



Location: 1130 N Eglin Pkwy, Shalimar, FL 32579

Date: 11.15.24

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Board Approved: 2.21.25

Coalition Board Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present:

Amanda Grandy, Private Sector – Gubernatorial Appointee, Chair
Lindsay Roberts, Private Sector - Osprey Title, Vice-Chair
Ray Sansom, Private Sector - Radar Group, Treasurer (Via Zoom)
Beth Brant, Private Sector - Gubernatorial Appointee, Poly, Inc.
Dr. Sandy Arteaga, Northwest Florida State College President's Appointee (Via Zoom)
Amanda Colwell, Okaloosa County Health Department Assistant Director (Via Zoom)
Kathy Curry, Representative of faith-based childcare providers - Director
Bambi Sealy, DCF District Administrator Appointee
Gretta Barrett, Private Sector - Realty ONE Group Emerald Coast
Jeff Brown, Private Sector - Bridging Analytics, LLC (Via Zoom)
Kim Cox, Private Sector -United Fidelity Bank
Amanda Negron, Private Sector - HSU Foundation
Kristen Murdy, Representative of private for-profit childcare providers - Director of Operations (Via Zoom)
Melissa Sidoti, DCF Services Regional Administrator Delegate
Michele Burns, CareerSource Okaloosa Walton (Via Zoom)
Ashley Murray, Early Steps, Agency Serving Children with Disabilities

Board Members Absent:

Sarah Davis, Private Sector - Gubernatorial Appointee
Shea Boykin, Private Sector - Okaloosa County Teachers Federal Credit Union, Secretary
Carrie Brewer, Private Sector - Tidwell Development
Julie Webb, Private Sector - Advanced Sacred Hope Academy (ASHA)
Amy Bowles, Principal of Southside Primary School
Ardelle Bush, Private Sector - Healthy Start
Kim Gillis, Walton County Head Start Director
Caroline Durkee, Walton County Commissioner's Appointee
Victoria Ebert, Private Sector - RC Hospitality

Coalition Team Present:

Dana Hodges, CEO
Sondra Moffit, CFO
Angie Strumeyer, COO
Tawanda Brown, Education Manager
Deanna Hernandez, Executive Administrator

Public Present:

Ebony Scarboro

Quorum:

- Quorum established 8:04 a.m.
- I. Call to order – Amanda Grandy, Chair
Amanda called the meeting to order at 8:07 a.m.



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II. Consent Agenda

a. Motion to Accept the agenda.

Kim C. made the motion to accept the meeting Agenda as presented.
Motion is carried by unanimous vote.

b. Minutes Program Committee Meeting, August 22, 2024

c. Minutes Coalition Board Meeting, August 23, 2024

d. Minutes Program Committee Meeting, September 20, 2024

Amanda N. made the motion to accept the meeting minutes as presented.
Motion is carried by unanimous vote.

e. Summary of Executed Contracts

Sondra pointed out the new/renewed contracts. Most recently we renewed contracts with Constant Contact, Microsoft 365, and Zipdata for IT services.

f. Status of Agency & Monitoring

Sondra discussed the three audits and desk review occurring in FY24/25.

III. Treasurer's Report

a. Quarterly Financial Report*

i. Financial Dashboard

Sondra explained the status of children served and that we were meeting our required percentages for SR and VPK.

ii. Statement of Activities

Sondra points out the report is 25% of the year complete and that we are tracking at 17.5% of our revenue and expenses which were primarily SR related.

iii. Statement of Financial Position

Sondra highlights that we had a large cash operating balance that was due to timing and reports that the deferred revenue was related as it is an advance from the State. Dana mentions some of the ways we have been able to cut costs internally.

b. Local SR Match Report

Sondra reports on local match stating we have expended \$22,851 of our match funding. Dana goes over some of the alternative sources for match funding.

Beth B. made the motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented.
Motion is carried by unanimous vote.

IV. New Business

a. Operation Childcare Pilot

Dana gives the Board an overview of the pilot program. Discussions take place.



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b. VPK Designations

Dana advises that the VPK designations will replace the Readiness Rates and states that the documents DEL has provided are informational only at this time.

c. Emerald Coast 2025 Children & Competitiveness Forum

Dana stated that this was formerly referred to as the Roundtable and provides some information on the forum that will now take place on January 30, 2024.

d. Customer Satisfaction Survey

Dana talks about the survey and informs the Board that we met the 65% threshold. We have not been made aware of the actual score yet.

V. Old Business

a. Childcare Needs Assessment

Jeff Brown discusses the Executive summary report and provides details on the results as well as some of the recommendations.

VI. Department Updates

a. Eligibility

Angie states that we have seen an increase in enrollments. She gives examples of ways we are working to further increase the enrollments.

b. Compliance

Angie tells the board that we increased the number of providers which in turn helps increase enrollments.

c. Education

Tawanda tells the board that the School District has requested us to provide Professional Development training. Assessments are on track and will be completed by the end of May. She discusses some of the initiatives to help providers increase their scores.

VII. CEO Updates

a. Team Updates

Dana provides updates on our team members.

b. Event Updates

Dana and Kim Cox talk about Community Day and Storybook Village, which took place on October 26th, 2024. Dana also discusses all the events that we have participated in. She announces that she was invited to take part in a Podcast hosted by Live Oak Fiber, and they have released the full video on their YouTube channel. The link to view it is on our Facebook page.

Amanda Grandy asks for volunteers to join the Finance Committee. Jeff Brown and Beth Brant have both volunteered.



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VIII. Action Items

- a. Increase SR & VPK Enrollments
- b. Early Educator Workforce
- c. Leverage Community Partners

IX. Public Comment

None

X. Adjournment

Amanda adjourned the meeting at 9:49 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Deanna Hernandez
Executive Administrator