

## Arkansas Head Start Association

### Board of Directors Meeting

November 20, 2024

#### Minutes

**Roll Call:** Whitley Bryant called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm. The following members were in attendance: Jackie Burton, Sara Wilhite, Shirley Pulliam, Angela Blankenship, Jennifer Thomas, Jana Bays, Whitley Bryant, and James Hollywood. Guests were: Jackie Govan, Deana Howell, Virginia Gianelloni, Teona Ford, and Susan Templeton.

**Consideration of Agenda:** Whitley Bryant asked for consideration of the agenda. There were no changes.

Approval of Minutes: Whitley Bryant asked for a motion to approve the minutes. **Jackie Burton made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Jana Bays seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried.**

#### Old Business

**Dollar per Child:** Deana Howell reported that \$250 has been collected so far for 2025

**Membership Dues Report:** Deana Howell reported that since the report had been published UAMS had paid their dues so that the amount due should be subtracted by \$2320 leaving a balance due of \$1690. Mid Delta and UAPB are on a January-December cycle.

**Treasurer's Report:** Shirley Pulliam gave the Treasurer's Report. The Arkansas Head Start Association Balance as of October 31, 2024 is \$63,195.54. **Jackie Burton made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Angela Blankenship seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried.**

**Arkansas Head Start Association's Strategic Plan:** Jackie Burton shared that the Planning Committee was working to add new committee members due to the changes in staffing. James Hollywood volunteered to serve on Goals 5 and 8.

**Arkansas Head Start Association Bylaws:** Shirley Pulliam shared that she is waiting on the edits made by Denise Middlebrook.

**Arkansas Head Start Association Board Vacancies:** Jackie Govan shared that there were several officer vacancies on the Arkansas Head Start Association Board due to staffing changes from programs.

President Elect-James Hollywood volunteered to serve

Secretary-Susan Templeton volunteered to serve

Treasurer-Shirley Pulliam volunteered to serve

**Class Reports:** Whitley Bryant provided an overview. All the Classes met together. The Guest Speakers talked about behavioral intervention options. We will offer them a speaker position at the

institute. Other topics discussed were potential fundraising and the future of the Collaboration Office. Due to the LEARNS Act the Collaboration Office will move to the Office of Early Childhood which will leave the association in a bind because will lose funding. The association is looking at the option of sharing office space or working from home. Another effort will be to raise membership dues. The committee talked about focusing on development strategies looking forward.

## **Committee Reports**

**Arkansas Early Childhood Commission/State Advisory Council**-Jackie Govan shared that the commission met in October. She submitted a written report.

**Arkansas Head Start-State Collaboration Office**-Jackie Govan shared that we are not having much participation from Head Start at sponsored events. The Dads Reading on the Carpet will be cancelled due to low participation. There has been a decline in participation in the Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership Meetings. She shared that Local Leads have been assigned in all 75 counties. The School Readiness Summit in November included a triad with Head Start, Local Leads, and Arkansas Imagination Library. Jackie shared a copy of the Collaboration Grant with Classes. She shared information that training on the Final Rule of the Head Start Performance Standards would be forthcoming. She also reported that there has been a significant decline in funded enrollment. She shared a flyer about the Family Service Credential Training. Jackie announced that the Child Development Early Learning Standards are being revised.

**Region VI Head Start Association**-Jackie Govan shared that the Region VI Board met in October and replaced officers. There was a moment of silence for Albert Black. The board is working on new policies and procedures that align with the bylaws.

**National Head Start Association**-Jackie Govan was unable to attend the last board meeting so had no new information to report.

## **New Business**

### **Approval Items:**

**Arkansas Early Childhood Commission Representative: *Jana Bays made motion to recommend Shirley Pulliam to serve as the Head Start Representative on the Arkansas Early Childhood Commission. James Hollywood seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried.***

**Arkansas Head Start Association/Head Start State Collaboration Office Institute:** The following recommendations came from the Institute Committee:

- Theme:
  - “Leading Change, Strengthening Unity & Honoring Individuality”
- Format:
  - June 24-25, 2025
  - September 25-26, 2025-Director’s Retreat
  - November Mini Institute
- Registration Fees:
  - *\$180 Early Bird Registration*

- \$280 Pre-Registration
- \$140 One Day Registration

***Shirley Pulliam made a motion to approve the theme, format, and registration fees for the institute. Jackie Burton seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried.***

***Head Start State Collaboration Office Refunding Application: Jackie Burton made a motion to approve the refunding application for the Arkansas Head Start State Collaboration Office. Shirley Pulliam seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried.***

***Membership Dues: Jana Bays made a motion that due to a lack of funds to increase the dues from \$5.00 to \$10.00 per funded slot. Shirley Pulliam seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried.***

***Officer Vacancies: Angela Blankenship made a motion to approve James Hollywood to serve as the President-Elect, Susan Templeton to serve as the Secretary, and Shirley Pulliam to serve as the Treasurer on the Arkansas Head Start Association Board of Directors. Jackie Burton seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried.***

**Announcements:**

Angela Blankenship announced that Rhonda Ahrent is retiring at the end of February.

Jackie Govan shared that \$55 had been collected for Dollar per Child.

Refer to the Class Agenda for Additional Announcements on State, Regional, and National Levels

Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, January 15, 2025, Virtual

***Adjournment: Whitley Bryant called for a motion to adjourn. Jackie Burton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:17 p.m. Jennifer Thomas seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried.***

Submitted by,

Deana Howell, Administrative Services Manager

Arkansas Head Start Association