

**Executive Committee Meeting**Thursday, January 21, 2021
Via Videoconference

**MINUTES**

3:00–4:30 PM Eastern • 2:00–3:30 PM Central • 1:00–2:30 PM Mountain • 12:00–1:30 PM Pacific

Members & Attendees

 **NAME ROLE(S) NAME ROLE(S)**

✓ Jim Fleming\* President, Employer Collaboration ✓ Carla West\* Region 4, Systems & Data

✓ Erin Frisch\* Past President, Region 5, Policy A Jeremy Toulouse\* Region 6

✓ Michele Cristello\* Vice President, Audit ✓ Cindy Wiesen\* Region 7

✓ Kate Cooper Richardson\* Secretary, Website ✓ Chad Dexter\* Region 8

✓ Liesa Stockdale\* Treasurer, Finance ✓ Heather Noble\* Region 9

✓ Karen Hebert\* Region 1, Mentoring ✓ Sharon Redmond\* Region 10

✓ Eileen Stack\* Region 2, Policy & Practice ✓ Robin Arnell Systems & Data Sharing

✓ Ted Mermigos\* Region 3 ✓ David Kilgore Public Relations

 *\*Voting member*

Welcome

* President Jim Fleming called the meeting to order

Roll Call

* Attendance as noted
* Quorum present

Approval of Minutes

* Executive Committee December 17, 2020 – *approved without changes*

Treasurer’s Reports – *accepted*

* Two reports this month, November and December
* Most of the activity occurred in December—reservation deposits, website cost, credit card fees
* Two payments made totaling $1400 for deposits on conference locations in Medora
* 12/31/2020 balance $83,008.43

President’s Report – *accepted*

* OCSE-NCCSD meeting
	+ OCSE in “transition period,” unable to make decisions or offer guidance until new commissioner is place
	+ Was response to paternity establishment performance penalties question
	+ Appears as explanation for lack of implementation guidance for the latest Covid relief legislation, OCSE indicating “not our bill”
	+ No final rule before end of Trump administration. Unknown when to expect it, if at all.
	+ Reached agreement on conflict of interest process
		- OCSE will still attend System Modernization and Data Sharing Workgroup meetings that includes a state IT contract worker
		- If worker has no affiliation with vendor doing feasibility studies
	+ Requested guidance on comingling of recovery payment (deposits of check) in an account with funds not exempt from garnishment
	+ On January 13, NCCSD asked whether a $600 recovery payment through income tax credit would be offset.
		- No response to date on either recovery payment question
		- January 20 follow-up to OCSE: “We realize this is a time of transition for your office, but the work for states goes on uninterrupted, as does our need for your guidance and intervention with sister federal agencies.”
* Sharon Redmond (WA) and Adam Norman (IN) tapped for NCCSD 2021 annual conference
	+ Will lead group of directors for session topics
	+ Michele as NCCSD Vice President to work with private sector on sponsorships and sponsor recognition
	+ Q from Erin (MI): Discussion of virtual/in-person simul-cast?
		- If virtual option in advance, may limit attendance possibility
		- Will be a point of discussion: planned or back-up

Committee Reports

* Audit Workgroup – Michele
	+ Mona’s document of DRA process
	+ After that, committee reviewed document
	+ Logistics, helpful
	+ Some items to delve into
		- Disconnect between document and real life
		- Want to get some materials to point to if something goes sideways
	+ Then will discuss how to present
		- Training form OCSE?
		- Lots of documents?
	+ Invited OCSE to Feb meeting
	+ Kate (OR): Oregon just completed a surprisingly smooth and fast 2019 full audit, so hoped that was a sign of good things to come
* Child Support-Employer Collaboration Workgroup – Jim
	+ Met today, productive
	+ Reviewed spreadsheet of data elements for VOE from all states
		- Sorted through to identify common elements requested
		- Employers identified items difficult to provide
	+ Goal to develop something electronic-friendly, including email address
	+ Also discussed how to assess the periodicity of income—very difficult, various fluctuations
	+ Feels good to be making progress toward a win-win solution
	+ Look for eFlash from OCSE about a lot of lump sums from Walmart—payable in March
	+ Thanks for all the state staff team members
* Finance Committee – Liesa
	+ Nothing more beyond Treasurer’s Report
* Joint Committee on Public Relations – David
	+ Still plan on national campaign, but need to narrow focus
	+ Looking at 2 different areas:
		- Electronic national/state application,
			* What’s required versus what’s desired
			* Would a common application have all info or basic info
			* Look to nationalized but not federalized application
		- Research on those who don’t use IV-D services—why do they not?
			* Framework for research company costs
			* Chicken/egg problem—how much $ can spend/how in depth the research depends on how much $ states would chip in, but states want to know what that would be
		- Chad (MT): Really likes this committee, taking on some big stuff
		- Karen (NH): Big project to tackle, but worth investment
* Mentoring Committee – Karen
	+ Guidebook for new directors
		- Spent time thinking about it
		- Crossover: Audit Committee—high need to understand the process, especially about the disconnect between OCSE process versus reality
	+ Ted (DE): Succession planning, mentoring deputies or potential successors, using this as resource for succession
		- Karen appreciated this aspect
* Policy & Practice Committee – Erin/Eileen
	+ Met January 7, strong attendance
	+ Four subcommittees
		- Incentives Review – Library to share with the committee members and NCCSD website for reference
			* Group will review material considering new administration
			* New subcommittee chair needed, because Carol Eaton (IA) has retired
		- Intergovernmental Cooperation – Focus on getting group together for an agenda for interstate activity
		- Medicaid Referrals – Discussed referrals, recovery activity in various states
			* Recommend suspending subcommittee
			* Co-chairs to confer with Liesa Stockdale (UT)
			* Waiting to see how the new administration will approach
		- Administrative Enforcement Options – Meeting to be scheduled
			* What have we learned from pandemic changes?
			* Anything to continue post-pandemic?
	+ Reviewing Strengthening Families for Success Act
		- Need to organize to pull together comments
	+ As to recommendations for new administration
		- Will review NCSEA resolutions on initiatives including right-sizing orders, enhanced enforcement tools
		- Will review recommendations from previous NCCSD prioritization effort for last new OCSE administration
		- Other ideas: addressing PEP penalties, FMAP implications for IV-D, and Audit Committee insights and suggestions
		- Will discuss recommendations for new administration at next meeting
	+ Next meeting February 4
	+ Kate: Hope we will be bold with new administration, encourage collaboration with Congress
	+ Eileen: Erin in Michigan is gathering data on racial equity disparities—showing that current support owed amounts and the highest amount of arrears are double for Black obligated parents
		- Also disproportional representation in caseload
	+ Erin/Kate: surveys may be needed here to get more info across the nation
	+ Jim: IRG a resource, too—add some elements to make even more useful?
* System Modernization & Data Sharing Workgroup – Carla/Robin
	+ Met January 8
	+ Did not have OCSE there, but noted new feasibility study document released
	+ OCSE had planned 3 webinars—have done 2, will still do a third
	+ Working on planning webinars on lessons learned by states that have modernized their systems
		- Interesting to review the different phases—lessons at each phase
		- Plan for February meeting: outline all topics and decide on survey for directors on topic priority, interest in presenting, sharing lessons learned
	+ IV-D distribution-at-a-glance document about ready to publish
		- Intended for IT professionals and others to explain complexities
	+ Collaboration tool – 26 states registered (45 people)
		- Directors should consider doing so if haven’t, can share link
		- All the Tableau reports will be there, all the webinars
* Website Committee – Kate
	+ Have connected with committee members individually, not met as group
	+ Long-term archival aspect should be part of consideration for website
	+ Will develop a website plan, short-term and long-term

Unfinished Business

* Jim and Michele will keep pressure on OCSE to get answers related to the second stimulus payment—both on the question of garnishment and on the question of EIPs showing up commingled with federal tax refunds and the offset implications

New Business

* Kate (OR): We should discuss comments or considerations related to a prospective OCSE Commissioner—what qualities we’re looking for (e.g., IV-D director experience?), who might be considered, etc.
* Karen (NH): Sharon Santilli (RI) announced she’ll retire mid-2021

Next Meeting – Thursday, February 18, 2021, at 2:00 PM Central

*Meeting adjourned at 3:39 PM Central*

Addendum – Vote by Email on Accountant

* Treasurer Liesa Stockdale made a motion via email on January 29 to approve entering into an agreement for a compilation engagement with Haga Kommer, CPAs.
	+ President Jim Fleming seconded
	+ Liesa circulated the Letter of Engagement with the following comments: “My review shows that their services will include an annual ‘compilation engagement’ to compile our cash basis accounting records into a financial statement, but will not provide a judgment on its accuracy, and that they will file our federal tax form. This is the same service we were contracted for with our former firm. We were paying $2500 annually to our former firm. This company is estimating $1900 annually.”
	+ Vote by email was called, and all members of the Executive Committee voted:
		- 13-0-1 abstention
		- Motion carried on February 3, 2021

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Kate Cooper Richardson, NCCSD Secretary*