

**NIHSDA
Board of Directors Meeting
September 12, 2024**

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

Call to Order: President, Melissa Harris called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. EST.

PRESENT	ABSENT NOTIFIED	ABSENT NOT NOTIFIED
President – Melissa Harris President Elect – Andrea Pesina Secretary – Ann Cameron Zone 1 – Tina Routh Zone 1 – Tina Saunooke, Alt. Zone 2 – Vanessa Goodthunder Zone 3 – Vonda Pourier Zone 4 – Jayme Trevino Zone 4 – Cheryl DuBois, Alt. Zone 7– Crystal Kremensky Zone 8 – DeAnn Brown Zone 9 – Debbie Sioux Lee Zone 9 – Mary DuPuis, Alt. Zone 10 – Christa Green	Treasurer – Jenny Oatman Zone 8 – Hilary Gourneau, Alt.	Zone 3 – Anne Reddy, Alt Zone 10 – Kristin Ramstad, Alt.

Others Present: Kristi Bentkowski and Teri Stringer from Three Feathers Associates.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was reviewed. DeAnn moved to accept the agenda. Vonda seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Seat Board Members:

- Zone 4 Rep: Jayme Trevino (Kickapoo, OK)
- Zone 4 Alternate: Cheryl DuBois (Kickapoo, KS)
- Zone 6 Rep: Florinda Jackson (Navajo)
- Vonda moved to seat, DeAnn seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda: Items included in the consent agenda are: August minutes, treasurer report, and committee reports. Christa moved to approve the consent agenda. DeAnn seconded the motion. Motion carried.

General Correspondence:

- Strategic Plan: Plan has been postponed due to all the changes occurring right now (election, changes in regs, advocacy efforts, etc.)
- RFI Comments: Draft comments were sent out, received 3 responses from board members. Bree is working on the final draft and it will be submitted on Monday. Only 3 other comments have been submitted so far.
- TIEES (Tribal Integrated Early Education Services): Mentioned in Pres FY24 budget, brought up at Tribal consultation. No concrete info on this out there. Rumors about Head Start and 477 (currently it is not) – we need to discuss the pros and cons if this were to happen and how it could impact AIAN Head Start.
 - Mary is not a fan of HS going 477, CCDF in her tribe is 477 and it has caused lots of issues (theirs is part of a consortium). Requirements are still there, it just combines the reporting. Concern about access to TTA.
- CCDF PrePrint: We reviewed NICCA comments (NIHSDA did not comment)
- Early Childhood Funders: We had a conversation about how to build a curriculum development framework and also credentialing for culture bearers/language speakers
- Reading Nation Waterfall Sunrise: Led by Dr. Chow, trying to expand project to get books in the hands of children entering K. (Targeting CO and CA) Want to involve TCUs.
- Cox Family Farm: Made another donation to Zone 1 at the end of 2023. Interested in native libraries for each classroom. Teri is working with Raising a Reader for the books.
- NIH Tribal Prenatal to 3 Policy Agenda: Teri reviewed - their goals align with ours. Once it is finalized, they will begin reaching out to partners to accomplish the goals.

Policy Institute:

- Reviewed draft agenda for the week
- MCS will prepare packets for Congressional offices and lobbyists/partners
- Board members attending should have received all their travel/registration information

Final Rule: Questions/Impact?

- Ann – Going to have non-compliance issues to deal with
- Several programs have over 200 slots, but they operate single classrooms in communities – to cut slots to increase salaries they will have to cut AIAN HS in an entire community

Region XI Update: (Todd, Delroy, Laura)

- Delroy Grant is the new Region 11 RPM Program Manager. More structural changes coming, and information will be forthcoming.
- New Program Specialist coming from Region 10 (from the state of Alaska) in the next few weeks
- Nat. Collab Office needs assessment has been sent out. This will affect the TA PD plan as well as the collab office priorities for the year.
- FY'24 is nearly done. A few more one-time requests to push out, as well as the expansion grant announcements
- Change of Scope: If you submitted, Jaclyn Dupree may contact you. There is a team to help expedite timely responses/requests for missing documents
- TTA PD plan for the year was sent out. Programs are encouraged to send any staff that may benefit, even if they are outside the direct HS program.

- OHS wants to support programs to spend any unobligated balances to support staff development
- Final Rule: OHS plans to organize some round tables to hear from programs and answer any questions.
- Laura: New fiscal contractors – 2 effective Oct 1. Case loads will be shifted.
- Laura: 9 actions to move out before the end of the fiscal years.
- Laura: Delinquency letters going out for missing reporting (OHS wide). Assistance is available, just reach out.
- Laura: Fiscal Consulting Initiative – if anyone is interested, it provides an on-site consultant (PMFO) to help you walk through and fiscal issues
- Melissa: Many people were concerned about what Todd's role will be with Delroy as the new RPM. Each regional office will have a Regional Program Director (over the RPM) – this is where Todd will transition to. Todd will still remain as a contact for us and he will be handling the strategic direction for Region XI.

Draft Advocacy Agenda: Reviewed

Adjourn: Vonda motioned to adjourn, Christa seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:26 p.m. EST.