



**OCASD
Minutes
November 16, 2017**

A meeting of the Oregon Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorder was held on November 16, 2017 at 10:00 am. This virtual meeting was broadcast through a Zoom link with computer access and staff available in room H-278 of the Oregon State Capitol located at 900 Court Street NE in Salem, Oregon. The Zoom meeting link was available to the public via the OCASD website.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Those in attendance included: OCASD Chairman-Nancy Lawson and Commissioners-Cheryl Cisneros, Dr. Michele Raddish, Lisa Darnold, Corey Stump and Brad Hendershott. Commissioner, Bruce Baker joined the meeting late and Commissioner, Sydney Snook was absent without notice.

Others in attendance included: Administrative Assistant-Mary Richards, SIA Subcommittee Chairman-Joyce Bernheim, and OCASD Communications-Rebecca Barnhart. Victoria Demchak from the Governor's office arrived at 10:35 am.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A copy of the agenda was available on page 5 of the meeting packet. Chairman, Nancy Lawson asked that the agenda be revised so that item 9 (regarding DSM-5) and item 10 (informational items) be moved up for discussion after the meeting minutes were approved.

MOTION:

Dr. Michele Raddish made a motion for the Commission to approve the agenda as revised. It was seconded by Corey Stump and passed unanimously 6-0.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

The minutes from the September 21, 2017 OCASD meeting were included in the meeting packet on pages 6-9 for review and final approval by the Commission. There were no revisions requested.

MOTION:

Lisa Darnold made a motion for the Commission to approve the September 21, 2017 OCASD meeting minutes as presented. It was seconded by Dr. Michele Raddish and passed unanimously 5-0 with Cheryl Cisneros abstaining.

DSM-5 OAR UPDATE

Lisa Darnold gave the Commission an update on the ODE Board request to form a stakeholder group to review and update the OAR (administrative rules) regarding the use of the DSM-5 criteria as part of the educational identification process for Autism.

Lisa noted that there were three meetings scheduled that included November 30th, December 14th, and if needed January 4th. Each meeting is scheduled to be held at the State Library from 10am to 3pm. Meetings will be facilitated by Patricia Hagen-Gilden. A recommendation from the stakeholder group will be brought back to the ODE Board for approval in January. Members of the stakeholder group have a wide variety of roles and knowledge. As of November 16, 2017 the following representatives had been chosen to be members of the stakeholder group:

- OCASD Representative, Nancy Lawson
- Regional Programs, Brad Hendershott
- School Psychologist, Amy Green
- EIECSE (Early Intervention and Early Childhood), Alissa Bermel
- Medical, Dr. Michele Raddish
- Oregon Dept. of Education, Linda Brown
- ODE Liaison, Lisa Darnold

Lisa noted that she would like to have representatives from the following areas included in the review process:

- Clinical Psychologist
- SpEd Director
- Autism Specialist
- Parent
- SICC (Special Infant Care Clinic) Physician

INFORMATION

Reappointment Information:

Reappointment application information was included in the meeting packet on pages 28-31 as well as a link to the Governor's page on Commissions. Nancy Lawson asked that Mary Richards send out the information and link to all members who have terms expiring. Cheryl Cisneros reminded the Commission that she had sent in an email last January after she resigned as chairman with a statement that she was resigning her position on the OCASD at the end of the calendar year (December 31, 2017). The Commission thanked Cheryl for her work on the Commission and her willingness to volunteer on future workgroups.

Governor's Report:

Mary Richards and Nancy Lawson are working on the annual OCASD report to the Governor. This has not been done in several years, but it is scheduled to be completed and reviewed by the Commission in January before being officially submitted to the Governor. Nancy notified subcommittee leadership that Mary would be requesting information regarding activities and work completed over the past few years.

OCALICON Annual Conference:

Each fall, the Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence has an annual conference. The agency's mission is to inform public policy, consult and collaborate with both state

and national partners, and research, develop and deploy best practices. This conference connects people across states, the nation, and around the world with ideas, strategies, and practices for improving the outcomes of individuals with ASD, sensory disabilities, and low-incidence disabilities across the lifespan. Nancy Lawson noted that as part of the leadership of the Commission, she hopes to attend the conference next fall along with at least one other member of the Commission. Hopefully there will be some general breakout sessions specifically for addressing the activities of other state commissions on ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorders).

Communications:

A draft of the 2017-18 Communications Plan was included in the packet on page 32. The goals were pulled out of the last draft of the Short Term Strategic Plan. Nancy Lawson and Brad Hendershott will be working with Rebecca Barnhart to accomplish the goals including: updating the website to comply with the universal access criteria, publishing updated work of the Commission and the work of its subcommittees, publishing peer reviewed or research based ASD resources, supporting the work of organizations such as the Autism Society of Oregon with information dissemination, and exploring locations that information on Autism can be made publicly available.

Transferring the “ownership” of the OCASD Facebook page from Cheryl Cisneros to Nancy Lawson or Rebecca Barnhart was discussed. They will work together with the help of Brad Hendershott to get this transfer completed.

Next Meeting Notification:

The next meeting of the OCASD will be held on January 18, 2018 as a virtual online meeting with access through Zoom. A room will be available at the Capitol for the public to have access to the online meeting with staff available to assist. Members will be sent a link to the Zoom meeting and it will also be available to the public on the OCASD website calendar located at: <http://orcommissionasd.org/calendar/>.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no request for public participation.

NEW EXECUTIVE ORDER RECOMMENDATIONS

A draft of the recommendations from OCASD regarding a new Executive Order (EO) was included in the packet on page 10. This draft was based on the discussion at the September OCASD meeting. Victoria Demchak was available to talk about the new EO to members in attendance.

Victoria suggested that the OCASD do some outreach regarding the proposed changes to the EO. Nancy will send out the draft to the chairman of each Subcommittee and ask them to get input from members. Joyce Bernheim and Cheryl Cisneros also noted that they could give Victoria the names of stakeholders who might be interested in weighing in on the EO by the end of December. Michele Raddish volunteered to help with the finalization process if needed.

Victoria noted that she was considering adding some budget considerations, such as per diem and travel reimbursement for leadership much like what is currently in the EO for ASD parents.

There was also discussion about geographic diversity on the Commission as well a change to the appointment process for legislative senators and representatives. Victoria and Nancy will work on setting up a process for a recruitment and vetting with timeline expectations.

The exclusion of state agency representatives from term limits was added to the list of recommendations for the new EO.

Final recommendations will be submitted to Victoria Demchak by January 2018. Once a new EO has been finalized, the OCASD would also like to be involved in the signing ceremony.

Victoria Demchak thanked the Commission for their work and excused herself from the meeting at approximately 11:06.

APPROVAL OF 2017-2019 SHORT TERM STRATEGIC PLAN

Draft #4A of the strategic plan (S.P.) was included on pages 11-18 of the meeting packet. Nancy Lawson and Mary Richards worked to update the strategic plan and include questions, goals, action items, and timelines to each section as suggested at the meeting in September. Communication goals were pulled out of the last draft of the S.P. and were put into a separate plan for the OCASD Communications Specialist, Rebecca Barnhart and will be overseen by Nancy Lawson and Brad Hendershott.

There were additional revisions discussed by members of the Commission. Nancy Lawson was able to document the revisions and input them into the plan during a break so that members could review the changes in writing prior to approval.

The Health Care section in the plan will be adjusted with a question, goal and timeline, but the action plan will be developed based on a survey. A new section was also added with the heading Systems Collaboration with several questions under different headings moved to this area.

During the discussion, Dr. Michele Raddish left the meeting at 11:30 am and Bruce Baker joined the meeting at 12:05 pm.

After a lunch break, members reviewed the strategic plan with revisions. It was noted that the S.P. is a working document and can be adjusted as needed. A detailed goal regarding health care will be added at a later date.

MOTION:

Lisa Darnold made a motion for the Commission to approve the 2017-19 Short Term Strategic Plan as presented after revisions. It was seconded by Brad Hendershott and passed unanimously 6-0.

During the discussion of the revised strategic plan, there was a request to discuss the difference between a workgroup and a subcommittee. It was noted that the SIA Subcommittee is still very active, while the other subcommittees have completed their work and are currently in an “inactive” status. Joyce Bernheim was concerned and did not want the SIA Subcommittee inactivated, since they have much work to complete. She felt the SIA Subcommittee could work on the new S.P. goals and continue their current work on training modules.

It was suggested that the OCASD move from the subcommittee structure to only workgroups with the expectation that the same members who are currently on the SIA Subcommittee would have the option to continue as members of a SIA Workgroup.

Workgroups would give members an opportunity to work on short term goals. Once each goal is completed, members could continue to volunteer on the next goal or have the option to step away without offending the group.

Workgroups would also give leadership time to evaluate the progress and decide if membership should change based on the focus of the work. Many members of the OCASD felt this would allow for more flexibility and offer a healthier dynamic. Brad Hendershott and Bruce Baker felt the work could be done no matter what the structure was.

It was suggested that the Commission could have an annual discussion about how workgroups are performing in order to review the process and change the structure if needed.

MOTION:

Cheryl Cisneros made a motion for the Commission to change from a subcommittee structure to a workgroup structure with the understanding that current members of a subcommittee would be invited to participate in a workgroup. Lisa Darnold seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 4-0 with Brad Hendershott and Bruce Baker abstaining from the vote.

Dr. Michele Raddish returned to the meeting at approximately 1:00 pm and Cheryl Cisneros left the meeting at 1:15 pm.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Brad Hendershott reported prior to the meeting that the Education Subcommittee is currently inactive, but is expected to change into a task-specific workgroup, which will focus on the goals as outlined in the new 2017-19 Short-Term Strategic Plan.

Meeting notes were not submitted as part of the Screening, Identification and Assessment (SIA) Subcommittee update. Joyce Bernheim gave an oral report and noted that there was an ODE hearing on the use of the DSM-5 criteria as outlined by Lisa Darnold earlier in the meeting. Joyce attended the meeting along with Nancy Lawson and Representative, Jodi Hack with testimonies supporting the use of the criteria as part of the educational identification process for Autism. This alignment has been a main focus for the SIA Subcommittee and members are excited to see the progress on this issue.

ABA PROVIDER ISSUE

Background information regarding an issue with ABA providers was included as part of the meeting packet on pages 19-27. Corey Stump talked about an issue that families and school districts are facing with regard to ABA providers treating students on campus. OHA sent out a letter to school districts noting that districts could be

reimbursed with Federal Medicaid funds for ABA services for eligible children under an IEP.

At the beginning of the year Portland Public School District made a sudden decision to sharply curtail access to these services for students during the school day. “External ABA providers may visit school grounds for no more than 2 hours per week for observation and data collection only; they may not speak to or provide any services to their patients, and may not speak to or coordinate care with school staff. This policy change was adopted without any advance notice, and after IEPs and behavioral treatment plans for many students were developed, resulting in significant disruption. No ABA experts were consulted in development of the policy provisions.”

The Commission felt it could not sign a letter that was being drafted to the Portland Public School District regarding their policy, but asked that Lisa Darnold and Corey Stump set up a time to meet and discuss the issue to see if ODE might be able to assist with the rules and constraints that may have driven this change. It was noted that there is a potential for a workgroup to help craft a position paper on collaboration in an extension of one of the goals in the new strategic plan if needed.

ADJOURN

With no further agenda items to discuss, the meeting adjourned at approximately 2:20 pm by Chairman, Nancy Lawson.

Approved on Feb 1, 2018

Signed by:

Mary Richards—OCASD Administrative Assistant

Nancy Lawson—OCASD Chairman