

Minutes

1. Call to order at 6:36 p.m.

Board members present: Dawn Cobb, Jeri Harwell, Joan Park-Saunders, Lorraine Perry, Misty Wamhoff, and Lee-Ann Kelly

Board members absent: Sue Tejml, Alicia McKinley, and Bill Collins

CPS: Ruthie Cherry, Dayana Johnson, Karen Lowery, Payton Tatsch, Clarice Nichols and Myrna Mason with Texas Department of Family and Protective Services

2. Group introduced themselves around the table

3. Jeri pointed out the article in The Cross Timbers Gazette written by Sue Tejml, which spotlighted the Child Abuse Board. Community Partners received a \$250 donation due to the article, Lorraine said.

4. CPS Employees of the 1st Quarter 2023 –Joan Park-Saunders presented a branded backpack and certificate to Payton Tatsch (SP) as the first ever employee of the quarter. He is a CVS supervisor with seven years of service. (Photos taken)
Investigations Supervisor: Davietta Green, AR Supervisor, and Aimee Gonzalez, CVS Human Service Tech.

5. Consideration of the discussion notes from the March 23, 2023 meeting (quorum not met/no action taken) Jeri Harwell mentioned that the idea from Dayana Johnson to donate something to the families who are reunified with their children. Jeri mentioned possible donors

6. **Liaison Reports**

- A. Community Partners -Lorraine Perry – Doing well. Just cleaned up the Rainbow Rooms (except for Denton). Three Men & A Truck will move boxed items at the Denton location. Lorraine sold \$1,4960 plus worth of popcorn for the popcorn sale and has received an additional \$947 in donations. Commissioner Mitchell will be speaking at an upcoming banquet.
- B. Commissioners Court -Dawn Cobb talked about the purchase of the Briarwood Retreat Center and about having a fall wiener/marshmellow roast for CPS and their families and kids. The item will be on the agenda for May for a full discussion.
- C. TCCWB - Jeri Harwell – There has not been another meeting. The next meeting is in June. Some of the bills submitted for a vote are not looking likely to make it in this legislative session.
- D. Special Events - Joan Park-Saunders – Planning an activity in October for past-board members, current board members and CPS activity. Joan is considering

the possibility of having it at the Briarwood Retreat facility. Joan mentioned recognizing support staff as well to show their essential role in support of the department and the children/staff.

[Closed Session]

7. Treasurer's Report - Awaiting an audit by Rob Seay before full transfer from Lorraine Perry to Bill Collins. Current amount in account is \$15,740. No checks since last full meeting in February
8. Child Protective Services Report – Attach report to minutes
 - A. CPS update on children in conservatorship and disposition of county cases
 - 287 children in subcare
 - 85 in subcare in Denton County from Denton County
 - 202 in subcare placed outside of Denton County
 - 82 in kinship care
 - 99 children awaiting adoption

Note: Aging out: 44 teen-agers; 17 already over the age of 18
9. Karen Lowerly reported 614 intakes the past month, which was quite a bit of an uptake. Had a need to increase removals, a total of 22. In a good position currently with caseload is averaging at 11.2 per caseworker.

[Return to Open Session].

10. Action required, if necessary, following closed session - NONE
11. CPS Special Needs
 - A. Orientation for UNT in order to go to school – fee requested. Joan moved to allocate \$150 for UNT orientation fee. Lee Ann Kelly seconded. Passed unanimously.
 - B. Request for \$450 for uniforms. Parents are covering cost of dance classes. Child is between ages 6 and 7. Lorraine made a motion to cover the cost of the uniforms. Dawn Cobb seconded. Passed unanimously.
12. Old Business
 - A. Denton County CPS Audit - Rob Seay has all the files for audit
 - B. Members Roster – In the process of being updated. July and December will have no meeting. Training will be in August. Dawn Cobb to serve as secretary, replacing Lee-Ann Kelly.

13. New Business
 - A. Discussed creating a referral form with the first name of the child and more information about favorite color and etc. to receive birthday boxes. Jeri mentioned the Cross Timbers Rotary as an organization that would help back the effort. Items might include a book, gift card, other items.
14. Announcements
 - A. Other Announcements – Commissioner Mitchell thanked the board for what they do and offered assistance as needed.
 - B. Ruthie Cherry is passing the baton to Dayana Johnson and will not be attending the meetings.
15. Adjournment at 7:41 p.m.