

Oklahoma Association of Youth Services, Inc.
Membership Meeting Notes
February 2, 2022
1:00 p.m. (Board Meeting Immediately Following)

A virtual meeting was scheduled for the Membership of the Oklahoma Association of Youth Services and was held in accordance with the Oklahoma Association of Youth Services Bylaws:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88420405392>

The agenda from this meeting is available on the OAYS website (www.oays.org)

1. Call to order and introduction of guests

Amanda Leonhart and Laura Broyles from OJA were present and welcomed by President Rice.

2. Roll call/establish quorum

President Rice called the meeting to order and quorum was established. Those absent included Cherokee Nation, Hobart, McAlester, Ponca City, Shawnee, Stillwater, and Tishomingo.

3. Discussion and/or possible action to approve Membership Minutes, December 1, 2021, and January 27, 2022

A motion was made by Darla to approve the December and January minutes; John seconded the motion. **The motion passes.**

4. Cluster Meeting Reports

A. Central Cluster-The Central Cluster met and discussed JOLTS billing and SB 1442.

B. Northeast Cluster-**No Report Given** (Cluster rep on leave)

C. Northwest Cluster-The Northwest Cluster met and reported that they had great planning sessions for legislative luncheons that were postponed. They reported that a Legislator did come for a visit.

D. Southeast Cluster- The Southeast Cluster met to plan for the legislative luncheon; the event was postponed.

E. Southwest Cluster- The Southwest Cluster met to plan for the legislative luncheon; the event was postponed.

6. ARPA Committee Report-The ARPA committee submitted the Membership's proposal on time. Committee Chair, Herb McSpadden noted that he felt it was a strong request but that the committee will continue to monitor legislative committee movement and adjust, with membership, as needed. He also noted that the committee is in the process of seeking a third-party management company to contract for project oversight, once funded.
7. Legislative Committee Report- Committee Chair, John Schneider reported on OJA Executive Director Holt's budget request report in relation to Youth Services and CERC-service at the Capitol. Director Holt gave positive feedback about the need for Youth Services and requested additional funding for CERCs. OAYS Executive Director Peter Messiah reported that during Director Holt's budget hearing she did an "amazing Job" speaking about Youth Services, the need for Youth Services partnerships, and that CERCs provide homelike settings. He also reported that she was very "passionate" in her speech.

Steve Lewis reported that she was impassioned in her presentation and that she did not like the term "shelter," or even "CERC" because providers go out of their way to provide homelike experiences for the children served. He reported that he felt she did an excellent Job representing Youth Services, especially CERCs. It was also reported that the \$2.5 million Director Holt requested was in addition to the FY '21 allocation of \$1.5 million.

8. Programs Committee Report-Committee Chair, Sheila Stinnett Reported that the committee met and discussed:
 - a. Data gathering requirements for Botvin Life-Skills funding received from DMH
 - b. Spring training and June meeting learning opportunities
 - c. William requested CARF training provision.
9. Discussion and/or possible action to approve items as needed on the President's Report—**No report given.**
10. Discussion and/or possible action to approve items as needed on the Executive Director's Report

Dr. Messiah discussed the strength of the membership individually and collectively. He also thanked membership for their timely response to the ARPA funding application and pointed out the clarity it brought to the strength of the Association. He rounded out his report by recommending that the membership operate from a platform of power, not poverty.

Laura Broyles from OJA discussed her commitment to being supportive to member agencies.

11. New business not known at the time of posting this agenda—**No new business was introduced through this meeting.**

12. Adjourn

A motion was introduced by David Grewe and a second from Lisa Williams. **The motion passes.**