

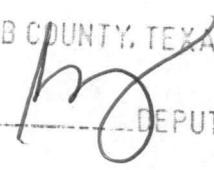
AGENDA

Webb County Child Welfare Board Meeting to be held
Tuesday, October 18, 2016 at 12:00 p.m.
Texas Department of Family and Protective Services
4611 Foster Ave.
Laredo, Texas 78041

MARGIE R. IBARRA
COUNTY CLERK
FILED

2016 OCT 14 AM 10:37

WEBB COUNTY, TEXAS

BY  DEPUTY

- I. Call Meeting to Order:
- II. Review and approval of minutes from May 25, 2016 meeting.
- III. Review and approval of:
 - A. Financial Report
 - B. Caseload Report
- IV. Communication
 - A. Update on possible action to reimburse Caseworker on clothing purchased to a youth. *Submitted for payment. Check received.*
 - B. Update on possible action to provide financial assistance for clothing for foster children and other children in substitute care. *Reimbursement requests have been submitted for payment. In process.*
 - C. Update on action on Judge Selina Mireles for all Child Protection Court cases in Webb, Zapata, Duval and Jim Hogg Counties is requesting funding to hold a Celebration Ceremony for all of the foster children in CPS's care who are either graduating from high school and/or have achieved a milestone this year. The ceremony will also focus on encouraging foster children to pursue higher education (college). *Submitted for payment. Check received.*
 - D. Update on action to allocate funds for PAL's graduation party. *Submitted for payment. Check received.*
- V. Old Business
 - A. Discussion and possible action to change the day of "Board Meetings".
 - B. Discussion and possible action to amend meeting by-laws.
- VI. New Business
 - C. Discussion and possible action to allocate \$300 for expenses incur during all Adoption Events from January 2016 to December 2016.

Minutes

Webb County Child Welfare Board Meeting to be held
Wednesday, May 25, 2016 at 12:00 p.m.
Texas Department of Family and Protective Services
4611 Foster Ave.
Laredo, Texas 78041

Member Present

Mike Bukiewicz, President
Melissa Mojica, Treasurer
Albert Hernandez, Member
Norma Torres, Member
Rita Garner, Member
Viky Garcia, Member

In Attendance

Jaime Lara, CPS FBSS Supervisor
Zoila Reyna, CPS
Nancy Gutierrez for Rocio Chavez, CPS

I. Call Meeting to Order:

Meeting was called to order at 12 p.m. by Board President, Mike Bukiewicz.

II. Review and approval of minutes from February 16, 2016 meeting.

Motion made by Viky Garcia, seconded by Melissa Mojica to accept the minutes.
Motion passed unanimously.

III. Review and approval of:

A. Financial Report

Motion made by Rita Garner, seconded by Norma Torres to accept the financial report. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Caseload Report

Melissa Mojica asked if it was a requirement to approve the Caseload Report as there was nothing to discuss only view, Mr. Bukiewicz responded by saying it could be viewed as a "Communication Item" if all in favor approved. All 6 Board Members present approved to have the "Caseload Report" be added under Communication.

Melissa Mojica motion to have the Caseload Report added under Communication, seconded by Viky Garcia. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Communication

- A. Update on action to allocate funds for "CPS Employee Of The Month" plaques. *Approved and submitted for payment. Check received.*
- B. Update on action to allocate funds to purchase 2 cots and 2 playpens to be used for emergency removals. *Approved and Submitted for payment. Check received.*

V. Old Business

- A. Discussion and possible action to nominate new members of the Child Welfare Board.

Mike Bukiewicz asked if any member had submitted any nominations for Board Member in which none did. Mike tabled item for next Board Meeting.

- B. Discussion and possible action to change the day of "Board Meetings".

Mr. Bukiewicz found the By-Laws and would email to Zoila so she can email to all Board Members. Mr. Bukiewicz added that these By-Laws may be repealed or amended and new By-Laws be adopted at any meeting of the Board by a vote of at least 2/3 majority, provided that notice of such action is given at a previous regular meeting of said Board.

VI. New Business

- C. Discussion and possible action to amend the meeting by-laws.

Mr. Bukiewicz found the By-Laws and would email to Zoila so she can email to all Board Members. Mr. Bukiewicz added that these By-Laws may be repealed or amended and new By-Laws be adopted at any meeting of the Board by a vote of at least 2/3 majority, provided that notice of such action is given at a previous regular meeting of said Board.

- D. Discussion and possible action to reimburse Caseworker on clothing purchased to a youth.

Caseworker Nancy Gutierrez covering for Rocio Chavez, presented a receipt with an amount of \$22.35. Nancy Gutierrez explained that a youth that had been on runaway had been found and turned in to the Department. Youth had all belongings at her previous placement, out of town. Caseworker purchased youth 1 complete outfit for youth to shower and use.

Rita Garner motion to approve reimbursing \$22.35 to Caseworker Rocio

Chavez, for the plaque, Albert Hernandez second the motion.

Payment request should be paid out of the "General Fund Account-Awareness and Activities 001-4102-7013.

- E. Discussion and possible action to provide financial assistant for clothing for foster children and other children in substitute care.

Mr. Bukiewicz explained that every year during July the Board provides financial assistance for new clothing to foster children and other children in substitute care. Mr. Bukiewicz added that up to \$120 is given per child from Webb County only for clothing expenditure. Rita Garner asked if it was for all children regardless of age, Mike reply that last year we did, Rita directed question to Zoila to ask how this has worked or if caregivers had been using the funds accordingly. Zoila who processes all reimbursement requests added that some foster parents indeed use all the funds but some don't. Rita asked if Caseworkers were urging caregivers to take the opportunity and purchase children clothing. Rita asked for a caseworker and Supervisor to be present at next Board meeting to see what they are doing to have Foster Parents use this assistance. Board Members agreed to keep deadlines, requirements and due dates the same as last year.

Motion made by Melissa Mojica, seconded by Viky Garcia to allocate \$120 per child for the Back to School Clothing Reimbursement for Webb County Children. Motion passed unanimously.

Payment request should be paid out of the "Account-Awareness and Activities 001-4102-6041.

- F. Judge Selina Mireles for all Child Protection Court cases in Webb, Zapata, Duval and Jim Hogg counties is requesting funding to hold a Celebration Ceremony for all of the foster children in CPS's care who are either graduating from high school, entering into the 6, 9th and 12 grade and/or have achieved a milestone this year. The ceremony will also focus on encouraging foster children to pursue higher education (college), a career day event.

Judge Selina Mireles is asking for funds to hold a celebration at the Court house for all those graduating. Judge Mireles added that this celebration will also be a career day as several people with different careers will be there to interact with the children and answer questions or encourage them to continue their education. Judge Mireles will be hosting a celebration sometime in July or August probably at the Webb County Central Jury room, where they will have cake, sandwiches, chips and drinks. During this celebration the children will be receiving their tuition waiver. Judge Mireles wants to give the graduates a gift certificate or invite others in foster care so they can be

encouraged as to what they will be getting if they continue their education.
Date and place to be held will be announced.

Melissa Mojica motion to approve up to \$500 for expenses incurred for this event, Viky second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Payment request should be paid out of the "Account-Awareness and activities 375-4102-7013."

G. Discussion and possible action to allocate funds for PAL's graduation party.

This request was sent by PAL worker Alma Aranda. Alma is requesting funds to purchase some gift cards for Webb County graduates that will be receiving during the annual PAL graduation party on June 11th in Edinburg.

Rita Garner motion to approve \$250 to be used for the PAL graduation party, Melissa Mojica second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Payment request should be paid out of the "Account-Awareness and activities 375-4102-7013."

VII. Announcement

Next meeting June 21, 2016.

VII. Adjournment

Motion made by Melissa Mojica, seconded by Viky Garcia to adjourn Board Meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

- D. Discussion and possible action to allocate funds for the DFPS Heart Gallery expenses.
- E. Discussion and possible action to allocate funds for the DFPS Children Christmas Party in December.

IV. Announcement

Next meeting November 20, 2016

V. Adjournment

DISABILITY ACCESS STATEMENT

Persons with disability who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aids of service are requested to contact the board clerk *Zoila Reyna* at (956) 764-6063.

DATED THIS 13th day of October 2016.

By: *Michael Bukiewicz*
MICHAEL BUKIEWICZ
CHAIRMAN

CERTIFICATION OF NOTICE AND POSTING

I, the undersigned County Clerk, do hereby certify that the above notice of meeting of the Webb County Child Welfare Board is a true and correct copy of said notice, and on the 14th day of October 2016, I posted a true and correct copy of said notice at a place convenient to the public in the county courthouse in accordance with the Texas Open Meeting Act at least 72 hours preceding the schedule time of the meeting.

Dated this 14th day of October, 2016.

MARGIE RAMIREZ IBARRA
WEBB COUNTY CLERK

Brigette Garay
Brigette Garay, Co. Chief Deputy

