

**SUMMIT COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
AUGUST 23, 2022 MEETING MINUTES**

<u>Board Members</u>	<u>Board Members</u>	<u>Executive Team</u>
✓ Anne Connell-Freund, Chair	✓ Wendy Bolas	✓ Cassandra Holtzmann
✓ Keith Malick, Vice-Chair	✓ Patrick Bravo	✓ Amy Davidson
✓ GinaKaye Maddox, Secretary	✓ Beth Gracey	✓ Darin Kearns
Anna Arvay	✓ Andrew Schuellerman	✓ Valarie Nash
✓ Omar Banks	✓ Katie Stoyhoff	✓ Catherine Van Horne

**Staff Present:** Jon Hart, Sushila Moore, Deanna Shriver, Kristin Thane, Beth Lowe - Recording Secretary

**Call to Order and Roll Call**

Ms. Connell-Freund called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m. and a roll call was taken.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Ms. Connell-Freund requested a motion to approve the minutes of July 26, 2022. Mr. Bravo moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Mr. Banks. All were in favor and the motion carried.

**Public Comment**

There were no requests for public comment.

**Committee Reports**

**Resources Committee**

Mr. Malick, Committee Chair, reported that the committee met today and approved the minutes of July 26, 2022. As part of the Resources Committee report, Mr. Kearns provided a summary of the Financial Statement Report as of July 31, 2022 to the full Board.

**Resolution 08-2022-23/B**

Authorization to secure Directors and Officers Liability Insurance, including Employment Practices Liability Insurance, through the carrier National Union for a one-year period commencing August 31, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$55,355. Mr. Malick made a motion to approve; seconded by Ms. Bolas. All were in favor and the motion carried.

**Resolution 08-2022-23/C**

Authorization to enter into a contract with Todd’s Enviroscares, LLC for snowplowing services in an amount not to exceed \$65,000 annually, with the option to extend for an additional four one-year terms. Mr. Malick made a motion to approve; seconded by Mrs. Stoyhoff. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Mrs. Nash informed the Board that the state has announced Workforce Funding Supports for the current fiscal year (June 2022 - June 2023) and SCCS is in the process of preparing the grant application. If our application is approved, SCCS is eligible to receive \$557,475. The purpose of these funds is to provide child welfare agencies with flexible funding to implement recruitment and retention activities for child protection caseworkers. Each agency will have the ability to develop creative solutions at the local level.

## Other Business

Wendy Bolas resigned from the SCCS Board of Trustees effective August 31, 2022. The entire Board expressed their deep appreciation for her service and wished her well.

## Executive Director's Report

The Board received a Director's Report in their packet and Director Holtzmann highlighted the following:

- For the first time ever, SCCS took FIRST-PLACE in the 2022 Akron Corporate Challenge events. The winning trophy was displayed during the board meeting and a video highlighting the entire season was played for the Board.
- Currently, there are 827 children in custody.
- As of August 8, a total of 54 caseworkers are assigned in the Intake Departments with a caseload average of 10.6 cases per case-carrying worker. The Protective Services Departments have a total of 579 open cases with an average caseload of 10.5 per Protective Services caseworker and 9.7 per Protective Specialized Services caseworker.
- The hotline call volume trended down 6% June to July but the number of screened in reports remained constant.
- The Serious Trauma and Assessment Team (STAT) unit continues to be down one caseworker.
- Three new caseworkers will start at the agency on August 29.
- Isis Pollard has assumed the role of the second shift supervisor and changes have been implemented to bolster engagement and communication between the first and second shift workers.
- Currently, there are 196 children in permanent custody. Four adoptions were finalized in July, totaling 32 adoptions for the year.
- The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) is currently conducting a foster care audit at SCCS. The ODJFS will also conduct Phase 2 of the Child Protection Oversight and Evaluation (CPOE) audit scheduled to occur between October 2022 and September 2024.
- A total of 503 family visits took place in July which is a 9% decrease from June to July. The Visitation units are experiencing a staffing shortage due to several staff moving into different positions throughout the agency. The social work assistants (SWAs) have stepped up to help and are minimizing the impact to families.
- The Safe Kids Coalition through Akron Children's Hospital (ACH) visited the agency to inspect agency car seats for safety and will provide bike helmets for children to use when they are riding bikes and scooters during visits at the agency.
- Director Holtzmann and Ms. Davidson will meet with ACH representatives soon regarding the placement crisis and the need to take proactive steps to avoid children overnighting at SCCS.
- Congratulations are in order to Amy Davidson who joined the Quality Improvement Center for Workforce Development (QIC-WD) in Washington DC recently. SCCS leadership was acknowledged for the implementation and sustainability of the workforce intervention which found that the supportive supervision and resilience alliance sessions did improve several aspects of culture and climate in the intervention agencies.
- Retired SCCS Executive Director John Saros visited the agency recently.
- A first ever Virtual Employment Open House will be held tonight at 6:00 p.m. to encourage potential child welfare caseworkers to apply for open positions at SCCS. A panel of current caseworkers will take part in a Question & Answer session.

- The Board will have an opportunity to test out the virtual reality goggles used by students in the Training unit.
- Per recommendations of the Field Safety workgroup, the security team has increased their presence and is patrolling the campus almost every hour.
- The replacement of the overhead paging system project is progressing nicely.
- Attorney Jon Hart has been very helpful on effective claims reporting with the agency's new provider.
- Judge Teodosio has agreed to participate in "view from the bench" type trainings at SCCS and will present at the November permanent custody testimony training.
- Judge Teodosio is interested in hiring a veteran on staff at Summit County Juvenile Court in their Family Resource Center to assist linking veterans to services.
- SCCS has begun the process of updating the County Child Abuse & Neglect Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which will be due by December 31, 2022, and requires signatures of multiple county partners.
- Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Chelsea Bollin, who has headed the Juvenile Court Child Protection Unit for many years and previously worked as legal counsel at SCCS, has accepted new employment. We are waiting to learn who will be the new supervisor of the Juvenile Division.
- The Administrative & Legal Services Division will participate in a Kaizen event to review processes, workflows, and workload to identify ways to increase efficiency.
- TRIAD, our contracted advertising agency, is in the process of reviewing all the forms and materials used by SCCS for foster care and adoption recruitment purposes. They will make recommendations to this process for a more user-friendly packet of material.

### Adjournment

Ms. Connell-Freund requested a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Stoyhoff moved; seconded by Ms. Bolas. All were in favor and the motion carried. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.



GinaKaye Maddox, Secretary  
Board of Trustees



Cassandra A. Holtzmann, JD, LPA  
Executive Director