

Supreme Court
Board of Confidential Intermediary
Arizona State Courts Building
1501 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85007
Conference Room 109
10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.
February 18, 2010

Approved Regular Meeting Minutes

MEMBER ATTENDANCE

Present:

Teri Thomson-Taylor
Victoria I. Mikoch
Karen Daly
Toni Hellon
Stephen Kopp
Judith Schubert
Richard Tomkins

Telephonically Present:

Alice Ernst
Dr. James W. Foltz

Absent:

Sheila M. Tickle
Debra Griffin
Alice Ernst

OTHER ATTENDEES

AOC Staff:

Linda Grau
Debbie MacDougall
Alex Navarro
Nina Preston
Doris Leonard

Guests:

Diane Stubbs
Anne Jensen
Scott Hellon

CALL TO ORDER

Called to Order By: Teri Thomson-Taylor, Chair

Time: 10:02 a.m.

1) INTRODUCTIONS Linda Grau

1-A: Update regarding appointment of Board Chair

ACJA § 7-201(D)(5)(b) reads, in pertinent part, “The Chief Justice shall appoint the chair of a Board who shall serve as chair no longer than 3 years, unless otherwise specified in the applicable ACJA section.” Board member Sheila Tickle served as the appointed Chair from January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2009. On January 20, 2010, Chief Justice Rebecca White Berch appointed Board member Teri Thomson-Taylor to serve as Chair through December 31, 2010.

3-C: Nomination and election of 2010 Vice Chair (taken out of order)

Discussion: The Board shall elect a vice chair from among its appointed members. The vice chair shall serve in the capacity as vice chair for a specified term. If the vice chair resigns or ceases to be a member of the Board, the Board shall vote to elect a new vice chair from the existing members. The vice chair shall act as chair in the absence of the chair.

Staff recommended the Board nominate and elect a Vice Chair from its current membership to serve a term commencing immediately through December 31, 2010.

It was unanimously decided to recommend Victoria Mikoch as Vice Chair effective February 18, 2010 and ending December 31, 2010.

Motion: Elect Victoria Mikoch as Vice Chair for the term of February 18, 2010 through December 31, 2010

Motion Proposals: First Judith Schubert
Second Stephen Kopp

Motion Results: Pass **CI-10-01**

1-B: Update regarding reappointed Board members and introductions of newly appointed Board members

Karen Daly, newly-appointed Adoption Agency Representative member, and Richard Tomkins, who prefers to be addressed as Dick, newly-appointed Chief Justice Designee member, introduced themselves and gave the Board an overview of their background and desire to serve.

1-C: Introduction of Programs Specialist Debbie MacDougall

Linda Grau introduced Debbie, who gave the Board an overview of her professional background.

2) REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2-A: Review, discussion and approval of Regular Session Minutes for the meeting of October 15, 2009.

Individual Addressing the Board: Victoria Mikoch

Discussion: None

Motion: Approve regular minutes for the meeting of October 15, 2009

Motion Proposals: First Stephen Kopp
Second Dr. Foltz

Motion Results: Pass **CI-10-02**

3) ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

3-A: Update regarding 2010 Legislative Session

Individuals Addressing the Board: Linda Grau

Discussion: Division staff regularly and routinely monitor newly-introduced legislation in an attempt to identify any pending bills impacting the CI or SIX programs. The Board was given the proposed version of House Bills 2148 and 2419, both of which were scheduled to be heard by the House Health and Human Services Committee on February 3, 2010, for their consideration.

Summary HB2148: State and adoption agencies must give “primary consideration” to placement with a married couple and may consider placement with a single person only if a married

couple is not available. Some exceptions noted.

Summary HB2149: A child placed in out-of-home care, guardianship, or adoptive placement has the right to be placed with siblings, and the Department of Economic Security is required to make reasonable efforts to do so. If placement with siblings is not possible, the child has a right to maintain frequent visitation with siblings, with exceptions. Discussion but no formal action taken by the Board on this House Bill 2149.

At this meeting, the Board reviewed and considered HB2148 (Adoptions) and acknowledged the legislation doesn't have a direct impact on the CI Program. After much discussion, the Board moved to oppose HB 2148. Specifically, the Board opposes the preferential language in the Bill which offers "primary consideration" in adoption placements to married couples.

Motion: Board objects to the present language and is to forward comments to the Legislature stating their opposition to the present language favoring married couples over single persons.

Motion Proposals: First Dr. Foltz
Second Judith Schubert

Motion Results: Pass CI-10-03

3-B: Discussion regarding administrative processing of Finalization Reports and possible future resource applications for certified Confidential Intermediaries

Individuals Addressing the Board: Linda Grau

Discussion: This item of discussion was well received by the Board.
No further action needed or taken on the part of the Board.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC.....Terri Thomson-Taylor, Chair

Individuals Addressing the Board: None

ADJOURNMENT.....Terri Thomson-Taylor, Chair

Motion: Meeting is adjourned

Motion Proposals: First Stephen Kopp
Second Dick Tomkins

Motion Results: Pass **CI-10-04**

Time: **11:00 a.m.**