

**COLORADO CHILD PROTECTION OMBUDSMAN BOARD**

**PUBLIC MEETING**

**November 20, 2015**

**Record of Proceedings**

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Notice of this meeting was provided pursuant to the  
Colorado Open Meetings Law, § 24-6-402, C.R.S.

**CONVENE**

The meeting of the Child Protection Ombudsman Board was convened in the Ralph L. Carr Judicial Center, 1300 Broadway, Conference Room 1F, Denver, Colorado 80202 at 1:03 PM by Chairman Ken Plotz.

A quorum of the Board was present.

**Present at the Meeting**

**Board Members**

Chairman Ken Plotz

Pax Moultrie

Victoria Black

Joe Carrica\*

Jose Mondragon\*

Charles Greenacre\*

Vice-Chair Ginny Riley

Peg Rudden

Sarie Ates-Patterson

Simone Jones\*^

*\* Participated by Telephone*

*^ Ms. Jones was not present during the beginning of the meeting, but joined during Executive Session*

**Others Present**

Terry Scanlon, SCAO

Sueanna Johnson, Asst. Atty. General

One member of the public, Kara Martin

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Vice-Chair Riley made a motion to approve the minutes of November 10, 2015. Ms. Black seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **AGENDA ITEMS**

### **Executive Session to discuss finalists**

At 1:09 PM, at the request of Chairman Plotz, Ms. Black made a motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the five finalists for the Child Protection Ombudsman position. Ms. Rudden seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Executive Session was held to maintain the confidentiality of the executive personnel actions conducted by the Board pursuant to § 19.3.3-102(4), C.R.S.**

**The Executive Session was recorded in compliance with § 24-6-402(2)(d.5)(I)(A), C.R.S.**

### **Return to Open Meeting**

At 3:48 PM, Chairman Plotz returned the meeting to open session.

### **Selection of finalist**

Chairman Plotz said the Board has identified two candidates, identified as Candidate A and Candidate B. The Chairman indicated that the candidates would not be identified by name until the appointment is final, subject to acceptance of the appointment by the candidate and successful clearance of a background check. It was noted this was also done so that the candidates not selected could be informed before the Board decision was made public.

Chairman Plotz requested a motion for the Board vote on the two candidates to determine who will be appointed as the Child Protection Ombudsman, subject to successful clearance of a criminal background and TRAILS check.

Vice-Chair Riley made a motion to vote on the candidates. Ms. Black seconded the motion.

- Mr. Mondragon, Mr. Greenacre, Ms. Jones, Ms. Patterson, Ms. Black, Ms. Moultrie, Ms. Rudden, and Chairman Plotz voted for Candidate A.
- Mr. Caricca and Vice-Chair Riley voted for Candidate B.

Candidate A was appointed as the Child Protection Ombudsman, subject to successful clearance of a background check, based on a 2/3 majority vote of the Board, as required by statute.

Chairman Plotz indicated that the Board will ask SCAO to conduct a background check on Candidate A.

The Board discussed expressing gratitude to the candidates at the appropriate time.

The Board agreed to delegate authority to Chairman Plotz to approve and issue a press release about the announcement of the Child Protection Ombudsman.

The Board would be notified of the outcome of the background checks for Candidate A, and advised whether the meeting scheduled for November 25, 2015 at 8:00 AM would be cancelled, if an alternative candidate did not need to be appointed.

### **Public Comment discussion**

Chairman Plotz solicited discussion on adopting a policy with respect to receiving public comment at Board meetings. There was general discussion about whether to ask people to identify themselves at the meeting, whether to allow public comments during the meetings, whether to have sign-up sheets, whether to limit the time for comments. The discussion included comments and feedback from the Board as follows:

- Ms. Patterson said she would like to have the board develop a structured format for public comment. She said it's important to acknowledge public input.
- Vice-Chair Riley said she has had experience with the receipt of public comment while serving on two other boards. She said it is important for the Board to be open and available.
- Ms. Black said she feels the Board has been inconsiderate to members of the public by not allowing them an opportunity to speak.
- Vice-Chair Riley said it would be helpful for the agenda to indicate if the Board might go into Executive Session.
- Ms. Patterson said the Board could set a limit of 10 people.
- Vice-Chair Riley said the county limits public comment to 30minutes total.
- Vice Chair Riley said there are ways to manage to comments that are substantively similar on the same topic

- Chairman Plotz said he has some concern about asking everyone to identify themselves.
- Ms. Johnson said a sign-up sheet could be made available, and those who indicated a desire to be identified and speak could then do so

Vice Chair Riley made a motion to establish a public comment policy as follows: to have at each meeting a sign-up sheet, which included the name, organization and topic of each person, that each presentation be limited to three minutes, that the policy prohibited people from yielding time to others, and that the Board would allow no more than 30 minutes in total for public comment at each public meeting.

Ms. Black seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

### **Regular meeting schedule**

The Board discussed identifying a regular date and time to meet. The Board discussed the potential workload of the Board. There was discussion of whether to meet in December.

The Board agreed to meet regularly on the second Thursday of the month at 9 AM with meetings to be held at the Ralph L. Carr Judicial Building, unless otherwise noted.

The Board agreed that the next meeting will be December 10, 2015.

### **Agenda for next meeting**

At the next meeting on December 10, 2015, the Board discussed the agenda.

The Board agreed to discuss the following topics at the December meeting:

- Discussion of policy priorities or thoughts as the Office begins work on January 1st
- Budget
- Out of town Board meeting that the Board is required to hold by statute
- Rule-making procedures
- Possible adoption of temporary personnel rules
- Appreciation of the current Child Protection Ombudsman and his staff
- Meet and greet with the newly appointed Child Protection Ombudsman

Mr. Greenacre said the Board should consider adopting rules for the governance of the Board.

**ADJOURN**

Ms. Patterson moved to adjourn. Vice-Chair Riley seconded the motion.

The Board unanimously approved the motion. The Board formally adjourned the meeting at 4:53 PM.

**ATTESTATION**

As Board Chair and Board Vice-Chair, I attest that these minutes of the open public meeting held on November 20, 2015 of the Colorado Child Protection Ombudsman Board substantially reflect the substance of the discussion and action taken related to the matters under the authority of the Board and in compliance with the Open Meetings Law, § 24-6-402, C.R.S.

  
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Board Chair

12/10/15  
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Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Board Vice-Chair

12/10/15  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date