



Texas Department of Family and Protective Services

Commissioner
H. L. Whitman, Jr.

Family and Protective Services Council
Meeting
Friday, August 17, 2018, 10:00 am
701 West 51st Street, Austin, Texas 78714
John H. Winters Building, Public Hearing Room

MINUTES

Council Members Present:

Matt Kouri, Chair
Dr. Dorothy Calhoun
Omedi "Dee Dee" Cantu Arismendez
Liesa Hackett
Greg Hamilton
Janice Washington

Staff Present:

H.L. Whitman, Jr, Commissioner
Cheryl Gomez, Council Liaison
Trevor Woodruff, Deputy Commissioner
Rand Harris, Chief of Staff

Guests Present:

Agenda Item 1 was to call the meeting to order at 10:07 am by Mr. Kouri, Chair.

Agenda Item 2 was to make opening remarks. Mr. Kouri, chair, opened the meeting with a few remarks.

Agenda Item 3 was to introduce the council members and opening remarks by Mr. Kouri, Chair.

Dr. Calhoun is from the Houston area and is interested in the foster care system and the children at the border.

Ms. Hackett is from the Huntsville area and is interested in the foster care system.

Ms. Cantu Arismendez is from the Alice area and is interested in the care and support of the elderly.

Ms. Washington is from the Corpus Christi area and is interested prevention and permanency in the foster care system.

Sherriff Hamilton is from the Austin area and is interested in foster parents.

Mr. Kouri is from the Austin area and is interested in the foster and adoption system as well as trauma informed care.

Agenda Item 4 was a report from the commissioner. Commissioner Whitman gave remarks and described some successes with Child Protective Services, Adult Protective Services, Prevention and Early Intervention, and Statewide Intake.

Agenda Item 5 was a presentation on the creation of the department's Legislative Appropriations Request (LAR). Rand Harris, Chief of Staff and David Kinsey, Chief Financial Officer, gave a presentation on how the department has developed the LAR.

Agenda Item 6 was a presentation on the department's advisory committees. Cheryl Gomez, Council Liaison, gave updates on Committee on Advancing Residential Practices, Advisory Committee on Promoting Adoption of Minority Children, Public Private Partnership, and the Prevention Task Force.

Agenda Item 7 was public comment.

Jesse Booher from the Texas Alliance of Child and Family Services (TACFS) gave an introduction to TACFS and welcomed the council.

Rona Statman from Every Child Texas came to provide information on Medicaid waivers for the LAR.

Agenda Item 8 was closing remarks. Mr. Kouri closed the meeting thanking staff and stakeholders.

Agenda Item 9 was adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 10:59 am.

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