

Board of Commissioners  
Meeting Notes  
Wednesday, November 9, 2022  
12:00-1:30 PM  
Indiana Government Center South  
Conference Room 7  
302 W. Washington St, Indianapolis

- I. **Call to order** The meeting was called to order by chair Dr. Lindsay Weaver at 12:04 PM EST.
- II. **Establishment of Quorum and Roll call:** Commissioner Christine Altman **[virtual/present]**, Commissioner Caryl Auslander **[not present]**, Commissioner Sen. Vaneta Becker **[not present]** Commissioner Cyndi Carrasco **[not present]**, Commissioner Kori Chambers **[in-person/present]**, Commissioner Molly Chavers **[in-person/present]**, Commissioner Kayevonne Parham **[in-person/present]**, Commissioner Sharon Jackson **[in-person/present]**, Commissioner Ambre Marr **[in-person/present]**, Commissioner Rep. Peggy Mayfield **[not present]**, Commissioner Stephanie Moore **[not present]**, Commissioner Rep. Tonya Pfaff **[not present]**, Commissioner, Sen. Shelli Yoder **[not present]**, Chair Dr. Lindsay Weaver **[in-person/present]**. **Quorum was not established at 12:07 PM EST.**

**Staff:** Jordan Teske-Harrison, Director of the Indiana Commission for Women

**Guests:** Stephanie Slone (Deputy Director of Internal and External Affairs for the Indiana Civil Rights Commission), Katherine Merrell (Administrative Assistant to Stephanie Slone, Deputy Director of Internal and External Affairs for the Indiana Civil Rights Commission), Christine Daniel (Executive Director of Transitional Healthcare Services for the Indiana Department of Correction), Maranda Williams (Director of Transitional Healthcare and Contract Compliance for the Indiana Department of Correction), Madeleine Wynkoop (Transitional Healthcare Manager for the Indiana Department of Correction), Leah Hession (Maternal-Child Healthcare Coordinator for the Officer Breann Leath Memorial for the Indiana Department of Correction), Holly Davis (Vice-President of External Relations for the Indiana Philanthropy Alliance), Trinity Edinburgh (Maternal Health Administer for the Indiana Department of Health's Maternal and Child Health Division), Cat Meyer (Maternal Mental Health and Substance Use Coordinator for the Indiana Department of Health's Maternal and Child Health Division), Jessica Ervine, Julie Ashmore (President of Ashmore Consulting), Nicky Harrison (Government Relations and Public Policy Manager for United Way of Central Indiana).

- III. **Approval of minutes from last meeting:** Commissioner Sharon Jackson motioned to approve the meeting minutes from September 14, 2022. Motion seconded by Commissioner Ambre Marr. The motion carried unanimously.

a) September 14, 2022

**IV. Review and Approval of Financial Report: Commissioner Sharon Jackson to approve the review and approval of the financial report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Kori Chambers. The motion carried unanimously.**


- a) **Preliminary Budget 2023-2027:** The Indiana State Personnel Department (INSPD) initiated a comprehensive compensation study a year ago that evaluated the State’s civil service job classifications and benchmarked many of them to comparable positions with other public and private employers. Additionally, each state employee will receive at least a 5% pay increase representing a general salary adjustment for the cost-of-living increases experienced in 2022. With these positive updates representing the state’s commitment to continuing the NextLevel State work initiatives, this phase of the compensation plan impacts ICW’S budget. The executive summary was presented with an updated September budget to report the revised “planned” expenses to account for the compensation study and increase in IOT charges. October numbers will become available after November 10<sup>th</sup> and will be shared with the commission once received. Further discussions were raised on creating a proposal to increase the budget to increase the commission’s support to programs and services and to the local women’s commissions within the state. On September 14, 2022 the commission voted and approved the 2023 preliminary budget, however, this will need to be adjusted once October’s numbers are received.

**Establishment of Quorum and Roll call:** Commissioner Rep. Tonya Pfaff [in-person/present]. **Quorum was established at 12:15pm.**

**V. Director’s Report: Commissioner Kori Chambers to approve Director’s report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Kayevonne Parham. The motion carried unanimously.**

- a) **Introduction:** Stephanie Slone, Deputy Director of Internal and External Affairs for the Indiana Civil Rights Commission was introduced as the new immediate supervisor and point of contact for emergency purposes for the Indiana Commission for Women
- b) **2023 Public Meeting Calendar for the Indiana Commission for Women**
- **2022 Adopted Electronic Participation Policy:** Calendar invitations for the 2023 Public and Subcommittee Meeting dates were shared, as well as a reminder to all commission members that per the Indiana Commission for Women’s 2022 adopted Electronic Participation Policy, each member of the governing body is required to physically attend at least (1) meeting of the governing body annually per calendar year beginning January 1 to December 31.
- c) **Youth Symposium with ProAct Indy**
- **March 14, 2023 from 12:00-2:00pm at the Indiana Statehouse (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor North Atrium):** The Indiana Commission for Women (ICW) will host ProAct Indy’s first Power Up! Youth Symposium. Each year ProAct Indy partners with schools around Indianapolis to plan their Legacy Projects to empower youth to strategically plan service projects around a social issue that impacts their communities. Students involved in the Legacy Projects will present their service projects at the Indiana Statehouse (2nd floor Atrium) on Tuesday, March 14, 2023 from 12:00-2:00pm.

**VI. Chairman’s Report: Commissioner Molly Chavers to approve the Chairman’s report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Ambre Marr. The motion carried unanimously.**



Dr. Weaver provided insights on the Governor's Public Health Commission that was established in August 2021 and charged with examining the strengths and weaknesses of Indiana's public health system and making recommendations for improvements. During general assembly \$250 million will be proposed to receive annually since local health departments receive only \$6.9 million annually. Which leads to huge disparities for the counties who have small populations and therefore can not elevate their tax revenue to apply public health concerns. Especially since there is already a large list of mandated concerns that help departments are supposed to be serving such as vector controls, mosquito borne illness, outbreaks, and immunizations for children, especially the uninsured or underinsured, etc.

Due to a lack of funding and resources, only 50% of the mandated services can be provided, sometimes its as low as 30%. There are even counties that do not possess full-time public health nurses due to the lack of funding. On the other hand, there are some counties that are well funded and can provide resources and services to engage in infant and maternal mortality, substance prevention mechanisms, and work alongside local schools to provide hearing and oral health screenings. The goal for the Governor's Public Health Commission is to ensure all local health departments are able to provide the resources and services need with the ask of the additional funding proposal. Currently, the commission is meeting with local health departments, administrators, health officers, and environmental specialists. There are four health service committees that involve the local health departments to investigate the amount of funding needed to perform their mandated duties.

The proposal additionally includes an option for local health departments to opt in to say they would want an increase in funding, and in order to receive the funds, they would agree to providing the local health department core services which would also expand from the already mandated services to other spaces. Furthermore, there is also an expectation that the local county will give a 20% income of effort. The local county as well can opt in and out, and they will continue to receive funding from the state, but they would have the opportunity to increase funding versus the amount that they currently stand at. On the state level, with the increase of funding, services would aid the significant drop of EMS providers. Indiana has lost 30% of the EMS providers which delays the transfer of critically ill patients from the rural communities to the higher-level hospitals which has increased mortality rates. The American College of Surgeons will be providing recommendations to help inform the legislators to increase service in this space. Not only is this a huge competent for women and children, but for all livelihoods.

## VII. Committee Reports

### a) Infant and Maternal Mortality

- **Doula Pilot Program Updates & WISHTV coverage:** Christine Daniel, Executive Director of Transitional Health and Maranda Williams, Director of Transitional Healthcare and Contract Compliance for the Indiana Department of Correction presented updates and information regarding the Leath Unit and the upcoming Doula Program sponsored by the commission.
- **IDOH Office of Women's Health: Listening Sessions:** revisit budgets due to NextLevel State work initiatives.
- **IDOH Maternal and Child Health Division: Infant & Maternal Mortality Seminar:** revisit budgets due to NextLevel State work initiatives.

### b) Financial Independence and Literacy:



- **Elements Financial: managing the financial aspects of childcare:** Discussions on partnering with Elements Financial to launch a workshop centered around managing the financial aspects of childcare for use in 2024, and possibly, have it ready for use in 2nd half of 2023.
- **Meeting with the Michigan Women’s Commission Tri-Share team:** meeting scheduled with the Michigan Women’s Commission to discuss their Tri-Share Child Care program that is an innovative approach to increasing access to high quality, affordable childcare for working families, with the cost of childcare shared by an employer, the employee and the State of Michigan.

c) Women in Public Service

- **Expanding local women commissions in Indiana:** The Monroe County Women’s Commission and the Michigan Women’s Commission are interested in collaborating to spring up more women’s commissions in Indiana. Currently, there are only (5) which includes ICW.

**VIII. New business**

- a) **Debrief of the 2022 Torchbearer Awards:** debrief discussions were held regarding the 2022 Torchbearer Awards and future plans for the 2023 ceremony.

**IX. Commissioner’s Comments:** Commissioner Kayevonne Parham presented a comment regarding the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Violence Against Women Act (“VAWA”). The Violence Against Women Act (“VAWA”) protects applicants, tenants, and program participants in certain HUD programs from being evicted, denied housing assistance, or terminated from housing assistance based on acts of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking against them. Despite the name of this law, VAWA protection is available to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, regardless of sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

**X. Public Comments:** Jessica Ervine presented a comment to follow-up about Violence Against Women Act (“VAWA”).

**XI. Adjournment:** The meeting was called to adjourned by Chair Dr. Lindsay Weaver at 1:36 PM EST.

**Next Meeting:** January 11, 2023

**Subsequent Meeting:** March 8, 2023