

**Montana Children's Trust Fund Board Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, February 18, 2021**

**Zoom Meeting**

**Present:** Leslie Caye (Chairman), Scott Wheeler (Vice Chair), Brooke Bartholomew, Patty Butler, Kristina Davis

**Absent:** Tracy Moseman, Joe Raffiani

**Staff present:** Melissa Lavinder (Program Manager), Amy McDonald (Recorder)

**Guest present:** Jamie Palagi

Montana Children's Trust Fund (MT CTF) Board Meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by Chairman Leslie Caye.

No public comment was made.

Scott Wheeler moved to adopt the September 30, 2020 MT CTF Board Meeting minutes. Unanimous Oral Vote. Motion passed. Minutes were approved as presented.

Melissa Lavinder called for MT CTF Board Chair nominations. Scott Wheeler nominated Leslie Caye as Chair. Leslie Caye accepted the nomination. No further nominations were made. An oral vote was taken by rollcall. Motion adopted.

Chairman Leslie Caye called for MT CTF Board Vice-Chair nominations. Brooke Bartholomew nominated Scott Wheeler. Scott Wheeler accepted the nomination. No further nominations were made. An oral vote was taken by rollcall. Motion adopted.

Melissa Lavinder presented the Grantee Renewal Process. Discussion was held regarding the impact of COVID-19 on MT CTF grantees, as well as contract deliverables and accountability. It was decided Melissa Lavinder would move forward with the current Grantee Renewal Process.

Melissa Lavinder presented an update regarding Strengthening Families Month. A well-attended webinar took place on February 17 to create more awareness on how to get involved and network with organizations across the state. Melissa reported that the Montana Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect Conference would be held virtually April 27-29. Nominations for awards are currently open and will be presented during the conference. Scott Wheeler, Brooke Bartholomew, and Kristina Davis volunteered to serve on the committee to select award recipients. The deadline for nominations is March 5, 2021.

Discussion was held on semi-annual grantee data and site visits. It was decided that Melissa would schedule follow-up visits with the grantees to ask targeted questions regarding contract deliverables, expenditure of funds, and corrective plans, if necessary.

Melissa Lavinder presented an update of the current budget and expenditure of funds. Due to pandemic restraints, a budget modification was determined to be necessary. Discussion

centered around how to spend the funds. Scott Wheeler moved to ask Patty Butler and the Early Childhood Services Bureau team to draft a proposal for respite care options, with efficient use of funds and process. Discussion was held regarding the timeline for the proposal and expenditure of the funds. An oral vote was taken. Motion adopted unanimously.

Melissa Lavinder announced the upcoming virtual CBCAP Grantees Meeting, National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect, and the State Team Planning Meeting. Melissa will send registration links when available.

Leslie Caye announced his membership on the National Children's Trust Fund Alliance Board.

The next MT CTF Board Meeting is Tuesday, March 2, 2021 at 11:00 am. Scott Wheeler moved to adjourn. MT CTF Board Meeting adjourned at 11:56 a.m.