



**Abilene/Taylor County Child Advocacy Center
Board Meeting Minutes
May 4, 2021**

Members Present:

Leslie Holley	Melinda Beard	Dee Moore	Kari Leong
Jason Shaw	Craig Shaw	Becky Poindexter	Debra McCracken
Sherita Nickerson	Casey Wasson Richey	Karon Bingaman Hall	Marcus Dudley Jr.

Call to Order at 1601 by Jason Shaw

Minutes

1. *Approve minutes from meeting on March 2, 2021*

- * Motion to approve: Dee Moore
- 2nd: Karon Hall
- Motion passed, minutes approved

Agenda Items

1. *Discuss First Financial Bank account - Chief Dudley:* Chief Dudley addressed board stating he was unaware of the need for a new account for this year's April event, as well as the process of the deposit of change. This account had been previously set up by former Chief Standridge. Discussion with the board regarding process, protections and ensuring the public of safeguards of monies donated. Discussion also involved conflicts of interest. A new account for CAC has now been established at FFB, with Chief Dudley and Melinda Beard as signature holders. After discussion, the board agreed to have this account established for the sole purpose of "Change for Change" Event. It also recommended the following:

- * Motion made to remove Chief Dudley from signature card: Becky Poindexter
- 2nd: Sherita Nickerson
- Motion passed, removal of Chief Dudley approved

- * Motion made to nominate Craig Shaw as Treasurer & financial liaison between advisory board and CAC, as well as adding him to signature card of FFB account: Karon Hall
- 2nd: Dee Moore
- Motion passed, Craig Shaw as Treasurer approved

- * Melinda Beard states that she has no concerns remaining on account signature card with Craig, as she is ultimately in charge of the other CAC financial items

2. *Determine board approval process outside of regular meetings and update bylaws as needed (i.e. items such as bank concerns addressed in 1st discussion):* Discussion on establishing special session meetings. Per City of Abilene, 72 hours notice is needed and "email meetings" are not permitted. City Council has

now begun open meetings which had previously been closed due to COVID concerns. Discussion also included establishing committees among advisory board, but previous experiences have shown to be ineffective.

3. Child Abuse Awareness:

a. Loose "Change for Change" event update: \$5500 collected and has been moved to the city donation account. Melinda Beard also mentioned that a local 3rd grader had recently had a forensic interview at the CAC and mentioned the "Change for Change" information they had received and discussed with family members at home.

b. Debrief event logistics: Canisters did not work as well in some instances and zip lock bags were used by some classes. Deposits for 18 Wylie classes took Brandon Gurganus 1 hour - so deposit slips for next year have already been made to help speed up the process. Suggestion for mid-week reminder sent to secretaries or teachers or a flier to be placed in teacher boxes.

c. Media interview: Videos have been sent out to local news stations with their verbal agreement to air. Date and time is needed for Jason to meet with news stations. Dee Moore will make contact. Craig Shaw mentioned Lamar digital billboards for awareness.

d. Discuss class celebrations: Celebrations for winning classes to include pizza party and/or PrimeTime gift cards. These will not take place May 10-12 due to STAAR testing. Pizzas will be delivered due to limited visitation at schools. Karon Hall also suggested "Thank You" cards. Melinda Beard suggested winning classes at each campus receive a small gift in addition to the larger, district wide celebrations. The board approved this suggestion.

e. Suggestion for use of funds: Melinda Beard and James Hicks discussed updating witness room at the courthouse to create a comfortable, relaxing environment for children and families waiting to testify. Examples of suggestions include games, snacks, TV and new furniture. Melinda Beard also suggested use for funds include training that grants do not cover (i.e. APD training for officers involved with CAC cases)

* Motion made to allow Melinda Beard and Craig Shaw to use "Change for Change" funds to update the courthouse witness room and allocate any remaining funds for training: Becky Poindexter

- 2nd: Leslie Holley

- Motion passed, allocation of funds approved

f. AYSA event update - Jason Shaw: Sparse traffic noted at location and it was noted that people going in and out of Dodge Jones Center were not very vocal. Suggestion was made to "park" the fence with attached information (pamphlets). This brought up discussion that fence may not need to be manned by board members, especially at a time of social distancing. Those curious or interested may grab information and place ribbon at their leisure. Information can be provided during media interview with Jason (see 3c). Unmanned fence may be less intimidating with the avoidance of stranger interaction.

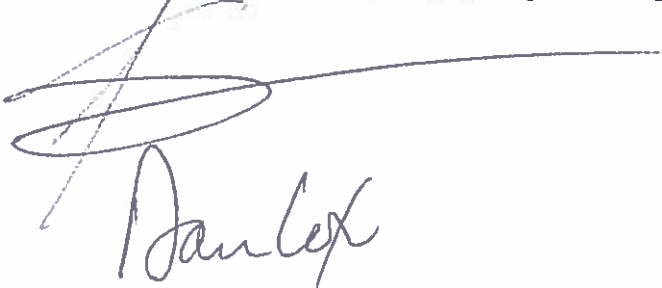
Director's Report

1. *HSU Intern - Christopher Beavers*: will start in the fall

2. *Care Coordination Update*: Sex trafficking protocols have been completed and sent out.

Adjournment

Next meeting on June 22, 2021 at 4:00pm due to grant deadlines

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Cox", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.