

KANSAS CHILDREN'S CABINET AND TRUST FUND VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES

The Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund board met in regular session Friday, April 24, 2020 at 9:00 a.m., as a virtual meeting. Chairman Kim Moore called the meeting to order with a quorum. Proper notice was published in the *Kansas Register*.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kim Moore, LeEtta Felter, DiAnne Owen Graham, Shari Weber, John Wilson, Tyler Smith, M.D., Senator Dinah Sykes, Representative Valdenia Winn, Rebekah Gaston, DCF, Amanda Petersen, KSDE, Amy Raymond, Supreme Courts, Rachel Sisson, KDHE, and Karla Wiscombe, KBOR
Cabinet Staff: Melissa Rooker, Amy Meek, and Dyogga Adegbore

WELCOME

Chairman Kim Moore welcomed everyone joining the virtual meeting. He asked Dr. Jessica Sprague-Jones, KU CPPR to discuss the protocol for board members to follow when communicating in the chat box during the meeting. Board members were asked to state his or her name before speaking in order to comply with the Kansas Open Meetings Act.

Chairman Moore remarked that 2020 will be remembered as a year of new things. Some things good, some not so good, and some things new but workable as he felt this meeting would be today. He thanked the staff and KU CPPR team for planning the details of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Kansas Children's Cabinet board received copies of the February minutes prior to the meeting. Chairman Moore asked for a motion on the February 7, 2020 meeting minutes.

It was moved by John Wilson and seconded by LeEtta Felter the Kansas Children's Cabinet approve the minutes of February 7, 2020. There was discussion. Tyler Smith noted two typos on Page 3 of the minutes. Under the topic Early Childhood Systems-Building Needs Assessment, in the fourth paragraph, the hyphen should be deleted in the word "newborn" and in the third paragraph, the first letter of the word "childhood" should be capitalized in the phrase Early Childhood Block Grant. Board members Wilson and Felter agreed to the edits to their motion. Motion carried. The minutes were approved as corrected.

BRIGHT SPOTS

Chairman Moore introduced Secretary David Toland, Kansas Department of Commerce to share bright spots. Secretary Toland discussed five topics intersecting the work of Kansas Department of Commerce with the work of the Children's Cabinet's interests.

- 1) Funding through the Community Service Tax Credit Program (CSP) which is an annual funding program that Kansas Department of Commerce offers. It provides tax credits allocated to nonprofit organization donors who give to qualified projects approved by the Kansas Department of Commerce. This year, the Kansas Department of Commerce has set aside \$1 million dollars of the \$4.1 million dollars in funding specifically for early childhood facilities and projects. This is one way to make good on Governor Kelly's commitment to be the education governor. This program is open through May 31, 2020 to new applicants. See <https://www.kansascommerce.gov> to download the application guidelines.

Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund Minutes

Page 2

April 24, 2020

BRIGHT SPOTS (contin.)

- 2) Registered Apprenticeship Program. Secretary Toland is interested in the re-establishment of the Registered Apprenticeship Program for Child Care and Preschools. That project is on hold due to COVID-19 but is on his radar.
- 3) Governor's Awards for Business Excellence. Annually the Kansas Governor gives out awards for business excellence. "Family-friendly Workplace" is a new category that has been added. The criteria range from offering flexible work schedules, on-site subsidized child care, paid parental leave, lactation rooms, and pre- and post-prenatal insurance coverage. Applications are open. See <https://www.kansascommerce.gov>. Secretary Toland asked those interested to nominate a worthy business for the award.
- 4) COVID-19 Resources for Kansas Nonprofits. As part of the COVID-19 response, SBA offers Paycheck Protection Program Loans (PPP) and Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL). Child care providers interested in SBA loans can apply at <https://www.kansascommerce.gov>. Kansas Department of Commerce has staff trained and available to provide technical assistance to small business owners on how to navigate these federal programs. A two-pager flier is also available about both programs.
- 5) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). On May 6, 2020, there will be \$9.1 million dollars in CDBG funding available through Kansas Department of Commerce to provide grants to Kansas communities for small businesses that need working capital. These will be awarded as grants, not loans, and all grant decisions will be made at the local level. Those 37 communities that already have a revolving loan line through this program will not be eligible for this pot of money. The RFP will be announced on May 7. Any questions can be directed to Secretary Toland's e-mail which is David.Toland@ks.gov.

Secretary Toland entertained questions or comments. Chairman Moore said he had heard that Kansas was ranked third in the nation in obtaining Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans compared to the size of their payrolls. He asked if that was accurate. Secretary Toland confirmed that Kansas did extremely well in the first round of PPP because the Kansas banking community was ready to process requests, small business development centers provided a safety net of technical assistance, and the team at Kansas Department of Commerce assisted, as well. Chairman Moore remarked there are 138 participants on the zoom meeting, so the word is getting out about these programs. Executive Director Melissa Rooker thanked Secretary Toland for his department's focus on children's issues and family needs.

Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund Minutes

Page 3

April 24, 2020

DIRECTOR'S UPDATES

Melissa Rooker, Executive Director thanked everyone for being flexible to make themselves available and for helping put the virtual meeting together in compliance with KOMA. She also thanked KSDE as the Cabinet's fiscal agent for providing technical guidance as staff have shifted to working full time from home. Melissa thanked the State Directors team DCF, KSDE, and KDHE for their partnership and open communication, in their own policy arenas and rapid response during the COVID-19 crisis.

Melissa reported that the Kansas Attorney General conveyed that the Master Tobacco Settlement payment of \$53 million dollars deposited recently which is slightly higher than the estimated \$52 million dollars.

Melissa remarked that as a result of the COVID-19 crisis, programs have had to make decisions at the local level about services and staffing. Cabinet staff have had to adjust Common Measures expectations of programs by relaxing the guidelines. Melissa added that programs are being allowed to provide alternative methods of delivery and tracking the number of ways the delivery is provided. This data will be reported to the Cabinet at a later date.

Melissa reported the Needs Assessment was submitted to the Preschool Development Grant B-5 federal project officer to fulfill that portion of our Preschool Development Grant B-5 responsibilities. Kansas received glowing remarks. We are awaiting notice of the renewal award. It is safe to say that the State Directors team will be continuing to work through the goals that have been set out in the strategic plan.

EX OFFICIO REPORTS

Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund

Amy Meek, Early Childhood Director reported

- Reader-friendly compilation of resources for families and providers are now reflected on the www.kschildrencabinet.org website.
- The website also shows links to State agencies that are involved in providing financial relief, COVID-19 health information and guidance for families and early childhood care and education providers.

Kansas Department of Health and Environment

Rachel Sisson, Director, Bureau of Family Health reported

- COVID-19 Resource Center daily updates on COVID-19 cases are available at www.kdhe.ks.gov.
- Secretary Lee Norman gives a twice a week update report on the demographics of cases.
- KDHE is focused on testing, accessing testing supplies, and contact tracing
- KDHE recruits care resource coordinators across Kansas to assist with care, food, transportation and other resources for families.
- Plans to track data on pregnant moms and postpartum positive COVID-19 cases.
- Efforts underway to help keep local child care facilities in business, provide guidance to families, and work around the COVID-19 pandemic.

Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund Minutes

Page 4

April 24, 2020

Kansas Department for Children and Families

Rebekah Gaston, Director of Policy and Economic & Employment Services reported:

- Congress appropriated \$3.5 billion dollars in federal funding to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) of which Kansas received \$30.5 million additional dollars for the Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG) to be used for COVID-19 child care relief. In a typical year, Kansas receives approximately \$50 million dollars in CCDBG funding.
- With the additional funding, DCF created the HERO Relief Program. It will provide emergency funding for both families in the form of increased child care subsidies and child care providers through supply grants and sustainability stipends to help respond to the public health crisis. The application was announced earlier in the week.
- DCF will be rolling out two additional programs using HERO Relief Program funding. One is the Emergency Worker Support Bonus, which is a one-time \$250 payment for caring for children of emergency workers. The second program is a Revenue Replacement Benefit for child care assistance providers enrolled in the child care subsidy program. See www.ksherorelief.com and www.dcf.ks.gov for more information.

Kansas Board of Regents

Dr. Karla Wiscombe, Director, Academic Affairs reported:

- Kansas Board of Regents is dealing with 180,000 students who transitioned from face-to-face instruction to online instruction due to the COVID-19 crisis. The transition seems to be going smoothly. The transition also involves dealing with refunding students for food and housing.
- KBOR is trying to plan for the fall semester not knowing what is ahead due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- KBOR has partnered with KSDE to provide webinars next week relating to supporting high school seniors who might have to make different plans due to COVID-19. The admissions and financial representatives will be hosting webinars with high school counselors. The purpose is to address concerns about students who might not be interested in taking on-line courses and instead elect to postpone attending college in the fall. Also, to discuss providing support to the high school seniors since they did not get to attend prom and graduation ceremony. *Chairman Moore asked Dr. Wiscombe to send him information about the webinars following this meeting.*

Kansas State Department of Education

Amanda Petersen, Director, Early Childhood reported:

- Kansas State Board of Education at its April 14th meeting approved all K-12 schools' continuous learning plans. All of the plans are linked and can be found on the www.ksde.org website or go to the Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund website, www.kschildrenscabinet.org and click on the continuous learning link. These plans address the needs of all students, Pre-K through 12.
- Kansas State Board of Education at its May 12th meeting will be hearing a report on survey data from schools regarding how families view what is and is not working relating to the continuous learning process.
- KSDE provided information on school nutrition services for local communities. See www.ksde.org. The KSDE Child Nutrition and Wellness team partnered with local communities to take advantage of federal funding flexibility regarding summer school breakfast and lunch programs for children.

EX OFFICIO REPORTS (Contin.)

Kansas Supreme Courts

Amy Raymond, Director of Trial Court Programs, Office of Judicial Administration reported:

- Courthouses across Kansas continue to be closed to the public due to the COVID-19 crisis. The Supreme Court issued an essential functions of the court requirement. Courts are carrying out only those essential functions.
- Courts are trying to find ways to carry out everyday business through remote hearings

EARLY CHILDHOOD RECOMMENDATIONS PANEL

Melissa Rooker remarked that at the last Cabinet meeting, she reported that Governor Kelly issued Executive Order 20-02 re-establishing the State Early Childhood Advisory Council, with the Kansas Children's Cabinet board in that role. The EO aligns with requirements of the federal Head Start Reauthorization Act, and the Early Childhood Recommendations Panel will provide technical expertise and bring recommendations to the full Cabinet. Appointees will serve on a volunteer, non-compensated basis. The Cabinet office received 32 applications. Melissa remarked that the Cabinet will need all hands on deck. Amanda Petersen has offered to chair the panel with members of the State agencies as appointees working with panel members. Cabinet members received the Early Childhood Recommendations Panel Summary showing the overview of the process and timeline. Panel terms are for one-year term from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

Melissa presented the Cabinet a slate of proposed appointees, including selection of chair, for the Cabinet board to approve. Chairman Moore entertained a motion to approve the slate of names.

MOTION:

It moved by Valdenia Winn and seconded by Dinah Sykes that the Kansas Children's Cabinet approve the slate of names and chair for the Early Childhood Recommendations Panel.

Chairman Kim Moore called for a roll call vote.

LeEtta Felter – Yes

DiAnne Owen Graham – Yes

Tyler Smith, M.D. – Yes

Senator Dinah Sykes – Yes

Shari Weber – Yes

Representative Valdenia Winn – Yes

John Wilson – Yes

Chairman Kim Moore – Yes

Motion carried.

EARLY CHILDHOOD BLOCK GRANT (ECBG) RECOMMENDATIONS

Amy Meek, Early Childhood Director presented the SFY 2021 Early Childhood Block Grant (ECBG) Proposals Summary to the Cabinet. There were 23 applications, ranging from \$40,000 to \$2.2 million dollars with total available funding at \$17 million dollars. Eighteen (18) programs are being recommended for funding. The applications were due February 4, eligible applications were reviewed and scored by an external panel of experts, and the State Directors team members reviewed the scored applications and made recommendations for Children’s Cabinet review. Formal “Notice of Award” letters will be provided once the Kansas Legislature has adjourned and the State budget is finalized. The fiscal year will begin on July 1, 2020.

Chair Moore entertained a motion on the ECBG slate of 18 recommendations.

MOTION:

It was moved by Dinah Sykes and seconded by Tyler Smith that the Kansas Children’s Cabinet approve the 18 recommended ECBG recipients for SFY 2021 awards.

Chairman Kim Moore called for a roll call vote:

- LeEtta Felter – Yes
- DiAnne Owen Graham – Yes
- Tyler Smith, M.D. – Yes
- Senator Dinah Sykes – Yes
- Shari Weber – Yes
- Rep. Valdenia Winn – Yes on all but USD 500. Recused from voting on USD 500 due to a conflict of interest
- John Wilson – Yes
- Chairman Kim Moore – Yes

Motion carried.

ALL IN FOR KANSAS KIDS STRATEGIC PLAN

Melissa Rooker, Executive Director discussed the *All In For Kansas Kids Strategic Plan*. The strategic plan was finalized in early April as a deliverable in the Preschool Development Grant Birth-5 planning grant awarded in December, 2018. She directed everyone’s attention to www.kschildrenscabinet.org/strategic-plan.

Chairman Moore entertained a motion to accept the strategic plan.

ALL IN FOR KANSAS KIDS STRATEGIC PLAN (Contin.)

MOTION:

It was moved by John Wilson and seconded by Valdenia Winn that the Kansas Children's Cabinet accept the *All In For Kansas Kids Strategic Plan*.

Chairman Kim Moore called for a roll call vote.

LeEtta Felter – Yes
DiAnne Owen Graham – Yes
Tyler Smith, M.D. – Yes
Senator Dinah Sykes – Yes
Shari Weber – Yes
Representative Valdenia Winn – Yes
John Wilson – Yes
Chairman Kim Moore – Yes

Motion carried.

NEXT MEETINGS:

Future Kansas Children's Cabinet meetings are scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. on June 5, August 7, October 2, and December 4, 2020 as either a virtual meeting or held at Kansas Association of School Boards. Melissa Rooker remarked that the June 5 meeting will more than likely be conducted as a virtual meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for discussion, it was moved by John Wilson and seconded by Tyler Smith, the Kansas Children's Cabinet adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:37 a.m.