

**SUMMIT COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
AUGUST 22, 2023 MEETING MINUTES**

Board Members	Board Members	Executive Team
✓ Anne Connell-Freund, Chair	✓ Patrick Bravo	✓ Cassandra Holtzmann
✓ Keith Malick, Vice-Chair	✓ Traci Buckner	✓ Amy Davidson
✓ GinaKaye Maddox, Secretary	✓ Beth Gracey	✓ Darin Kearns
Anna Arvay	✓ Andrew Schuellerman	✓ Liz Mangon
✓ Omar Banks	✓ Katie Stoyhoff	Sushi Tripathy-Moore
✓ Kemp Boyd		✓ Catherine Van Horne

Staff Present: Lisa Bouplon, Jon Hart, Tracy Mayfield, Jessica Miller, Ann Ream, Laura Sasser, Deanna Shriver, Beth Lowe - Recording Secretary

Call to Order and Roll Call

On behalf of Board Chair Anne Connell-Freund, Vice-Chair Keith Malick called the meeting to order at 4:37 p.m. and a roll call was taken.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Vice-Chair Malick requested a motion to approve the minutes of July 25, 2023. Patrick Bravo moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Pastor Kemp Boyd. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Public Comment

Ann Ream of the Citizen’s Committee for Children Services spoke to the Board about the importance of the committee and the need to raise funds for the 2024 levy campaign. All were invited to the Garden Gala Levy Fundraiser scheduled for Thursday, August 31 at 5:30 p.m. at the Firestone County Club.

Committee Reports

Resources Committee

Committee Chair Malick reported that the committee met today and approved the minutes of July 25, 2023. As part of the Resources Committee report, Chief Financial Officer (CFO)/Deputy Director Darin Kearns provided the Board a Financial Statement Report as of July 31, 2023.

Resolution 08-2023-22/B

Authorization to enter into an agreement with Mann Parsons Gray (MPG) Architects and the County of Summit for the design of the renovation of the Legal Department suite within the SCCS Administration Building at a cost which may be less than but shall not exceed \$25,000. Committee Chair Malick made a motion to approve; seconded by Katie Stoyhoff. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Resolution 08-2023-22/C

Authorization to secure Directors and Officers Liability Insurance, including Employment Practices Liability Insurance, through the carrier National Union Fire Insurance Company of Pittsburgh, PA for a one-year period commencing August 31, 2023, in an amount that shall not exceed \$55,355. Committee Chair Malick made a motion to approve; seconded by GinaKaye Maddox. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Executive Director's Report

The Board received a Director's Report in their packet and Executive Director Cassandra Holtzmann highlighted the following:

- Jessica Miller was introduced as the new Department Director, Client Rights and Quality Improvement.
- Currently, there are 911 children in SCCS custody. This is 82 more children in custody than there was a year ago. This increase in custody numbers can be due to many reasons including youth violence, parental disengagements and possibly the policies and procedures of SCCS and the Court.
- SCCS has representation on the following state committees:
 - 1) TEAM Ohio – Department Director Dawn Boudrie met with the state implementation team in addition to Stark and Fairfield counties to express interest in receiving referrals through the platform. Onboarding activities are underway. SCCS is engaging Akron Children's Hospital Social Work Department for use within the Emergency Department.
 - 2) Ohio Community Response Guide – Division Director Amy Davidson and Department Director Boudrie are committee participants. The project is designed to guide community members through a decision-making tree to help determine where best to refer a family in need to, rather than making unnecessary reports to a Child Protective Services (CPS) agency.
- Summa Hospital has ceased operations at St. Thomas Hospital and is planning on demolishing the campus. Welty Development Company (supported by Summa Hospital) is working on a plan to save and repurpose the campus into a community-focused development, possibly for workforce housing and other residential or social service-oriented functions. Welty asked SCCS what we needed so Executive Director Holtzmann and SCCS's contracted paid placement providers met with them and offered suggestions. SCCS would not run a program from the campus, but the providers could, so Welty will work directly with them.
- Matt Damschroder, Director of the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) visited Summit County on August 24 and met with representatives from SCCS, the County Executive's Office, ODJFS, Child Support Enforcement Agency, and the Summit & Medina Workforce Area Council of Governments. This was a great opportunity to discuss some of SCCS's biggest challenges.
- SCCS and the need for more foster homes will be highlighted at the Love Akron luncheon scheduled for September 26.
- Executive Director Holtzmann and Beth Gracey toured the Summit County Juvenile Detention Center with Judge Linda Teodosio on August 21.
- The Child Abuse and Neglect Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be presented at County Council on September 11. All 33 signatories have signed it including the Akron Police Department, the Sheriff's Office and Judge Teodosio. A special thank you to Jon Hart for securing the signatures.


Ms. Maddox thanked Ann Ream, Katie Masternick and Christen Smith-Misja for giving a presentation on *Safety During Home Visits* to the Red Oak Behavioral Health staff on August 10.

Adjournment

Vice-Chair Malick requested a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Stoyloff moved; seconded by Omar Banks. All were in favor and the motion carried. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.



GinaKaye Maddox, Secretary
Board of Trustees



Cassandra A. Holtzmann, JD, LPA
Executive Director