



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

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**COMMISSION**

Room 30  
Legislative Plaza  
Friday, August 19, 2011  
8:30 a.m.

**MINUTES**

Commission Members Present

Cindy Durham, Chair  
Marti Herndon, Vice Chair  
Phil Acord  
Natasha Blackshear  
Lindsay Callahan  
Janell Clark  
Joshua Conner  
Beverly Cosley  
Kelly Drummond  
Erica Gilmore (9:35)  
Tim Goldsmith  
Denise Hobbs  
Trudy Hughes  
Carlton Lewis  
Billy Posey  
Wendy Shea  
Christy Sigler  
Dwight Stokes

Commission Members Absent

Sidney Bynum  
Lynn Fugate  
Susan Lawless-Glassman  
Harold Moses Love, Jr.  
Tawny Spinelli

Staff Present

Linda O'Neal, Exec Dir  
Marietta Backus  
Sumita Banerjee  
Dana Cobb  
Lindsey Cody  
Susan Cope  
Sandra Decker  
Fay Delk  
Emel Eff  
Dominick Grimaldi  
Craig Hargrow

Peggy Haynes  
Rodger Jowers  
Dustin Keller  
Richard Kennedy  
Ron King  
Bill Latimer  
Sukti Maldas  
Faye Mangrum  
Philip McKenzie  
Rosamond McLeod  
Melissa Staley  
April Swoner  
Vicki Taylor  
Elaine Williams  
Diane Wise  
Gwendolyn Wright

I. Welcome and Introductions – Cindy Durham, Chair

Chair Durham called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. welcoming Commission members and staff.

II. Roll Call

Introductions served as roll call. A quorum was established.

III. TCCY Committee Assignments – Cindy Durham, Chair

At the May meeting Durham announced committee chairs would be changed in August. Due to the delay in getting new appointments/reappointments, committee chairs will not be appointed until November. TCCY has four standing committees that meet regularly and other ad hoc committees that meet as needed. When new appointments were received, new members were assigned to two committees. In November all Commission members will be given the opportunity to change committees if they would like or at least let Durham know their choice of committees they would prefer to serve. The four standing committees have equal number of members so a Commission member may/may not get all their committee choices. For the benefit of newly appointed Commission members each committee chair or Durham gave a brief description of all committees and their responsibilities.

IV. Approval of May 2011 Minutes

**MOTION: IT WAS MOVED (LEWIS) AND SECONDED (CONNER) TO APPROVE THE MAY 2011 COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

V. Federal Juvenile Justice Funding Update – Linda O’Neal

O’Neal welcomed new and continuing members. TCCY staff is looking forward to working with all.

Historical Federal Funding Chart distributed via email with Juvenile Justice Committee handouts shows how federal funding of juvenile justice programs has declined over the past decade impacting TCCY in terms of reducing the amount of dollars we have for distribution of grants and the amount of dollars available for staff to administer those programs. Federal dollars come with planning and administration funds established by federal legislation. Some have match requirements so whenever the grant dollars go down, the dollars for planning and administration also go down. With the continual decline in federal funding, TCCY is in an unsustainable situation in terms of the level of staff we have relative to the amount of federal dollars we have for the planning and administration function.

O’Neal gave an overview of the TCCY Planning and Administrative Costs Analysis FY 2011 distributed with the Budget and Data Committee handouts. As a result of the historical decline in federal juvenile justice funding, TCCY will have to eliminate one federally funded juvenile justice position effective January 1, 2012. All federally funded juvenile justice positions are filled so TCCY went through the agonizing process of exploring and determining where to make the reduction. The statute on how to handle reduction in workforce sets out that the employee with the least total state service is the first individual impacted. Philip McKenzie, who has done a fabulous job in our juvenile justice division, is the employee with the least state service so his position will be abolished. TCCY has a vacant position in CPORT. He will have the option to move into that position if he chooses. If he chooses to do this, he will be an outstanding CPORT

reviewer. If he chooses not to do CPORT long-term, he can still work at TCCY while he looks for other options.

O'Neal briefed the Commission on the four different pots of federal funding (Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP) Federal Formula Grant Dollars; Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) Dollars; Title V Delinquency Prevention Funds; and Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) Dollars, a subset of Title V that are awarded completely separately) giving an analysis of funding streams, how funds are awarded, cuts and the anticipation of further reductions in federal funding, which would again reduce planning and administration dollars for staff.

*Safeguarding the Future* handout distributed with the Juvenile Justice Committee handouts provides information about the importance of the federal juvenile justice funds and shows what the Title II State Formula Grants, Title V Local Delinquency Prevention grants, and JABG grants do. Two of the programs show how the funds have been very useful in Tennessee. O'Neal talked about how the JABG dollars are passed through to local governments, their use and the fact that fewer counties get money now because of the decline in funding.

*Reverse. Reaffirm. Restore.* handout distributed with the Juvenile Justice Committee handouts came from the Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ), the national organization that brings together the chair and other members of the State Advisory Groups (SAGS). TCCY is the SAG for Tennessee for administration of the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP) dollars. TCCY often submits letters to the Tennessee delegation expressing concern about the loss of federal dollars in Tennessee. Tennessee has seen a lot of improvements in juvenile justice which can be traced to efforts that were funded by the federal juvenile justice dollars, which are now in great jeopardy. If this legislation goes forward as suggested by the House Subcommittee, next year Tennessee would only have one funding stream remaining after the 28 percent cut this year, resulting in an additional approximately 75 percent reduction in the federal funding TCCY administers. If these cuts happen, we obviously will not have our current level of staffing.

TCCY staff has done a wonderful job thinking about funding cuts at various levels and how to recommend allocation of remaining dollars. There is little question there will be impact. As we know more, the Commission will be kept informed. All these cuts were in the pipeline before the U.S. Budget Control Act of 2011 passed just a few weeks ago, which is the legislation setting up the special committee in Congress to recommend budget cuts and in the alternative provide automatic reductions/sequestration of funds for programs if legislation from this special committee is not approved.

The federal credit rating has been down graded and a number of states have been placed on a warning that their credit rating could be down graded. The Department of Finance and Administration reported approximately 40 percent of all dollars spent through the state budget are federal dollars. We know from the Resource Mapping project in fiscal year 2010 48.5 percent of all dollars spent on children in Tennessee were federal dollars. Federal dollars have a tremendous impact in Tennessee.

Yesterday all department heads and budget officers received a memo from the State Budget Office that by Wednesday of next week, a plan must be submitted for what would happen if we there were 15 or 30 percent less federal dollars. Every state department was given an amount for which they must plan for potential reduction in dollars. The state has a meeting next month with the credit rating agencies and it is clear this is an exercise to demonstrate to the credit rating agencies that the state is preparing and will be using this plan to function in some way with the loss of federal funding. Each state agency has to do a two level plan. First tier is 15 percent less federal dollars and the second tier is an additional 15 percent less federal dollars. For TCCY each 15 percent amount is \$419,200. We have to have a plan for \$838,400 less.

The state is looking for a total of \$3,262,810,400 out of about \$10.9 Billion federal dollars coming into the state. Another interesting thing in the plan is that the matching state dollars must be identified so the administration can plan what to do with the matching dollars. This is an initial exercise to start identifying ways the state could evolve with the loss of federal funding. It is just a plan and does not mean any or specific things will happen. This plan will be very challenging for TCCY but perhaps more challenging for other state agencies when a substantial proportion of their funds are not likely to be subject to this plan because of protected areas. O'Neal shared proposed plans of other child serving departments and talked about interdepartmental funding. She commented some of the money going to the Department of Children's Services from TennCare comes to TCCY for CPORT, which is approximately 40 percent federal dollars.

Durham commented reduction in federal funding will have wide ranging effects so she felt it was important for Commission members to be given an update.

VI. Grant Review Committee – Trudy Hughes, Chair

Hughes gave an overview of the spreadsheets prepared based on the Grant Review Committee and juvenile justice staff review of grant applications. She thanked staff for providing grant writing training saying she felt higher grant application scores were the result.

Committee reviewed one Alternatives to Detention grant application requesting \$150,000 and is recommending one grant application totaling \$100,000 be awarded.

1. **RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE GRANT CAD 01-2011 (OASIS CENTER, INC.) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100,000 INSTEAD OF AMOUNT REQUESTED OF \$150,000. CARRIED. CONNER, SHEA AND SIGLER RECUSED.**

Committee reviewed four Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) grant applications requesting \$417,217 and is recommending none of the grant applications be awarded.

1. **RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION NOT APPROVE GRANT DMC 01-2011 (LEGAL AID OF**

**EAST TENNESSEE) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$92,217. CARRIED. DURHAM AND STOKES RECUSED.**

- 2. RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION NOT APPROVE GRANT DMC 02-2011 (ALL THE KINGS MEN) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100,000. CARRIED. BLACKSHEAR AND LEWIS RECUSED. SHEA ABSTAINED.**
- 3. RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION NOT APPROVE GRANT DMC 03-2011 (DAMASCUS ROAD RESIDENTIAL CENTER) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100,000. CARRIED. SHEA ABSTAINED.**
- 4. RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION NOT APPROVE GRANT DMC 04-2011 (SCOTT STREET COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$125,000. CARRIED. SHEA ABSTAINED.**

Committee reviewed 29 Federal Formula grant applications requesting \$1,609,662 and is recommending 11 grant applications totaling \$428,326 be awarded.

- 1. RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE GRANT FFG 01-2011 (BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF CLEVELAND) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$70,162 INSTEAD OF THE AMOUNT REQUESTED OF \$80,000. CARRIED. DRUMMOND RECUSED. SHEA ABSTAINED.**
- 2. RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION NOT APPROVE GRANT FFG 02-2011 (CLINCH-POWELL EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$80,000. CARRIED. SHEA ABSTAINED.**
- 3. RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE GRANT CFFG 03-2011 (BLEDSOE COUNTY SCHOOLS) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$22,000. CARRIED. SHEA ABSTAINED.**
- 4. RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE GRANT CFFG 04-2011 (ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50,000 INSTEAD OF THE AMOUNT REQUESTED OF \$60,000. CARRIED. DURHAM, LEWIS, SIGLER AND STOKES RECUSED. SHEA ABSTAINED.**
- 5. RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE GRANT CFFG 05-2011 (BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF MAURY COUNTY) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,002. CARRIED. DRUMMOND RECUSED. SHEA ABSTAINED.**

6. **RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION NOT APPROVE GRANT FFG 06-2011 (UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE AT CHATTANOOGA) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$45,124. CARRIED. ACORD, COSLEY AND SHEA ABSTAINED.**
7. **RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION NOT APPROVE GRANT FFG 07-2011 (THE FLORENCE CRITTENTON AGENCY) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$64,233. CARRIED. STOKES RECUSED. DRUMMOND AND SHEA ABSTAINED.**
8. **RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION NOT APPROVE GRANT FFG 08-2011 (MEMPHIS LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$65,301.20. CARRIED. POSEY, GOLDSMITH AND SHEA RECUSED.**
9. **RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE GRANT CFFG 09-2011 (TENNESSEE LEGAL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50,000 INSTEAD OF THE AMOUNT REQUESTED OF \$60,000. CARRIED. DURHAM AND STOKES RECUSED. SHEA AND SIGLER ABSTAINED.**
10. **RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE GRANT CFFG 10-2011 (FENTRESS COUNTY CHILDREN'S CENTER) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$22,000. CARRIED. HUGHES RECUSED. SHEA ABSTAINED.**
11. **RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION NOT APPROVE GRANT FFG 11-2011 (BREAK THE CYCLE, INC.) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$70,464. CARRIED. DRUMMOND AND SHEA ABSTAINED.**
12. **RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION NOT APPROVE GRANT FFG 12-2011 (THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE KNOXVILLE) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$77,120. CARRIED. STOKES RECUSED. DRUMMOND, SHEA AND SIGLER ABSTAINED.**
13. **RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION NOT APPROVE GRANT FFG 13-2011 (MADISON COUNTY TENNESSEE) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$80,000. CARRIED. LEWIS RECUSED. CLARK, SHEA AND STOKES ABSTAINED.**
14. **RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION NOT APPROVE GRANT CFFG 14-2011 (RECONCILIATION, INC.) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$45,000. CARRIED. SHEA ABSTAINED.**
15. **RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE GRANT CFFG 15-2011 (EDUCATIONAL**

**PSYCHOLOGY AND COUNSELING DEPARTMENT UT-KNOXVILLE) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$22,000. CARRIED. STOKES RECUSED. DRUMMOND AND SHEA ABSTAINED.**

- 16. RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE GRANT FFG 16-2011 (BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$70,162 INSTEAD OF THE AMOUNT REQUESTED OF \$80,000. CARRIED. DRUMMOND AND STOKES RECUSED. SHEA ABSTAINED.**
- 17. RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE GRANT FFG 17-2011 (MURFREESBORO CITY SCHOOLS) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$45,000 INSTEAD OF THE AMOUNT REQUESTED OF \$70,134, IF THE APPLICANT IS WILLING TO ACCEPT THE TERMS REQUIRED FOR RECEIPT OF THIS FUNDING FROM TITLE V. CARRIED. SIGLER RECUSED. SHEA ABSTAINED.**
- 18. RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION NOT APPROVE GRANT CFFG 18-2011 (TEACHING KIDS TO DREAM) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$22,000. CARRIED. SHEA ABSTAINED.**
- 19. RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION NOT APPROVE GRANT FFG 19-2011 (BRADLEY/CLEVELAND PUBLIC EDUCATION FOUNDATION) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$13,240. CARRIED. SHEA ABSTAINED.**
- 20. RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION NOT APPROVE GRANT FFG 20-2011 (YOU HAVE THE POWER) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$21,000. CARRIED. DURHAM AND HUGHES RECUSED. SHEA ABSTAINED.**
- 21. RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION NOT APPROVE GRANT FFG 21-2011 (CHILDREN'S CENTER OF THE CUMBERLANDS) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$80,000. CARRIED. HUGHES RECUSED. SHEA ABSTAINED.**
- 22. RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION NOT APPROVE GRANT FFG 22-2011 (GENTRY'S EDUCATION CENTER AT THE STOREFRONT) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$60,297. CARRIED. SHEA ABSTAINED.**
- 23. RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION NOT APPROVE GRANT FFG 23-2011 (MIRIAM CAMPO OFFICE OF RESEARCH UT-KNOXVILLE) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$79,999. CARRIED. STOKES RECUSED. DRUMMOND AND SHEA ABSTAINED.**

24. **RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION NOT APPROVE GRANT FFG 24-2011 (S.E.E.E.D., INC.) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$41,400. CARRIED. CLARK, DRUMMOND AND SHEA ABSTAINED.**
25. **RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION NOT APPROVE GRANT FFG 25-2011 (NAPAS DBA TEAMS INSTITUTE) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$80,000. CARRIED. SHEA ABSTAINED.**
26. **RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE GRANT CFFG 26-2011 (COALITION FOR KIDS, INC.) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$22,000. CARRIED. SHEA ABSTAINED.**
27. **RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION NOT APPROVE GRANT FFG 27-2011 (NEW VISIONS) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$80,000. CARRIED. LEWIS RECUSED. SHEA ABSTAINED.**
28. **RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE GRANT FFG 28-2011 (BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$80,000. CARRIED. DURHAM AND SIGLER RECUSED. HOBBS AND SHEA ABSTAINED.**
29. **RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION NOT APPROVE GRANT FFG 29-2011 (KNOX COUNTY GOVERNMENT) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$66,348. CARRIED. STOKES RECUSED. DRUMMOND, HUGHES AND SHEA ABSTAINED.**

The State Advisory Board (SAB) reviewed ten Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) applications requesting \$975,558 and is recommending five grant applications totaling \$352,588 be awarded. The Grant Review Committee did not review these applications. O’Neal explained the reason the JABG grants are reviewed by the SAB is because the federal law regarding administration of JABG funds requires review by what is called a State Advisory Board, formerly Juvenile Crime Enforcement Coalition (JCEC), which has different composition requirements that the Commission does not meet, including representation from law enforcement, courts, Department of Children’s Services and Administrative Office of the Courts.

There have been ongoing efforts to better integrate the members of the SAB/JCEC, but we were not successful in making that happen prior to this meeting.

The Commission began discussion of the SAB recommendations for allocation of Juvenile Accountability Block Grant funding. There were questions regarding the allocation process, including questions related to how many years of funding several grantees have received. The SAB made recommendations to approve/not approve the JABG grant applications, but this is an “advisory committee.” As the governing board for

the agency as a whole, the Commission on Children and Youth has the authority to approve/disapprove or otherwise modify the recommendations of the SAB. Unfortunately, no Grant Review Committee members were present at the SAB meeting, though some members had submitted scores on the applications.

Since there were questions about whether or not some applicants should be deemed eligible to receive funding based on guidelines regarding the number of years they could receive funding without implementing “new” programs, members felt equal treatment of all grant applications would best be served by jointly reconvening the SAB and GRC as soon as possible to review all JABG applications.

**MOTION: IT WAS MOVED (HUGHES) AND SECONDED (LEWIS) TO TABLE ACTION ON ALL JABG STATE ALLOCATED GRANT APPLICATIONS RECOMMENDED BY THE STATE ADVISORY BOARD (SAB) SO A MEETING COULD BE SCHEDULED FOR THE GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE AND THE STATE ADVISORY BOARD TO JOINTLY MEET TO REVIEW THE APPLICATIONS AND THAT THE SUBSEQUENT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ALL TEN JABG GRANT APPLICATIONS BE SENT OUT ELECTRONICALLY FOR THE COMMISSION TO VOTE ON WITH ACTION OCCURRING BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2011. CARRIED. HERNDON OPPOSED.**

O’Neal noted that the Executive Committee has the power to act for the Commission and if there is still discomfort, a meeting via conference call could be scheduled.

Hughes thanked the Grant Review Committee and juvenile justice staff for their great participation and work in the grant review process. She talked about statewide distribution of funds, reporting six of the nine regions within the Commission were approved to receive funding and noted other regions receive funding from different pots of money. She encouraged Commission members to serve on the Grant Review Committee and consider serving as Chair.

Durham expressed appreciation to the Grant Review Committee members for their work.

Break 10:25 a.m.

Durham called meeting back to order at 10:37 a.m.

VII. Executive Committee – Cindy Durham, Chair

Committee met and has no action item.

Committee discussed Committee assignments and new chairs.

O'Neal gave an update on a personnel issue that came up a couple of months ago. Issue is now considered closed.

VIII. Budget and Data Committee – Dwight Stokes, Chair

Committee met and has four action items.

O'Neal gave budget update. Committee reviewed TCCY FY 2011 Financial Report – 7/1/2010 through 6/30/2011.

**1. RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION ACCEPT THE REPORT OF TCCY BUDGET EXPENDITURES JULY 1, 2010 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2011. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

Committee reviewed TCCY Budget Recommendations for 2012-2013 and TCCY Budget Recommendations for 2012-2013 – CPORT to the Governor dated August 29, 2011. They discussed adding an amendment to both recommendations addressing the fact that the Department of Children's Services has experienced an increase of almost 10 percent in the number of children in state custody and efforts must be made to ensure the public-private and state-local partnerships that support children in and at risk of state custody are preserved and that the Department of Children's Services has the resources it needs to serve vulnerable children and families. Durham asked Commission members to review draft amendments distributed and if they had any edits to get them to O'Neal by Monday.

**2. RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE TCCY BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2012-2013 TO THE GOVERNOR WITH ADDED AMENDMENT AS DISCUSSED. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

**3. RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE TCCY BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2012-2013 – CPORT TO THE GOVERNOR WITH ADDED AMENDMENT AS DISCUSSED. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

Committee reviewed TCCY Agency Budget Improvement Request Fiscal Year 2012-2013. For the benefit of new Commission members, Durham gave some history of requested budget improvements.

**4. RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE TCCY AGENCY BUDGET IMPROVEMENT REQUEST FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

Stokes thanked KIDS COUNT staff for their work and asked Commission members to review handouts. Durham encouraged them to log on to the TCCY website and read some of the materials posted and if they are on FaceBook and if they have not "liked" the TCCY FaceBook page, she recommended they do so. She commented Delk does an excellent job updating the FaceBook page. KIDS COUNT recently received a lot of

good media coverage. Congratulations to Knox County Regional Coordinator Lindsey Cody who had several interviews following the recent KIDS COUNT releases.

O'Neal stated the Commission is the Annie E. Casey Foundation's KIDS COUNT partner in Tennessee. TCCY has been a KIDS COUNT partner with the Casey Foundation since the second year they began this process in the early to mid 1990s. TCCY prepares and distributes an annual *KIDS COUNT State of the Child* report for Tennessee, which was released August 10. The *National KIDS COUNT Data* book was released August 17. This is the first time Tennessee moved out of the 40s with a 39<sup>th</sup> ranking. We are very pleased with this progress but are concerned about the increase in the number of children in poverty. TCCY has really benefited from being a partner with the Casey Foundation. KIDS COUNT staff does a good job various responsibilities.

IX. Children's Services Committee – Tim Goldsmith, Chair

Committee met and has no action item.

Ombudsmen are making concerted efforts to look at an increase in the minority populations that are under represented in cases referred to them.

Keller gave an update on the Council on Children's Mental Health (CCMH). Current focus is sustainability. Tennessee currently has four projects statewide and is working to extend them on a broader basis.

Hargrow gave a great report on the Second Look Commission (SLC). SLC is working on an issues matrix outlining the cases they have reviewed and investigated.

Banerjee gave the first report on the Youth Transitions Advisory Council (YTAC).

Wade gave Children's Program Outcome Review Team (CPORT) update. CPORT is participating in Quality Service Reviews (QSR) at all the Youth Development Centers this summer. Goldsmith encouraged Commission members to shadow the QSR process.

Goldsmith talked about the Children's Rights report, *What Works In Child Welfare Reform: Reducing Reliance on Congregate Care in Tennessee*, an impressive report about what our state child welfare department, the Department of Children's Services, has done to put children back into families and the community.

X. Councils Committee – Phil Acord, Chair

Committee had a great meeting and has no action item.

Acord talked about two trainings going on across the state, "Tennessee Human Sex Trafficking and Its Impact on Children and Youth" and "Stewards of Children." He feels the Commission should hear a presentation on "Tennessee Human Trafficking and Its Impact on Children and Youth" to raise awareness on the issue so they could work with local officers and organizations to try to address the problem. He also feels "Stewards of Children", training would be beneficial. Commission Member Hughes does "Stewards of

Children” training. She gave a brief overview of the training saying she would be happy to arrange for someone to present it or do so herself.

Durham encouraged Commission members to be active in their regional councils. TCCY regional coordinators put on great programs, form great partnerships and collaborate with organizations/agencies in their communities. Council members see Commission members as really important people and are really excited when Commission members attend council meetings.

Two regional coordinator positions (Southeast and Upper Cumberland) are vacant. Interviewees have been scheduled and Kennedy will be conducting them. Hopefully, positions will be filled around October 1.

XI. Juvenile Justice and Minority Issues Committee – Beverly Cosley, Chair

Committee met and has no action item. They welcomed new Commission Member Kelly Drummond and are looking forward to welcoming Lynne Fugate.

King reported on the Youth Summit held at Scarritt Bennett College. Approximately 100 attended. Breakout sessions (Legal Issues, Bullying and Its Prevention, Youth Violence and Suicide and Gang Awareness) provided good information and interaction with youth. Cosley expressed appreciation to TCCY staff for their involvement in the training.

Each DMC Task Force is busy. Committee heard reports on the work they are doing. They are working on issues addressed at the Youth Summit.

Committee heard report on the DMC Study TCCY is doing. Brown and Keller are doing an outstanding job assisting. Two DMC Task Force members and interns from Nashville, Knoxville and Memphis are also helping. They are currently working on the Survey Tool.

Cosley thanked Commission Member Stokes for his DMC efforts in Sevier County saying it is great when you have judges who will be models to other judges to change their behaviors. He has done a lot of presentations. He recently did a presentation “Seeking Justice for All....One Child at a Time” with emphasis on DMC issues at the UT College of Law Symposium in April. He is also coordinating with the Access to Justice Commission of the Tennessee Supreme Court in promoting access to justice through efforts to assist self-represented parties who navigate the justice system without counsel due to financial and economic reasons. Commission Member Carlton Lewis is also actively involved with DMC efforts. Their efforts are greatly appreciated.

Deinstitutionalization of Status Offender (DSO) violations are not problematic because of the dedicated efforts of the juvenile justice staff. Violations have increased somewhat as this year we had 54 violations compared to 38 for the same period last year. Budget cuts will impact the juvenile justice division of TCCY. McKenzie has done an excellent job working with counties on their violations, and has been very instrumental in helping keep violations down and helping communities at large. He is really going to be missed. With his position being abolished, other staff will have to pick up extra work. Juvenile justice

staff has been through a lot of storms but have always come out on top because of their compassion for the work they do and their teamwork.

Durham served as the primary Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice (FACJJ) representative for the State of Tennessee for a number of years. Cosley served as an alternate and as Tennessee's representative this year. FACJJ is now under new formation. Durham distributed information on the August 15 webinar the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention hosted regarding the membership application process and member roles and responsibilities. Information is on their website at [www.facjj.org](http://www.facjj.org). Application deadline is August 24. If Commission members are interested, they can apply. If they are selected, FACJJ will pay their expenses.

Durham followed-up on the FACJJ information. She participated in the webinar. The only person she heard from when she sent out the information about wanting to be on the committee was Acord and she has had some conversations with him. FACJJ could have been a very productive group, but we have some problems with federal officials that did not necessarily go along with what FACJJ wanted in providing information. After reviewing material, the Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ) webinar, and sitting in on the OJJDP webinar, she said she would not recommend that anyone apply because of the commitment wanted. Originally it was set up to have a representative from each of the states and territories but now the decision has been made to have only 10-14 representatives from the states and whoever is a volunteer representing one state will be charged with doing lots of communication with another five states, do surveys, etc. If members are interested in applying, Durham will share all the information she has. OJJDP currently has an acting administrator and when an administrator is appointed, FACJJ could be abolished.

Tennessee was highlighted in two of the documents printed and distributed by CJJ. Durham acknowledged this really shows the commitment of TCCY staff and what they do.

## XII. Director's Report – Linda O'Neal

Director's Report is a collaborative effort of a substantial number of staff to collect in one place a summary with a lot of information about TCCY and activities engaged in across the agency since the last Commission meeting.

Former Commission Member Nancy Williams received the Horowitz-Baker Leadership Award from the National Children's Alliance. Commission Member Hughes is also involved with the National Children's Alliance and nominated Tennessee State Senator Doug Overby, who received the Bud Cramer Award. Awards were presented at their annual conference in Washington in June. O'Neal was grateful to be able to go and be present. She passed around a letter Nancy Williams sent to the Commission following the expiration of her term asking that it be shared with all Commission members and staff.

TCCY is glad to have new members (Kelly Drummond, Lynne Fugate, Billy Posey, Wendy Shea and Christy Sigler) and really appreciate all of them except Lynne Fugate, who had a prior commitment, being here today on relatively short notice. Three appointments still need to be made. Orientation will be scheduled sometime between now and the November meeting, if possible.

As Commission members have acknowledged, TCCY has a great team of staff who really work together well and are very committed to the Commission's mission to improve the quality of life for children and families in Tennessee and provide leadership for other child advocates. Staff work together to set up/clean up/pick up whatever is required for the Commission/staff luncheon on Thursday prior to Friday's Commission meeting. She thanked everyone involved. Mangrum does a lot of the set up, makes reservations and distributes Commission meeting information. She and Tolliver picked up the food. Backus, Carter, Cope, Haynes, King, Maldas, and Sahlin helped set up for lunch/clean up after lunch yesterday.

O'Neal clarified Civil Service requirements were followed in pulling registers and identifying people for Kennedy to interview for the two vacant regional coordinator positions. Regional coordinators are involved in activities that interface with all segments of the agency's operation: monitoring grants, monitoring facilities, monitoring for juvenile justice, KIDS COUNT releases, and legislative efforts. They set up a whole range of things related to all the different TCCY programs and are a major part of TCCY's distribution of publications and other information.

Juvenile Justice Director Debrah Stafford is on annual leave and therefore unable to attend this meeting. Juvenile justice staff has been incredible during very difficult times as was talked about with the funding. They continue to do the grants management, coordinate monitoring and a whole range of other activities.

Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) efforts are a part of the juvenile justice section. Cosley talked about the Youth Summit and the DMC Study. Survey to assess issues related to DMC and confinement involved with the juvenile justice system is nearing completion. Assessing and addressing DMC is one of the core requirements for continued eligibility for federal funds from the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, one of the four federal funding streams TCCY administers. Survey will be distributed to Commission members via email. If Commission members would take the time to complete it, it would be very helpful. It is confidential. Youth Summit was good. Commission Member Stokes did an excellent workshop at the Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (TCJFCJ)/Tennessee Juvenile Court Services Association (TJCSA) Annual Conference on DMC issues in juvenile court. O'Neal said everyone in Tennessee who works with the juvenile courts should hear his presentation. King, DMC Task Force and other TCCY staff who provide assistance have continued to work on this issue.

O'Neal thanked the Commission for approving the letter regarding CPORT funding. CPORT staff has been real troopers and do incredible work reviewing cases of children in state custody. CPORT QSR Review Schedule will be distributed to Commission

members. O'Neal encouraged them to participate in the process if they have the opportunity, saying the process is a strong evaluation methodology that is the best way to determine what is happening with policies, programs and services for children in custody, to determine where things are going well and where there are opportunities to improve the system.

Ombudsmen continue to handle cases using a mediation approach to resolve conflicts with a focus on the best interests of children and the safety of the community.

KIDS COUNT Director Pam Brown is out-of-town celebrating her father's 89<sup>th</sup> birthday. KIDS COUNT staff stays busy with publications and information dissemination. Some of TCCY's newer activities are within this division:

- Resource Mapping Project – Melissa Staley is responsible for this project. She and her husband spent much of the summer in China adopting their son, Eli.
- Council on Children's Mental Health – Dustin Keller is the director.

Petty and Banerjee work on legislative issues. Banerjee is very involved with the Home Visitation Project. She and Petty work with the Youth Transitions Advisory Council (YTAC). They did an incredible job during the legislative session tracking legislation and preparing/distributing reports.

Craig Hargrow is Director of the Second Look Commission (SLC). SLC is moving along well and is an interesting process that will have some very solid recommendations for reducing the prospects for children to experience second or subsequent incidences of severe abuse.

TCCY staff does a lot of different things. The written Director's Report contains information about presentations and other specific things O'Neal did. Shared Services Solutions does our fiscal work. Latimer keeps our technology functioning. All TCCY staff does an incredible job working together making a difference for children. O'Neal appreciates the work staff does. Commission members are appreciated for the support they provide to staff and Commission activities.

### XIII. Chair's Report – Cindy Durham

Chair Durham, Commission Member Spinelli, O'Neal and King attended the CJJ Annual Conference in Washington in May. Workshops were very informative and visits were made to all congressional offices in one day. CJJ is the voice of the State Advisory Groups. TCCY is a member of CJJ and Commission members receive CJJ information. Durham encouraged Commission members to read information distributed.

Southern Region of CJJ is having a regional conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico at the end of January. Due to the current budget situation, it is doubtful that TCCY will get approval for travel to attend but will try. Durham will be distributing information on the conference after the November meeting. Commission members interested in attending should let her know.

Eric Lulow, former TCCY Youth Commission Member, was in town last week and said to tell everyone hello.

Children's Advocacy Days (CAD) is March 13-14, 2012. Commission members were encouraged to attend.

TCCY Fall Retreat is November 3-4, 2011 at Montgomery Bell State Park. Dress is casual. Jeans may be worn. In addition to handling the usual business, there is a lot of interaction between Commission members and staff.

Commission meeting attendance is real important. Commission members have an important role and do a lot of business in the Committee/Commission meetings. If Commission members find attending meetings is not fitting into their schedule, they should consider whether or not this is where they need to be. TCCY needs them, their input and the information they can bring. They are the people that can go out into their community and talk about what is going on with children and youth. If a Commission member has not been here for three meetings in a row, Durham has the unfortunate ability to be able to write a letter to the Governor asking for that person to be replaced. She encouraged Commission members to resign if attending meetings does not fit into their schedule. Commission members are appointed by the Governor for a reason and their input is valuable. TCCY is glad they were appointed and want them to be an active participant in what the Commission does.

XIV. Other Business

Herndon volunteered to go with Dana Cobb, Northwest Regional Coordinator, to visit Lake County prison and Lake County jail.

TCCY is fortunate O'Neal is acknowledged for the good work she does. She received the "Ready by 21 Policymaker Award" along with Cindy Perry with the Select Committee on Children and Youth in Washington in June.

There being no further business:

**MOTION: IT WAS MOVED (HUGHES) AND SECONDED (HERNDON) TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

Meeting adjourned at 11:36 a.m.

Minutes Submitted by:

Minutes Approved by:

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Faye Mangrum, Executive Secretary 2

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Cynthia A. Durham, Chair

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