

**NIHSDA  
Board of Directors Meeting  
February 23 -25, 2006  
Chandler, Arizona**

**THURSDAY-FEBRUARY 23, 2006**

**Call to Order:** Theo Bayou, President, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m MST.

**Roll Call:** Roll call was taken by the Secretary, Ann Belleau. A quorum of the Board of Directors was established.

PRESENT	NOTIFIED	NOT NOTIFIED
President – Theo Bayou Treasurer – Dorothy McCloud Secretary – Ann Belleau Region 2 – John Pavcek Region 4 – Denise Keene Pat Wind, Alt. Region 5 – Suellen Hixon Region 6 – Mary Bendle (arrived Friday) Region 7 – Mavany Verdugo Region 8 – Jane Metcalf. (arrived Friday)	Region 1 – Joyce McClellan Region 2 – Kevin Hedstrom, Alt. Region 3 - Hilda Marshall Sara Young Bird, Alt. Region 5 – LouAnn Tenequer. Alt. Region 6 – Caroline Alcaida, Alt Region 8 – Susan Carlson, Alt. Region 9 – Jessie Deardorff Region 10 – Brenda Krupa Region 10 – MaryEllen Fritz, Alt.	.

**Others Present:** Kathryn Helsel, Toni Dobrec (Sat.), and Terri Stringer (Sat.).

**Agenda Review and Approval:** The agenda was reviewed. Mavany motioned to approve the agenda as presented. John seconded, the motion passed.

**Approval of the Minutes of January 12, 2006:**

Suellen moved to accept the minutes of January 12, 2006. Denise Keene seconded, the motion passed.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Dorothy McCloud provided a report of the Check Register, Income Report, and Expense Report including investments. Mavany moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report, Suellen seconded, the motion passed.

**Audit:** Kathryn reported that all pertinent information has been submitted to the auditor.

**Membership Report:** Kathryn Helsel provided an update on the current membership status. Three programs joined, increasing the membership to 89%.

**Attendance Record:** Suellen motioned to develop an attendance tracking system for committee attendance. Dorothy seconded, the motion passed.

**Regional Advocacy Fundraising:** Four Tribes have submitted donations to the fund (Oneida, Bois Forte, Leech Lake, and Coquille). Each Region has a goal to raise \$2,000.00. Two regions have met this goal. Another letter will go out to each Region as reminder of the goal.

**NIHSDA Dues & CDA Certification:** After a lengthy discussion, the CDA/Dues were referred to the Membership Committee to develop a recommendation.

**Frank Fuentes Letter:** No correspondence has been received to date. The Board will ask Amanda Bryans during the scheduled teleconference on 2/24/06 (tomorrow).

**MOP with NICCA:** The Memorandum of Partnership with the National Indian Child Care Association as been received and will be posted on the website.

**NHSA Director Representative:** Dorothy motioned that Mavany serve as the NHSA Director Representative. Mavany agreed. John seconded, motion carried.

**Regional Representatives 1, 7, and 9:** Region 1 has identified a Director that is willing to serve as the Region Alternate and is pending the letter from his Supervisor to proceed with Board appointment. Region 7 is working to fill the vacant position and Region 9 has found a Director to fill the vacant position. John motioned to fill the Region 9 alternate by appointment. Suellen seconded, the motion passed. Theo will contact Martina Whelshala.

**Region 10 Representative Change:** The Alaska Association voted Brenda Krupa as the Regional Representative and MaryEllen Fritz as the Alternate. John made the motion to seat Brenda and MaryEllen as the representatives for Region 10. Dorothy seconded, motion passed.

#### **FRIDAY-FEBURARY 24, 2006**

**AI-ANPB Update:** A teleconference with Amanda Bryans took place on Friday morning at 9:30 a.m. MST. Separate minutes of the teleconference conversation will be posted on the website.

Mary Bendle joined the meeting at approximately 10:30 a.m. MST.

**NHSA Leadership Meeting Report:** Mary Ellen Hayes provided a detailed report from the National Head Start Association Leadership Meeting that was held on January 25-27, 2006 in Crystal City. Mary Ellen provided a written report to the Board and verbally reported on topics that include: NRS, Funding, Reauthorization, Re-competition, etc.

**Report on Research Grant:** Theo provided an overview of what occurred at the first meeting of the Steering Committee for the newly funded AN-AN Head Start Research Center. The next meeting will be held in Denver during late May.

**Committee Reports:** Committee work began in February. Some committees met and three had to be cancelled. Minutes from the Budget/Finance/Development Committee, the Ad Hoc Quality Assurance Committee and the Conference Committee were

presented by committee chairpersons. The committee minutes will be posted on the web site.

Jane Metcalf joined the meeting at approximately 11:30 MST.

**Legislative Update:** Greg Smith joined the meeting via speaker phone. Greg informed the Board that the re-authorization has stalled in the Senate due to issues that are complicating the Bill. Greg also reported that testimony was submitted to the Committee on Indian Affairs regarding the President's proposal for funding which indicates that an estimated 499 slots would be lost in Indian Country, however, based on inflation, it is estimated that 700 slots would be lost. The Indian Affairs Committee will be writing a letter with their views on the Presidents budget.

Greg further reported that NCAI endorses the NIHSDA funding position and the Labor HHS Committee hearings are in March. It was also discussed that it would be a good time for programs to meet with Congressional staff during the June conference in DC.

**Committee Work:** The Mentor Leadership and Budget Committees met for approximately 90 minutes and then reported to the full Board. The minutes of the committee meetings will be posted on the web site. The By-Law, Governance, and Development Committee and the Membership Committee met for approximately 90 minutes and also reported to the full Board. The minutes will be posted on the web site.

## **SATURDAY-FEBRUARY 25, 2006**

**2006 Conference Planning:** Conference planning included identifying pre-intensive sessions, workshop sessions, and the conference flow. Terri took extensive notes on the conference planning session.

**Joint Meeting with SWC:** Members of the Southwest Consortium Board joined the meeting at approximately 1:00 p.m. MST. Introductions were made. Theo extended thanks for the donation that the SWC has provided to the Advocacy Fund. It was discussed that the Partnership Agreement will be updated and renewed during 2006. And update of the conversation with Amanda Bryans was provided to the members of the SWC.

**Strategic Plan – Reviewing the Current Environment:** Toni presented the strategic plan for any updates and/or revisions. The Board made the following changes to the strategic plan:

### Trends/Edge

- Add new initiative for Math & Science
- Delete increased shift toward moving to department of Ed.
- Move funding COLA, etc., from disappearing to Edge
- Add reauthorization impact
- Add elections
- Add Head Start shift to 0-3

### Trends/Emerging

- Move State funded universal Pre-K to accepted
- Remove the wording (in transfer from the States) from bullet 6

Trends/Accepted

- Add Universal Pre-K
- Add one-sided accountability (as a result of GOA report)
- Add lack of Bureau support to the field, Indian voice within ACYF
- 1% cut to base funding

Trends/Disappearing

- Move Indian voice with ACYF to accepted
- Move COLA, etc., to accepted

With no further business, Dorothy moved to adjourn at 2:37 p.m. MST. Suellen seconded. Motion passed.

**NIHSDA  
AI-ANPB Update  
Amanda Bryans  
Teleconference  
February 24, 2006**

Amanda Bryans, Director of Program Operations for the Head Start Bureau joined the NIHSDA Board meeting via teleconference at approximately 9:30 a.m. The questions and answers of the conversations are as follows:

**Q** – Theo asked what the status of the Frank Fuentes letter is that was discussed during the Palm Springs Conversation with Tribal Programs.

**A** – The letter is going out in the mail today to all Tribal Leaders with a copy to the Head Start Director. Amanda further stated that the Joan Ohl letter was drafted and that she would check on the status of that letter.

**Q** – Mavany asked about the Tribal involvement with Universal Pre-K.

**A** – No formal discussion has occurred at the Bureau regarding Universal Pre-K. Amanda informed the Board that Kim Rock took another position and that they are looking for another AI-ANPB Collaboration Director. The new Collaboration Director could work with the State Collaboration offices to involve Tribal programs in the Universal Pre-K planning that takes place at the state level. She also asked if the Board could work on a statement to the State Collaboration Directors asking that the Tribal Directors are involved in planning at the State level. The Board agreed to develop a statement. The statement will go to the State Collaboration Directors and the Tribal grantees.

**Q** – Theo asked how the Quarterly Communication will occur that was identified in the report from the Palm Springs Conversation.

**A** – Amada said that she wasn't sure yet and that video conferencing and other ideas were possibilities. Another idea is to provide a Quarterly Communication during the NIHSDA conference in June.

**Q** – Suellen asked about the delayed FAAs and why can't this issue get resolved.

**A** – Amanda stated that applications come in with errors or they are incomplete. The AIANPB system for reviewing the applications is not effective because the applications are reviewed by several people (contractor, program specialist, and grant specialist). Amanda has some ideas for improving the system that she will discuss with Frank Fuentes. Some of her ideas include a team approach to reviewing the applications and setting 2 week time limits for each phase of the review process and possibly having the Program Specialist and Grant Specialist do a joint review of the application. It is now required that the applications are scrutinized. Amanda also stated that federal staff will receive training on GABI and OMB Circulars. The Grants office moved to the Aerospace Building. All grants to go Dolores Dickenson. Grantees that experience problems with their FAAs can call Amanda. The 1% cuts should not hold up the already

late FAAs. The Head Start Bureau was also cut by 1% and staff that leave the Bureau are not being replaced.

**Q** - John asked about the status of Review and Re-Reviews in Indian Country.

**A** – Amanda reported that there were three tribal programs with no findings and that there are a large number of program with deficiencies. There is a commitment to include people on the reviews that are Native or have experience with tribal programs. There will be cultural sensitivity training for reviewers. They have 45 days to get the reports back to program; however, they have been late due to problems with the software. The reviews for the 15 programs that did not receive a report from their review have been rescheduled. The purpose of the re-review is to verify what the 1<sup>st</sup> team did. The six month review/follow-up review looks only at any non-compliance or deficiencies of the 1<sup>st</sup> review. Deficiencies are more serious and non-compliance and finding are the same. Programs can be terminated for uncorrected deficiencies and uncorrected non-compliance findings turn into deficiency. Monitoring was specifically addressed in the GAO Report and it must improve.

**Q** – Ann asked about any future trends or initiatives that may be coming and is the Management Initiative still on the front burner.

**A** – The Management Initiative is still front burner due to the GAO Report and there may be a Math/Science initiative coming.

**Q** – Pat asked if programs could use Head Start funds for 0-3 programming.

**A** – No, the law doesn't allow it. Amanda discussed the Early Alert System and that it is intended as another method to improve monitoring. The Commissioner meets with each Program Specialist six months prior to refunding. Amanda also stated that under enrolled grantees will get their funding reduced for consistent under enrollment (prior and current year). She also stated that the Program Specialist may gather the information they need for the Early Alert System differently.

**Q** – Theo asked about the availability of funds to go full-day, full-year.

**A** – Amanda stated that there were not funds available through the Head Start Bureau, however, some programs are using Child Care funds/subsidies for full-day, full-year services.

**Q** – Dorothy asked if there will be a COLA with the cuts.

**A** – No COLA is expected for this year. There may be some one-time funds. One-time funds do not include buses.

**Q** – Denise asked if there are waivers for the education requirements.

**A** - No. Programs are using online opportunities to get degrees. Under the current Act, CDA is still acceptable.

**Q** – Denise asked about the Non-Federal Share Waivers.

**A** – Amanda stated that the NFS Waivers are doing fine/better. Most grantees that send in a letter of explanation have been approved.

**Q** – Denise asked if the NRS will continue.

**A** – Amanda stated that the NRS will continue and that the NRS has shown that children in Head Start are making progress.

**Q** – Mavany extended an invitation for Amanda and/or Georgey to provide input and be involved with the Steering Committee for the Research Grant so that input from the Branch would be available.

**A** – Amanda confirmed that she or Georgie are planning to participate.

**Q** – Theo asked about the AI-ANPB staff participating at the conference.

**A** – Amanda confirmed that we can count on everyone to participate and to contact her.

**Q** – Suellen asked about the 1% cuts – are they retroactive back to October 1, and what does that mean for a grant that ended after October 1.

**A** – The cuts are for FY06 funds from October 1, 2005 to September 30, 2006. All FY06 funds were cut by 1%.

Theo thanked Amanda for joining the meeting and for sharing information with the Board.