 10, 2022 as presented and Susie Powers seconds. All in favor, motion carried.

- IV. **Treasurer’s Report – Paula Brown, Treasurer** – Paula Brown reported has not received all documents and account information, will work with President Gloria Lopez to obtain information and documents.

V. **Standing Committee Reports – Committee Chairs**

A. Audit/Budget/Finance –Paula Brown –No report presented.

B. Scholarship/Awards/Recognition –Alferma Giles

Ms. Giles reported the two plaques were presented to the recipients for Volunteer and Friend award. Emailed scholarship recipients for a follow-up report, did receive a response from two recipients; Stephanie Zapata and Socorro Zapata. Ms. Giles read the follow-up response from scholarship recipient to the board. The 2022 Region VI HAS Scholarship documents were emailed to Deana Howell on 2/28, with a request to post on the website on 3/1.

C. Communication/Public Relations –Albert Black
No report given.

D. Policy & Procedures –Luis Quinones
No report given.

E. By-Laws –Jackie Govan

Jackie Govan reports that By-laws committee reports article 7 section 4: audit and budget. Committee consists of all Collaboration Directors from each state, meet monthly. Presented the update on by-laws cover sheet. Recommendation for changes: (see attached document) added on

*President job description “serves as an official liaison to the National Head Start Association (NHSA) and provides reports to share the work and activities and Regional Board to the NHSA Board.

*Convenes and presides at the Regional Affiliate held during the Regional and National Head Start Training Conference.

*Meets with the conference chairperson-removed travel to be paid by the association.

*add 50% of profit from Region VI conference will go to Region VI and the remaining 50% will state with the state hosting conference.

Jackie Govan makes motion to approve the recommendations in by-laws as presented and Kahree Wahid seconds. All in favor, motion carried.

VI. General Standard Reports ---Brief Highlights Only

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

Arkansas- Jackie Govan reported they purchase holistic wellness for parents to focus on mental health and journals for them to participate. Father engagement, had seven males who participated in sharing their stories. Early Head Start and homelessness participating in quarterly meetings, found many glitches in reporting homelessness in Arkansas. Dolly Pardon is coming to Arkansas in May 5th, will have reception. She will come out to the states once they get each 100% participation in all Counties. Seeking strategies to share data in Arkansas, Jackie presented an example that included enrollment, information on children and families. They used icons instead of long narratives so easy to read and captures them to see the data. Request payment for seed and webmaster fee that was due January 31, 2022, and have not been invoiced for Region VI. Recommendation to implement a strategic planning session to get back on track.

Louisiana- Kahree Wahid reported Louisiana they are working end of year report and budgets. Tax credits were issued to directors and teachers. Quality rating system. Partnership with C-CAP, encouraging head start programs to be partners so they can provide child care for families who need services. Child care licensing revisions on indoor and outdoor space, square footage per child. One-time funding available for early childhood program. Family engagement focus on social-emotional development, including head start framework.

New Mexico- Olga Valenzuela-Zavala- No report given.

Oklahoma- Paula Brown reported finalization of transition summit that will take place June 22nd. Great partners within the state that include Part B/C, head start programs, Region VI participation. Will host first partnership meeting hybrid option. Appointed to sit on Governors inter agency council of homelessness. Met with Oklahoma's human services Director, in their intake system when a family applies for services if they qualify for head start services it will come up in system and notify that family can apply with a head start program. His passion for families first and has been innovative and excited to see the partnership. Oklahoma head start created their first Facebook page, excited to share about head start programs.

Texas- Alferma Giles reported a grant to launch work on landscape of EHS/HS in Texas. The activities included a landscape assessment, parent policy group, family childcare workgroup, and early childhood coalition. Participates in quarterly meetings with Texas Early Learning Council. They launched new early childhood Texas website to help streamline data, EHS/HS data and information was provided to share. Want a one stop shop for families when they visit a website. THSSCO supports work and engagement of the Infant Toddler Specialist network, and Texas School Ready at the Children's Learning Institute by recruiting EHS teachers, coaches, and specialist to participate in free program. Head Start Administrators participate in setting up accounts in Texas Workforce Registry. Cultivating awareness and resilience in education (CARE grant) was recently awarded, the program is a mindfulness-based program that helps teachers' better

manager their stress and enhance their social-emotional skills. THSSCO working with other collaboration directors in Region VI to present at conference on Opioid Abuse and Substance Use disorders at Region VI conference in September.

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

Arkansas- Jacqueline Burton reported AHSAs meet every other month to conduct business with associations four classes. Working to change their goals and strategic plan. EHS/HS and HSSCO engaged in fundraiser with generation wellness they collected \$3,075. Directors share ideas, thoughts, and other information.

Louisiana- Rhonda Taylor reported Louisiana hosted a mini conference “Head Start Back on Track Full Steam Ahead” for all staff. Board met last week discussed hot topics going on in state, Senate bill 47 that requires all school districts to provide early childhood education to all three-year-old children in state. Proposed changes for school districts to provide all day kindergarten and schools who provide kindergarten will require to provide education for three-year-old. Challenge for head start programs and will compete for enrollment. July-August to tour conference facility for Region VI 2023 conference. Working to fill vacancy on Region VI board, trying to get parents involved. Staffing continues to be a challenge; staff wellness is priority-bring head start directors together to discuss challenges and decisions to make for new school year. Working toward annual planning and assessment meeting for June to update by-laws and ongoing work they want to continue to do. Recommendation: how do states and regions come together to get support from Regional office on staff wellness.

Discussion: Gloria presented that we sit down and talk to Region VI Kenneth Gilbert and Specialists about concern and how we can get support and focus on staff wellness. Kathy Castleberry commented mental health is working on T & TA this coming fall, want to provide more what grantee needs instead of what they think each grantee needs. Region VI in transition in working back in office with two days a week.

New México- Crystal Pena reported UNM FDP and ECECD partnership with Head Starts in New Mexico, they will offer collaborative leadership training, family leadership training, community of wealth training, and help with strengthening local partnerships on behalf of young children and families, including engagement with community coalitions. Grant is available through June 2023. First Transition Summit April 20th and we have already 320 registered to participate virtually. Luis Quinones challenged all head start grantees to bring a parent to NMHSA, February was “Invite a Parent” and we have five parents who participated and now have two parents seated on board, and by next meeting for Region VI will have parent representative for NM didn’t have quorum in March. NMHSA promoting grantees to support parents and encourage to take to the NHA conference in Baltimore if attending. Opportunity to empower families to be advocates. Secretary Elizabeth Groginsky of ECECD department is conducting site visits in early childhood programs throughout the state, wants to learn more about programs but most importantly hear the challenges early childhood programs are having and what are ways the department can provide support.

Oklahoma- Paula Brown reported on behalf of Christin Bolinger, federal injunction on vaccination and mask mandate watching closely. Participating in no hit initiative with sign available to post onsite. Oklahoma legislation on voucher for public schools.

Texas- Alferma Giles reported that the association has not met.

C. NHSA Report – NHSA Representatives

Jackie Govan reported NHSA next meeting will be in Baltimore, they will have orientation for new board members. Yasmina shared NHSA Vision and Mission; and three goals. They assigned members to committees. Tommy gave report on FY22 Budget, there were three funding priorities: COLA, Quality Improvement funds to address childhood trauma, and funds to provide longer hours of service. The following events: NHSA Conference May 2-5, 2022 in Baltimore, Maryland in person, Fall Leadership Institute in Washington D.C. September 19-22, 2022, and Parent & Family Engagement Conference in Dallas, Texas December 12-18, 2022.

VII. Conference Planning Reports – Conference Chairs

A. 2022 Conference – Arkansas -9/27/22-9/30/22 –Jacqueline Burton/Jackie Govan

Jackie Govan reported “People, Purpose, & Passion”, sent out email call for papers. Opioid and substance use presentations will be available and will have testimonies. Will break out in groups by State and develop a plan how to address opioid abuse in their states. Door prizes, will have opioid exhibitors will be at conference. Ribbon cutting will take place on Tuesday, Wednesday will kick-off with speaker Jonathon Edison Pathways to Success Theme. Seeking sponsorship from vendors to host director social. Thursday will be “design your own Head Start t-shirt” will give away prizes for best t-shirt. Friday will have state affiliate meetings. Dr. Rebecca Isbell will speak at awards session and Sidney Moncrief will speak for closing. Region VI annual meeting Thursday. Vaccine card will be required to attend conference, Cvent offers to ensure vaccine cards are legit if we as a board want to purchase that service. Requested from all five states to send artwork so they can frame that will be presented to each speaker. Dollar per child so far collected \$2000, during COVID many grantees did not participate. Will be seeking more help to assist with conference planning and during conference. Presenters are submitting call for papers, seeing a few with health & wellness. Will have t-shirts available for sale \$5 that they can decorate or wear them on Thursday. Scavenger hunt with exhibitors to encourage attendees to see exhibitors. Will receive a gift once they complete scavenger hunt.

Introduce Jonathon Edison: Rhonda Taylor

Recognition: Paula Brown

Introduce Dr. Rebecca Isbell: Misty Pugmire

Recognition: Jennifer Thomas

Louisiana Invitation to the 2023 conference: Rhonda Taylor and Michelle Joubert

Introduction Sidney Moncrief: Crystal Pena

Recognition: Kathy Castleberry

COVID-19 update: Christie Campbell

- B. 2023 Conference – Louisiana-Rhonda Taylor
Conference will be in New Orleans, Louisiana, will have more to report next meeting.

VIII. Old Business

- A. Nomination & Election of NHSA Parent Representative

Jacqueline Burton makes motion to table nomination and election of NHSA parent representative until next meeting and Jackie Govan seconds. All in favor, motion carried.

IX. New Business

- A. The \$5000 seed money has been approved by Region VI, just need to work with former Treasurer. Paula suggested he write check for balance and open account in Oklahoma. Will work on getting everything situated. Suggested to change banks to Bank of America since in all five states and obtain credit card for Region VI. Gloria has two checks; one will pay for today's meeting and the other signed check will include seed money and webmaster/website written to Arkansas Head Start Association and they will pay webmaster.
 - B. Webmaster \$1,1000 and \$806 for website was due on January 31, 2022.
 - C. Region VI membership dues, have not received for past two years. Paula will send out invoices to get back on track.
 - D. Region VI Strategic Planning-suggestion to seek contractor to help facilitate strategic planning session. President Gloria requested to send ideas of contractors to her through email.
- x. **Announcements –**
- A. Next Region VI Board Meeting: July 18, 2022, virtually at 10:00am CT and 9:00am MT.

- XI. Adjournment – Gloria Lopez, President asked for adjournment at 1:09 pm.

Susie Powers motions to adjourn meeting at 1:09 pm and Rhonda Taylor seconds it, all in favor, motion carried.

*Board members toured the Embassy Suites which will be the conference site for the annual Region VI Conference in September 2022.