

**NIHSDA
Board of Directors Meeting
May 12, 2016**

Roll Call/Establish Quorum: Roll call was taken by Teri Stringer. A quorum was established.

Call to Order: Lee Turney, President called the meeting to order at 1:09pm CST.

PRESENT	ABSENT NOTIFIED	ABSENT NOT NOTIFIED
President-Lee Turney Treasurer-Char Schank Zone 2- Joan Christnot Zone 3-Janice Richards, Alt Zone 4–Robert Pickens Zone 5-Jo Williams Zone 7- Christi Jacobus Zone 9- Stefanie Jones Zone 10- - Albert Rinehart, Alt. Ex-officio- Mavany Verdugo	President Elect-Laura Waukechon Factor Secretary-Ann Belleau Zone 3-Anne Reddy Zone 4 - Colette Berg, Alt. Zone 6- William Rosenberg Zone 8-Jenny Oatman Zone 8-Joe Henry, Alt. Zone 9 - Jacki Haight, Alt. Zone 10-Racquel Martinez	Zone 1- Tina Routh Zone 5- Roberta Adeky-Yazzie, Alt Zone 6- Sharon Singer, Alt. Zone 7- Monica Sayad, Alt.

Others Present: Angie Godfrey, Region XI Manager, Kim Moxely, Senator Testor’s Office, Teri Stringer and Kristi Bentkowski from Three Feathers Associates.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was reviewed. Robert P. moved to accept the agenda. Jo W. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approval of the minutes from April 14: Robert P. moved to approve the minutes. Stephanie J. seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried.

Approval of March Treasurer’s Report: Char S. reviewed the treasurer’s report. Joan C. moved to approve the treasurer’s report. Jo W. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Communications Update/General Correspondence: Teri reported that our NHSA board members will be attending their conference in Nashville. Lee asked that all of the NIHSDA board members be prepared and stay on task at the upcoming face-to-face meeting. He stressed the importance of board member presence at the expected meetings and events.

AI/AN Update: Angie Godfrey joined the meeting to provide the AI/AN updates and to discuss the Duration and COLA grant opportunities. She stated that many of the Program Specialists are hosting calls with their programs to answer questions and that she has been joining those calls. She also stated that many resources have been posted on the ECLKC website and that programs should watch the FAQ’s that are updated every Friday for current questions and answers. She felt that most programs were clearer on how to apply for the COLA increase and most of the meeting times were spent on determining eligibility to apply for duration extension. She noted that there are some programs that meet the minimum requirement of hours and are still interested in applying. Teri asked, if a program is very small and only have 20 children in their classroom, would they only be eligible to apply for 40% of the children increasing duration? Angie stated that she has been telling programs to apply for at least a full classroom and has been having conversations with OHS on this issue. She feels that it doesn’t make sense to increase only a portion of a classroom. Of course it

will be dependent on the amount of programs applying for these funds to determine if these 100% requests will get funded. Albert stated that he would like to expand duration at only one of his classrooms which would be only 10%, he wondered if he would still be considered. She stated yes. Albert also asked if since his tribe already approved a COLA, could they use the money elsewhere. Angie stated there is a list of allowable alternate line items in the PI. Robert questioned the need for an increase in transportation dollars to allow for teachers to be able to be released from driving duties in order to increase duration. Angie felt that transportation expense would be allowable to include in the application and offered to work with him individually and also suggested he contact his Program Specialist who could assist. He would also have to identify the targeted children who will be receiving an extended day in his application. Angie recommended members to go to the ECKLC to access the Key Decisions paper to help make the decision in your community. Jo asked about her site that has 64 children and 4 classrooms if it would be possible to apply for a 100% increase in duration. Angie stated that there is not enough funds this round to fund everything and is hoping for more funds in the next round to make some of these requests happen. Christi stated that she is currently at 39% and would like to apply for the additional 1% that is eligible; this move would require her to open an additional classroom which would put her costs high. She worries that her application would look bad because of the cost vs. children added. Angie suggested that she apply anyway. Lee closed the conversation with a suggestion that we let programs know that they should call their Program Specialist if they have questions.

Tribal Early Learning Update: Kim Moxley from Senator Tester's office joined us to discuss the Tribal Education Bill. She stated that ACF is working on a productive Tribal Early Learning Initiative to assist Tribes in coordinating early childhood services. They worked with 4 Tribes and provided them funds to develop a comprehensive education plan. One Tribe developed an application form that encompasses all of the services available. She stated that Tribal Head Start programs operate at a high level and are a good example to other programs and their goal is that other programs would begin to meet HS standards by these collaborations. Dual funds could be used to create a joint playground, transportation services or facilities. Monies could also be used to support staff in obtaining their AA or BA degrees. She also stated that these programs would follow all of the Federal regulations of Head Start. A discussion was held about obtaining a waiver of some regulations to help programs who partner with agencies who cannot meet HS standards. Albert stated that when we are put in these partnerships that it is hard when you don't have control of others and cannot ensure HS standards. Kim stated that she would work with her boss on getting more funds to support these collaborations and is suggesting that money be available for programs to hire coordinators or other to help monitor partners and assist with raising standards. Robert asked if we could waive some of the regulations like income eligibility because many of the Tribal members children cannot attend their Tribal Head Start because they work for the Tribe and make too much money. Kim stated that this is the information she needs to hear to bring back to DC. They want to hear about regulatory burdens on Tribal programs. It was suggested that we meet with her while we are in DC to discuss these burdens. It was decided that we would put it on our agenda and once we have had the conversation and vetted our response we would contact her and meet to discuss our final product.

NHSA Update: Teri, Lee and Jenny are scheduled to attend the NHSA Board meeting in Nashville on May 16. Updates will follow.

TRC Update: Mavany reported that on TRC activities: The CLASS manuscript is completed and Jessica is finishing it up and submitting it for publication. The FACES is moving along steadily. She will be attending the conference in July.

Committee Reports: Teri S. presented the committee reports.

- Advocacy – Worked on the talking points related to slot conversion and took out the sovereignty section since not all programs are experiencing the same issues. Worked on a list of cultural issues for the joint meeting at the conference.
- Executive – May agenda, Decided to invite Kim Moxley to the May meeting, participation in a monitoring call with Linda Smith, signed letter for Jim Northcut for accounting services, decided to look for bids of other accountants, membership meeting, and survey for the membership at the conference. Call with Linda Smith changed to May 23rd.
- Finance – April financials, annual report and fundraising.
- Governance – proxy voting forms, chapter 4, officer roles and responsibilities, Zone representatives, Standing committee roles and responsibilities, and advocacy committee.
- Membership –membership satisfactory survey, membership meeting, door prize for meeting.
- Education – conference planning work (policy forum draft agenda, opening reception, general sessions, awards, tribal consultation, membership meeting, t-shirts, zones responsible for welcome gifts, hill visits, sponsors, etc.)

Albert R. moved to approve all committee reports. Jo W. seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried.

NIEA Conference Participation: Board members were encouraged to present at the conference, 4 time slots are available.

March 2017 Board Meeting: The question was raised about whether the board wanted to continue to have the spring board meeting in conjunction with the NACFC. There are significant financial advantages to doing so, but perhaps there is another group the board could partner with during this time. This item will be discussed at the next board meeting. Char S. and Jo W. expressed that continuing with NACFC is best for their travel budgets. Robert P. stated that there are advantages to being in Washington, DC and visiting the Hill. Lee asked to put it on the next meeting agenda as tentatively keeping in during the NACFC conference and bringing it to a vote.

New Business:

Monitoring Call with Linda Smith: This call is postponed until May 23, we are allowed to have 6 members on the call and would like a diverse group of members to participate.

Duration of Service PI: See the conversation with Angie Godfrey.

Joint Education Policy Forum: Teri and Lee expressed the importance of being at the joint meeting. We are looking at getting video from our programs so showcase cultural aspects of our programs. The video we currently have is not ideal in showing the positive aspects.

Other: Robert P. asked if we are keeping an eye on the development of the new HS regulations and if we have any influence in changing them once they come out. Teri reminded us that Kim Moxley stated that her organization can help to influence change.

Char S. reminded everyone to make their appointments for their Hill visits soon. Teri asked that once the appointments are made to let her know so that Greg could set his schedule to attend some of those visits.

Adjournment: Jo W. moved to adjourn the meeting. Robert P. seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 2:36 pm CST.