



**REGION VI HEAD START ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS VIRTUAL MEETING AGENDA**

**Wednesday, July 19, 2023
8:15 CT a.m. In-Person**

Meeting Minutes

I. Opening Business Items

- A. Call to Order/Greetings/Welcome – Gloria Lopez, President
Gloria Lopez, President, called the meeting to order at 8:23 am CT. She welcomed everyone in attendance and asked if any new members were present.
- B. Presentation & Seating of New Members –Albert Black, Vice-President
–Albert Black, Vice-President—No new members to present or seat.
- C. Roll Call & Establish Quorum – Roll Call taken by Crystal Pena, 13 out of 20 votes present; quorum established.

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

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

II. Approval of Agenda – Gloria Lopez, President

Albert Black makes a motion to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Paula Brown. All in favor, motion carried.

III. Approval of Minutes: May 22, 2023, minutes by Crystal Pena, Secretary.

Jackie Govan makes a motion to approve the meeting minutes on May 22, 2023, as presented; Jackie Burton seconds it. All in favor, motion carried.

IV. Treasurer's Report – Paula Brown

Paula Brown reported a beginning bank account balance of \$155,420.28 as of May 31, 2023, expenditures of \$5,711.90 (online bill pay, NHSA membership dues, scholarships), and revenue of \$2,013.42 (dues paid- LA, NM, TX)—the ending balance as of July 13, 2023, of \$151,721.80.

Laurie Gassaway makes a motion to approve the treasurer's report as presented by Albert Black seconds it. All in favor, motion carried.

V. Standing Committee Reports – Committee Chairs

A. Audit/Budget/Finance –Paula Brown- Paul reported that it is still pending audit, then will submit back pay for taxes and update non-profit status.

B. Scholarship/Awards/Recognition –Alferma Giles (see attached)

Ms. Giles reported that the scholarship application began on April 3rd and closed on July 3rd. A total of six applications were approved, and one application was denied due to the incomplete application that was submitted. Two applicants from Arkansas, Meghan Graham and Heather Howison, Oklahoma: Avigail Venegas, Ciara Kirk, and Kristen Kirk; Texas: Jacqueline Garza; and one denied from Louisiana. Scholarship awards submittal date of July 10th.

Discussion: Alferma recommended removing members of the state of association and dollar per child. Gloria Lopez recommended returning recommendations to the committee and bringing them forward to the board for approval.

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

D. Policy & Procedures –

Laurie Gassaway reported no updates but will get with the committee to review. Jackie Govan offered support from the By-laws committee.

E. By-Laws –Jackie Govan

Jackie Govan reported bylaws are up-to-date.

Jackie Govan makes a motion to approve the committee reports as presented, and Albert Black seconds it. 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 that The National Association of State Leaders in Early Education (NASLEE) and the State of Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education focus on the impact of COVID-19, race and ethnicity, gender, and the state in the children's lives. Arkansas awarded the Preschool Development Grant (PDG); the funds will be used for trauma-informed care, increasing our infant and toddler slots, and helping staff receive a family credential. EHS/Head Start program updates: workforce issues and return to the EHS/EHS-CCP quarterly meetings. Fatherhood and family initiative: fatherhood booth and exhibit during conferences, 2023 dads reading on the carpet, Homelessness: collaboration with state MV Liaisons, and special committee formed to look at ways to end homelessness, racial equity: create first racial equity website, SUTEAR professional development model, Opioid/substance use for 2023: Institute, School Readiness Summit scheduled November 3, 2023, AR Imagination Library: surveyed all EHS/HS children to ensure they are receiving books, professional development

Louisiana- Kahree Wahid reported a State conference in June, collaboration with all early childhood providers, with over 2000 participants. Coordinated enrollment is on the table for all states; this allows state entities to control the grant. New Regional Office Liaison Tasha Long, reassigned to Louisiana. Needs assessment-longitude study, use the data to determine focus. Workforce and enrollment continue to be a challenge. Enrollment is an issue due to a need for more staff. FINS: Families needing services, working with the Justice Supreme Court.

New Mexico- No report given.

Oklahoma- Paula Brown reported Oklahoma state conference, keynote former Secretary Brown. The waitlist for Disability Services is a concern; children have been on the waitlist for years. Speed dating session, Directors of Early Childhood, the Department of Education, and Universities will participate. Upcoming head start advisory October 25th. Oklahoma partnership with school readiness. EHS/HS will be a part of the three-year implementation pyramid model. Summer camp sessions held by the Collaboration office focus on self-care for all participants.

Texas- Alferma Giles reported the THSSCO grant submitted in June. The needs assessment report and strategic plan for 2023 are being completed; a full report will be published in August/September. Texas Head Start Association board is planning the THSA mini conference September 14-15th in Austin. Partnership with Dr. Jerry Robertson-Cognitive High-Performance Coach and Speaker. Working with Children's Learning Institute/Infant Toddler Specialist Network to align the Head Start Program Performance Standards with the Early Learning Outcomes Framework. Working with the Texas Early Childhood Professional Development System to support, educate, train, and encourage HS/EHS staff to set up the Texas Workforce Registry.

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

Arkansas- Susan Templeton reported that Arkansas 2023 Institute took place June 6-9, 2023, in Hot Springs, AR, at Arlington Hotel. The Theme is "Honoring the Past, Treasuring the Present, and Shaping the Future."

Louisiana- Rhonda Taylor reported Regional Office Update 10:00-12:00 in Charles Ballroom; there needs to be a misprint on the schedule for the state meetings on Wednesday from 4:45-5:30 p.m. The Bourbon board room for new directors will have a session with Carmen Williams. The luncheon will take place

on Thursday; everyone was given a red ticket to be admitted and will have a table for Region VI.

New Mexico- Crystal Pena reported that ECECD released awardee letters to grantees who applied for NM Pre-K funding in June. The State designated funds slotted for Head Start programs to apply. The grant included an increase in the cost per child in pre-k and allowed Head Start grantees to apply for the supplemental difference of what they receive in federal funding versus what they are funding cost per child in state pre-k.

Conference planning for 2024 Region VI hosted by New Mexico, designate a conference committee to start the planning in logistics.

Head Start Collaboration Director: Pending the selection of a new Director, the interim Director is Shana Runck. The position is re-advertised and will have another set of interviews. The first round had no qualified recipients with a head start background.

Oklahoma- Christin Bolinger reported that under-enrollment remains a challenge, and staffing remains the issue. They are waiting on approval for the change of scope for several grantees. New Directors, with all resignations of experienced directors, focus on supporting them.

Texas- Weldon Beard reported a Mini-conference in September focusing on fatherhood. Theme: Knowing our Why. Significant impact on programs that minimum pre-k teacher requirements will only need a CDA.

- C. NHSA Report – NHSA Representatives: Jackie Govan reported budget cuts proposed to Head Start. NHSA sent out correspondence to states to reach out to critical senators to help secure the HS budget

Jackie Burton makes a motion to approve the reports presented, Kahree Wahid seconds. All in favor, motion carried.

VII. Conference Planning Reports – Conference Chairs

- A. 2023 Conference-Louisiana- 7/17/23-7/21/23-Rhonda Taylor gave report
- B. 2024 Conference-New Mexico-Crystal Pena reported that the conference planning committee is on its way. I am looking at Hotel Albuquerque, and the unofficial dates are the end of October or the first week in November.
- C. 2025 Conference-Oklahoma

Discussion: The 2025 conference will be in Texas, and Oklahoma will host the 2026 annual conference.

Albert Black motions to approve the presented conference reports: Paula Brown seconds. All in favor, motion carried.

VIII. Old Business

- A. No old business to report

IX. New Business

- A. Assignment of Affiliate Group Facilitators: Director/Staff/Parent/Friend

Parent: Alejandra Dominguez
Staff: Laurie Gassaway
Director Michelle Jourbert

Collect resolutions and submit them to Gloria Lopez before General Session Meeting held on Friday.

- X. Announcements – State Meetings: July 20, 2023 (3:00 – 4:00 pm)
Affiliate Meetings: July 20, 2023 (4:00 – 4:30 pm)
General Business Meeting: Friday, July 21, 2023 (8:30 – 9:30 am)
Next Region VI Board Meeting: October 23, 2023 (Virtual)
- XI. Adjournment – Gloria Lopez, President, adjourned the meeting since there was no further business.

Gloria Lopez adjourns the meeting at 9:56 am.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Crystal Pena, Secretary.