

EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE BOARD

October 29, 2007

Attendees: Ann Belleau, Danny Wells, Mavany Verdugo, Frances Maney, John Pavek, Kevin Hedstrom, Hilda Marshall (11:25 a.m.) Kathleen Sando (11:15 a.m.), William Maes (11:42), Susan Carlson, Vikki Bishop, Kay Wynecoop, Ralph Booth and Joe Henry. Also Greg Smith, NIHSDA Attorney and from TFA: Toni Dobrec, Kathryn Helsel and Carol Wedel.

Ann called the meeting to order at 12:00 CDST.

Greg Smith requested an emergency meeting with the Board to give an update on funding and present the Board with an option. Greg reported that Friday morning (October 25, 2007) he received a call to meet with the Senate and House Democratic staff at 4:00 p.m. Friday afternoon regarding a new proposal. Greg presented the best and worse cases to the Board.

Indian Head Start has been offered a \$50 million increase (half of the \$100 million proposal for Indian and Migrant programs) over current funding, which would be spread over a period of years in addition to COLA. This amounts to about a 25% increase with the push toward expansion. But, it is only about half of what the Senate bill potentially provides.

Discussion continued about this topic.

Basically, this amounts to \$20 million a year spread over 5 years. This leaves the possibility of a 90-10 split where the 10 is more than the year maximum because the CPI has risen dramatically.

Payments – each year the Secretary would provide \$10 million to Indian and \$10 million to migrants. Greg said we need \$209 million to get full funding, but may only see \$150 million. Also, in years 4 and 5 payments, will only start after full COLA is paid. So we may not get funding in years 4 and 5. It would take several years to implement and COLA would not come first.

Greg suggested that if we don't get \$50 million by the end of year 5 have the funding continue.

Downside – in year 1 we know we are not going to get full \$209 million and by year 5 the amount must push beyond COLA for us to get funds.

The staff wants to rap reauthorization up by Wednesday. Greg sees the President vetoing, but thinks there will be some increase which may not be 10 million (1/2 of 20).

Greg's views:

Years 4 and 5 a have good chance of receiving funding

Research COLA flexibility for quality

Increase funding

NHSA working against us

Need to launch a more aggressive funding effort to get voice heard.

Gil moved to give Greg authority to act on behalf of the Board to move forward. Hilda seconded. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 1:04 CDST.