

**SUMMIT COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JUNE 27, 2023 MEETING MINUTES**

Board Members	Board Members	Executive Team
✓ Anne Connell-Freund, Chair	✓ Patrick Bravo	✓ Cassandra Holtzmann
✓ Keith Malick, Vice-Chair	✓ Traci Buckner	✓ Amy Davidson
GinaKaye Maddox, Secretary	✓ Beth Gracey	✓ Darin Kearns
✓ Anna Arvay	✓ Andrew Schuellerman	✓ Valarie Nash
Omar Banks	Katie Stoyhoff	✓ Sushi Tripathy-Moore
✓ Kemp Boyd		✓ Catherine Van Horne

Staff Present: Dawn Boudrie, Jon Hart, Tracy Mayfield, Liz Mangon, Ann Ream, Laura Sasser, Mary Serapiglia, Deanna Shriver, Jennifer Snyder, Kristin Thane, Beth Lowe - Recording Secretary

Call to Order and Roll Call

Ms. Connell-Freund called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and a roll call was taken.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Ms. Connell-Freund requested a motion to approve the minutes of May 23, 2023. Ms. Arvay moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Ms. Gracey. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Public Comment

There were no requests for public comment.

Other Business

Traci Buckner was introduced as a new SCCS Board of Trustees member. Mrs. Buckner is the Executive Director of the Akron Children’s Museum and has served in the Akron Public School system for 18 years. She will serve a term of June 5, 2023 to December 31, 2024.

Liz Mangon was also introduced as the agency’s new Deputy Director of Human Resources and Training. She will replace Valarie Nash effective August 1, 2023.

The SCCS Women’s Auxiliary Board (WAB) was the first auxiliary in the nation for a public welfare agency. They were formed in 1948 and recently celebrated 75 years of serving the children in Summit County. Elinore Volk was elected the first WAB President in 1952 and a painting of her was shown to the Board.

Committee Reports

Rules Committee

Committee Chair Patrick Bravo reported that the committee met today and further discussed the recommendations for changes to the SCCS Board of Trustees Code of Regulations and Code of Conduct which were presented at the March 28 Rules Committee meeting.

Mr. Bravo introduced **Resolution 06-2023-27/B** seeking approval to adopt the amended Code of Regulations and Code of Conduct effective June 27, 2023. Mr. Bravo made a motion to approve; seconded by Ms. Arvay. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Resources Committee

Committee Chair Keith Malick reported that the committee met today and approved the minutes of May 23, 2023. As part of the Resources Committee report, Chief Financial Officer (CFO)/Deputy Director Darin Kearns provided the Board a Financial Statement Report as of May 31, 2023.

There were no resolutions this month.

Executive Director's Report

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

- In May, there were 919 children in SCCS custody and 210 of them are in permanent custody (PC). The Summit County Probate Court practice continues to cause delays in the finalization of adoptions, as the Court will not finalize adoptions for families living outside of Summit County. Ongoing discussions to resolve this issue will take place.
- Collaboration continues with Akron Children's Hospital which has been helpful in dealing with hard to place delinquent youth.
- Numerous community partners including SCCS will participate in juvenile sequential intercept mapping of multi-system youth.
- County Executive Ilene Shapiro's office has partnered with Unite Us, an organization that will provide organizations in Summit County with free access to a network that will assist to send and receive social needs referrals, connect community members to services more quickly, and enable organizations to track and capture outcomes data.
- This Director had a brief conversation with Gary Miller, University of Akron President, who is interested in collaborating with SCCS to recruit social workers.
- This Director and Chief Legal Counsel/Deputy Director Catherine Van Horne met with Hope & Healing Executive Director to collaborate.
- The Executive Team is preparing the 2024 Budget and it will be presented to the SCCS Board of Trustees at the July 25 Resources Committee Meeting.
- Senator Vernon Sykes, a ranking member of the Conference Committee, met with this Director to advocate for money in the Budget to assist child protection agencies with the placement crisis.
- SCCS hosted Rev. Dr. Charles Myricks Jr. and Rev. Ron Fowler II from the Arlington Church of God on June 16. They received an overview of the agency and campus tour and are collaborating with SCCS to address the juvenile delinquents in the community as well as assist in the recruitment of foster and adoptive families.
- SCCS held a Juneteenth celebration on June 14 during lunchtime which included a potluck luncheon and dancing.
- This Director shared that she will be a grandmother early next year.

Adjournment

Ms. Connell-Freund requested a motion to adjourn. Pastor Boyd moved; seconded by Ms. Gracey. All were in favor and the motion carried. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.


GinaKaye Maddox, Secretary
Board of Trustees


Cassandra A. Holtzmann, JD, LPA
Executive Director