



## MINUTES

### Governor's Child Foster Care Advisory Commission

**Date of Meeting:** January 28, 2019

**Time of Meeting:** 9:00-1:30

**Location:** Oregon State Library, 250 Winter Street NE, Salem, Room 103  
1-877-402-9757, Access Code 5365966

#### Members:

Member	Present
Timothy Colahan	Yes
Valerie Colas, Chair	Yes
Caroline Cruz	Yes
Robin Donart	Excused
Elliott Hinkle, Vice Chair	Yes
Alan Linhares	Phone
Charlie McNeely	Excused
Emily Reiman	Yes
Kari Rieck	Phone
Jessica Riutzel-Schmidt	Yes
Bill Wagner	Phone

#### Staff:

Rosa Klein, Kali Scolnick, Katherine Bartlett

#### Foster Care Parent Guests:

Mandy Straus, Cheri Curry, Heather Dowell, Jessica Lloyd-Rogers (OFPA), Sunny Petit (FHOH), Marissa Johnson (FHOH)

**Meeting Objectives:**

- **Vote on action items**
- **Recommendations regarding foster parent recruitment, retention, and training**

Time	Task
	<p><b>Welcome</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opening remarks by Chairs</li> <li>• Overview of agenda</li> </ul>
<p><b>ACTION</b></p>	<p><b>Survey Participation – Pathways RTC and Youth MOVE National – <u>Attachment A</u></b>  <i>Action:</i> Commission will participate in the survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Move: Hinkle</li> <li>• 2nd: _____</li> <li>• Abstain: Wagner</li> <li>• All aye</li> </ul> <p>Elliott Hinkle will be point person with Portland State University on the survey, and will provide the information to the Commission. The survey is to assess youth and young adult voices on committees and councils.</p>
<p><b>ACTION</b></p>	<p><b>November 2018 Minutes</b>  <i>Action:</i> Review and approve minutes (with corrections)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Move: Colahan</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup>: Riutzel-Schmidt</li> <li>• Abstain: Reiman, Hinkle</li> <li>• All aye</li> </ul>
	<p><b>2019 Legislative Session and Governor’s Budget and Child Welfare policy priorities – <u>Attachment B</u></b></p> <p>Rosa Klein presented on Governor's Recommended Budget and answered questions regarding investments the Governor has recommended. See <u>Attachment B</u>.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 5px;"> <p>Q: Is there any kind of breakdown about which of these dollars are new as opposed to continuing?</p> </div> <p>These are all new investments, and most are in the base budget for DHS. There is one pilot, the Parent/Child Contact. We put in 5.5 million for parent child contact – looking at visitation models that are different than what is currently available.</p>

	<p>C: There is a role for the Commission to play in supporting the Governor's Recommended</p> <p>A: We do have our own legislative concept that is in that we also need to talk about promoting and being a part of.</p> <p>Chair Hinkle: Our legislative concept is now HB 2332. We are looking for approval from the Commission to meet with Rep. Stark and Sen. Gelser to discuss what the Commission wanted to have included in the bill because the current bill does not include any of the language that we want. There is still some clarification that needs to happen.</p> <p>Chair Colas: Along with needing the Commissioners approval to make the required amendments based on what we had presented at the November meeting, and that the Commission voted on. One thing we did not discuss in November was amending HB 4080's language for the Judicial Branch to be able to participate in the Commission. Currently, the language is that they are allowed to participate. However, the problem is that there is a separation of power issue with the way it is written because they have to be confirmed by the Senate. Would like to know whether the Commission would allow an amendment that is similar to 2015 SB 222, so it would be the Chief Justice that decides who would serve from the Judicial Branch. Everyone else goes through the process of being confirmed by the Senate.</p>
<p><b>ACTION</b></p>	<p><i>Action:</i> Motion for Chair Colas and Hinkle to go back to Rep. Stark and Sen. Gelser to present them the legislative concept so that it can be incorporated into our current bill.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Move: Reiman</li> <li>• 2nd: Cruz</li> <li>• All aye</li> </ul>
<p><b>ACTION</b></p>	<p><i>Action:</i> Motion to make an adjustment so that the Judicial Branch can participate and remove that they need to be confirmed by the Senate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Move: Wagner</li> <li>• 2nd: Riutzel-Schmidt</li> <li>• All aye</li> </ul> <p>We will be sending out further updates and will send out the current bill for the Commission to review.</p> <p><b>Foster Homes of Healing</b> Marissa Johnson, <a href="http://fosterhomesofhealing.org/">http://fosterhomesofhealing.org/</a></p> <p>Presented on the Foster Homes of Healing, which was included in the Governor's Recommended Budget. Also provided other updates on Family First and the matching funds.</p> <p><b>Context for How Commissions Advocate During the Legislature</b></p> <p><i>Rosa Klein:</i>  What we like and expect is that Commissions that are advisory to the Governor would support the Governor's recommended budget and support bills that the Governor is supporting. What we would hope for is that the Commission would have a structure by</p>

which you would vote on any legislative agenda that you have, and go through the process of voting to approve like you just did for your bill. A lot of boards have a legislative committee or person who is nominated to be their spokesperson or liaison to the legislature. It is helpful and avoids ambiguity around who is empowered to speak for the Commission if you actually go through the process of voting on. This is our legislative agenda, this is what we want to support, this is what we want to advocate against, and here is who is allowed to speak in favor or against legislation. Hopefully it will be coordinated through the Governor's office so that you are not advocating on behalf of things that the Governor's office is against or visa-versa. I have seen that happen where certain commissioners are in multiple advocacy groups, and it is unclear who they speaking for when they are meeting with legislators, it creates tension within the group when that happens. It is a best practice to make sure that you take votes, and record it in the minutes who is advocating for the Commission and what their scope is that you have all agreed to.

TABLED by Chair Colas

**Updates/discussion with DHS regarding its efforts to address recruitment, retention, and training of foster parents**

- Greg Westbrook presented on DHS's efforts to retain and recruit foster care parents. DHS is making various efforts that includes, but is not limited to, looking at reimbursing for respite care, looking at a blended training model (with both in-person and online training), looking at building individual training model for foster parents to get the training they need for a specific child, develop co-trainers who are foster parents.
- Brooke Gray and Ben Sand presented to Every Child Oregon and their outreach efforts to recruit foster parents that relies on going into the community to create relationships with leaders and organizations. Will be submitting their two-year report to DHS soon. There has been an increase in the number of families inquiring into whether to become foster parents (900 families inquired last year). They have a new campaign called "Show Up Oregon" to celebrate the stories around Oregon. They have acquired another nonprofit called Foster Parents Night Out. They are also expanding to seven more counties-- the grant agreement is to expand to all counties by 2021.

**Follow-up Questions**

Q: I know your target is the 36 counties, but are you going to be working with the 9 federally recognized tribes?

A: The tribes have had representation on each of the steering committees that we formed in the local communities. As you know, some of the tribes have their own child welfare systems. We have been trying to find ways to collaborate and be in this together.

Q: You mentioned a grant from DHS. What is the relationship between DHS and Every Child?

A: The work in Portland and all the local efforts that happen are privately funded. The grant agreement for recruitment started in 2015 and we are about 65% funded by DHS through that grant agreement. For the Every Child service center and expansion work through 2021.

Caroline: Have the things that Greg has been talking about been shared with the (??) advisory board? I think it is important to engage the tribes from the beginning.

**Question-led Listening session with foster parents/ foster parent groups**

*Foster Parents:*

- Mandy Straus: Husband John live in Polk Co. Certification is in Marion Co. right now. Have fostered 4 children, adopted 1 of their placements. Has been a foster parent for 5 years.
- Cheri Curry: Partner Shannon foster in Lane Co. for 13.5 years. Foster only hard to place teen girls. Currently have 10, with a possible 11<sup>th</sup>. President of the Foster Parent Association of Lane Co.
- Heather Dowell: Husband Bill foster in Clackamas Co. Have been foster parents for 22 years. Approx. 20 youth. Adopted 2 children out of the foster system. Have been providing therapeutic foster care for the last 6 years.
- Jessica Riutzel-Schmidt: She and wife have been foster parents for 6 years. Started as therapeutic foster parents doing respite care. Only take hard to place teens, unaccompanied minors coming from other countries or LGBTQ identified youth. Have been in Multnomah Co. but are now in Clackamas Co.
- Jessica Lloyd-Rogers: Was a foster youth who aged out. She and husband became therapeutic foster parents for 16 months. Had 203 placements and 149 individuals. Provides foster care in Coos Co.
- Sunny Petit: Provides foster care in Multnomah Co. Been fostering for 1 year. Had a girl who was 3 when she arrived and 4 when she left her care.
- Marissa Johnson: Former foster parent for 6 years CANS level 3 and remained a foster parent because of her challenges and the needs for services for her.
- Brooke Gray: She and husband have been fostering for 4.5 years. Primarily shelter care because they both work full time. Have no children of their own. Passionate about working with biological families.

**1. What one or two things are you excited about and how will that help you in your role as a foster parent?**

- Paid respite care for families. Often, one parent needs to quit their job due to the lack of day care. To have to take the income that is helping the household out of the household to give you and your spouse a break is very difficult. Have a medically fragile teen who is terminally ill. Can't get respite care because nobody wants to take the chance of her passing away while in their care.
- Paid respite care for families. Also need support system for parents when children are returned to their birth family. We like to try to get involved with the birth families and continue that relationship after the kids go back. I wish there could be a way that I could be involved in their training or help them parenting, but not in an invasive way. If it was set up as part of the whole protocol, it might be better received by the parent. Have seen kids go back and then come back into the system quite a bit.
- The grieving process – whatever way to offer support there. When you go through that grief, it can affect you physically.

Kali: Reimbursements, mentorship, and engagement/co-training with former foster parents? Greg: We have to train foster parents to get them certified. Kali: So a paid position?

Greg: A paid co-trainer position, the qualification being that you have to have been or have been a foster parent.

Kali: Is this separate from Just in Time?

Greg: What we are talking about right now is the basic foundation training. Like how do you become a foster parent and what does that look like? The Just in Time is oftentimes a more clinical training where we would want to have a different level. For right now, we are talking about foundations.

Kali: Foundational training, Just in Time training, mentoring . . .

Greg: And building the training cohorts too, where families train together.

Kali: And that is the key program?

Greg: Yes

Q: When you were talking about mentoring, you were talking about support to mentor birth parents, not the foster parents, correct?

Greg: Yes

- Child care is huge. My husband and I work and we have three bio kids. It was hard to give up my job and income when we had a placement that we thought was going to be for a weekend and it ended up being for a year. It is important because it increases the number of families that you are going to get. When you increase the number of families, you are going to have more ability to place culturally competent, socio-economic. You are going to have more beds to choose from.
- For communication, I loved the idea of working with bio families. One of the things that came up was talking about how we can create consistent communication and parenting classes with foster families that we're doing with bio families. I think about 30% of kids in Oregon are not reunified. You are talking about a huge number of kids that are going to benefit from having some consistency. Often, if they are in care for about 18 months, those kids have huge developmental growths during that time in foster care. When they are going back to their families, it helps build that bridge of stability for them.
- Regarding Every Child – the foster parents' night out. I know it is not accessible to everyone right now but hopefully that will grow. I go online and only see how they are looking for volunteers. They are not telling me how to participate. At some point, that would be ideal for all foster parent agencies to know of it and present to the foster parents as a service they can receive.

Kali: I understood from the DHS presentation that you all are going to work on building an comprehensive website where those resources will be available?

Greg: Yes.

- I like the idea of grandparent mentoring.
- Access to counselling services, especially for kids. My foster daughter needed it so badly when she first came from a pretty traumatic situation. We were put into evidence-based therapy but it wasn't actually helpful for her. Because it was evidence-based, it was the only one for her age range. That was problematic. I really thought that she needed to be in something that was more helpful but it was my understanding that the state wouldn't pay for something that wasn't evidence based. She has been on a wait list for 8 months.

**2. What concerns do you have about what you heard and why?**

- I am very concerned about our over-medicated children.

Greg: The research has shown that trauma-impacted youth are often misdiagnosed. The over medication is absolutely a concern. We have a well-being unit which is a team of nurses to help with the medical care and assessment of youth, which would include any sort of medication. Will circle back to staff in office (Heidi) to see what we are doing to take a look at that. It is a shared concern throughout the system. Not only with DHS, but OHA is also concerned about it.

- I have heard some conversation about it legislatively, and I am not calling to mind the specific bill or committee, but I have a couple of ideas so let me check too to see if there is something coming forward in the coming legislative session.
- There is a law that was passed after California passed a law because children in foster care tend to be given more medication at higher rates in general than the regular youth population. Part of it is that it is easy to do and it keeps them compliant. I believe the law was passed in the early 90s – 95 or 96 in Oregon that followed the California law. The other piece of that law is that by law, they are supposed to have their medications, especially if they have those higher levels – they are supposed to have their meds checked by a doctor and evaluated every 30 days. If you have someone who thinks it is OK to give a lot of meds, and they look at it every 30 days and go 'yep, still OK'.

Greg: How would you like me to circle back?

Chair Colas: I think the Commission would still like to be in the loop on this, and build it out into other meetings and address this specific issue. We are going to have a Commission meeting addressing the youth and children in foster care. If you can get back with Heidi, and set up a meeting for us to have that to be the focus, we could invite you all back to share more about what you are able to find. Please make sure we have your email addresses so we can do the follow-up that way too.

Kali: The question was what concerns do you have, but we kind of jumped to what is missing, but I want to go back to what concerned you about what you heard this morning.

- I see a huge shift at the Central office level – 180 degrees of progress and collaboration. I get reports all the time about that not trickling down to the district offices. Somehow to make that bridge from the good stuff happening here, to more good stuff happening there.

Greg: Marilyn (Jones) has created the executive team and the primary focus is on leadership. She brought in the Casey Foundation to start it off. Now we are building on that. The alternate goal is to develop that singular identity of who we are and the means of how we go about our business. Marilyn and Fariborz have been with us for about a year, so bringing about a culture change, which is what we are talking about, when it is all said and done, takes time. When you have 16 districts spread out throughout the state, being able to reach out and touch those is a challenge. It is an intentional effort that is being made. We have regular program manager meetings. My certification as foster care coordinator have tri-annual meetings where they bring all the foster care certifiers and supervisors together to get that. The challenge for me is just the opposite. As I sit in Salem, what you have going on in your county is extraordinary. I am trying to figure out how to build that loop so that can come back to me, then I can work with others to spread that out. When we talk about communication, that's not just from Salem out, it is really important to me for it to come back up to us so we can share that. I went to an extraordinary event in Coos Co. where they have their (inaudible). I was just floored with what was being done for our foster families. That is where change happens when it is all said and done. We can create the policy, practice, procedure, but at the local level is where change happens. Marilyn is working on that specific issue.

Kali: Do you know if there is a communication plan in place about how this is being rolled out to the different counties?

Greg: I know we now have a communications officer dedicated to Child Welfare, which is new.

- This is the first (communications officer) who has reached out to me (OFPA).

Kali: Having that outlined so that we know where the communication flow is, is helpful in understanding where bottlenecks happen.

Greg: That is a huge challenge getting communications out to all of our foster parents and all of our workers. We are siloed. We have our permanency workers, our adoption worker, our child safety workers, our certifiers. Then we have them located from all over the state. It is a huge challenge.

- The topic of retention was brought up so I don't know if you want to hear my 3 reasons I think that we might be losing families? My husband and I a year ago were done and we weren't going to do it anymore. And now we are back in. The top of the list of why we were done was from allegations that were unfounded and they are permanently on our record now forever. I don't understand that. That doesn't seem fair and it doesn't make sense. Every time we go to work with a new agency, we go through a lot higher scrutiny. We have to bring up all the allegations and talk all about them. The whole experience was traumatizing in itself, having people come to your house and record you with tape recorders. . . I know they have to do what they have to do but that was really hard.

Greg: We have a work group that is our permanency workers and our certifiers and child safety to talk about that specific issue.

- Do you have foster parents on that group?

Greg: We will. Just getting the 3 separate programs in the room to get that discussion started. We are hearing from our offices that our certifiers don't know what role, if any, they can play. Ideally, if we have to go out on an allegation, that certifier should be right there with the safety worker. Absolutely a huge issue and we are trying to figure out how to navigate that.

Kali: (to Greg) It sounds to me like this is an area that you are putting focus on because there are some real policy and practice issues that need to be dealt with. Where are you in that process? How will the foster parents know what that is going to look like?

Greg: We are just convening the group now. Legislatively it has made it very, very challenging. We are extremely aware. We are extremely frustrated. It also puts workers in an extraordinarily difficult position. We are just getting started, but like Marilyn said, internally, we are breaking down all the silos. There were times where my program would never talk with child safety. I am not sure why that is. It seems nonsensical, but we are having those conversations because we are hearing from you all.

Kali: What is the timeline on convening this group?

Greg: It is starting this week I believe.

- Is the foster care ombudsman involved in that conversation?

Greg: I don't know that Darin (Mancuso) is specifically involved, but I will reach out to him and see what role he would like to play in that.

- I think that is a gap. We don't have a state-wide foster parent ombudsman.
- I know that PSU has been a big partner in developing and designing training of all different sorts. My concern about that is that those trainings have been inconsistent in the evidentiary standards and the data collection have not been met at the level that we would hope. Now, the feds are requiring evidentiary standards that have a certain parameter.

The programs at Portland State University (PSU) do not meet those benchmarks, nor is there any plan to bring them up to that level of research and scrutiny. The folks who administer that department at PSU were not aware of those evidentiary standards. If PSU is going to continue being a partner in developing and designing any training, they need to come up to a standard with evidence.

Greg: We do now have a foster parent training coordinator who works directly for me. The whole PSU relationship, contract, curriculum, all of that is under review right now.

- One thing I really liked that you said was the training being individualized to the reality of the kids that are in the home. I have sat through many trainings that were not relevant to my situation and the children that we have.
- I would add, to get it down to the branches too, that there has been, at least in our area, foster parents have been told they can't be advocates, we're not advocates, and that we are advocating too much.

Greg: That is in the foster parent bill of rights. It is my expectation, Marilyn's and the rest of us, that you are the child experts. You are with the child 24/7. We need to hear your voice.

- We shouldn't be reprimanded or slapped on the hands.

Greg: Duly noted. That is part of the culture shift that we are working on.

Kali: I want to make sure we have a few minutes to turn this conversation over to the Commissioners to ask any questions or to respond to those questions. So, foster parents, if there is anything else that you want to add, let's take a moment to do that and then I am going to turn it over to the Commissioners for response.

- This is the first time in 14 years of fostering that I have seen foster parents and DHS coming together and not fighting against each other. This is uplifting and amazing. Together as a community we are doing a wonderful job in bridging the gap between everybody.

### **3. What one or two things are missing or not being addressed?**

- I reached out to over 100 foster parents and there were 6-8 of them that were going to be here today. It is a resource issue. You've got kids, you need to find parking, you need to find childcare, you can't really afford it, and it is taking up your day if you are working. Somehow, we need to look at going to where they are. This is representative of folks (foster parents') free time.

## Follow-up from DHS Discussion and Foster Parent Listening session

Review take-away from listening session

Recommendations from Commission

- Jessica LR: I have a comment as a foster parent – one of the things I have been thinking about in terms of retention is how we define successful retention. We know nationally, a caseworker’s average lifespan is 1-3 years. They have a salary coming in, they have evenings and weekends off, vacation time, sick pay. They have HR back them up when an allegation is made. They have some real privileges. We are starting to see literature about their poor physical health outcomes, their poor mental health outcomes so we can only extrapolate and believe our foster parent workforce is experiencing that and then some because we just don’t have those privileges that our caseworkers do. I would like us to think critically about the 30 year foster family . . . that is fantastic, and I love that folks are out there doing that. I would love to count a success as the one who supported one child for the extent of their needs. This is the only volunteer opportunity that I know of in this country that asks us to go 24/7 with critical impacts on our physical and mental health without breaks.

Greg: That is duly noted. Our foster care system is antiquated. It is built on a system that . . . our society and culture have evolved so dramatically and our system has remained. There is, nationwide, a critical eye and a state-wide critical eye. Identifying folks . . . you really are volunteers and 24/7 is an extraordinary burden. Getting more resources available is critical. Our system needs a good, hard look. What I eluded to earlier, when you are in crisis all you see is the next crisis. What we are really trying to do is be very deliberate and intentional, taking a deep breath (inaudible) saying we know it doesn’t work.

- Jessica RS: I want to take that all the way up to micro-data. I want you to include that in how you count whose retention is cross-sectional. I’m here today but gone tomorrow doesn’t count me as a success. On a broad level I would like to see that reframed.
- Jessica RS: I love that we are working towards respite reimbursement. We need someone coordinating these matches and making these connections. We need to think about this from the framework . . . if Family First does what we hope it does in the next decade, we are likely going to see more and more of a shift in the needs of our kids that do come into care we are going to see higher level needs across the board, so respite workforce really needs to be trained at the therapeutic level. (Inaudible) therapeutic level, so someone who is coordinating in each county and high level skill set to take our high level kids.
- Carolyn C: Thanks the foster parents for all that they do.
- Emily R: The key proposal, the expanding the pilot to state-wide 7.4 million. I think that corresponds to the Governor’s budget of the 7.5 million for high quality support to foster parents?

Rosa K: The dollars on the one-pager (Attachment B) are state general fund. That is matched with federal funds. There is a difference between the total funds and the state general.

- Emily R: Would that allow every foster parent in Oregon to participate in the program or would it merely help with a portion of every county?

Marissa Johnson: Every foster family. Every foster family that has a child that is eligible for the program, so yes.

- Emily R: Greg, you had mentioned licensing reform. I am curious about that, specifically, I have been involved in conversations dating back to my days with ILP about creating some sort of transitional licensure that recognizes kids who are 17, 18, 19 and still in the system and allowing both foster parents and those youth to have a little bit more freedom during that transitional age. Recognizing that they are more independent, they are sometimes legally adults, and yet I used to hear stories about foster parents who couldn't go out of town overnight because they had a 19 yo kid in their home that still had to be supervised the same way a 6 yo kid would be. I'm curious if there are licensing conversations going on there?
- Emily R: I am curious about how you guys as foster parents, especially if any of you have had teens, feel about that? Are there conversation within the foster parent community about that sort of alternate transitional age licensure?

Greg: Yes. I mentioned (inaudible) training coordinator and we just met on what does the training look like for this new transitional living program, is what it is. Where foster parents are acting more as mentors and life skills teachers in order to allow youth to be in a family setting. We are looking at that and are looking at our licensing standards to say, what does that look like for these foster parent? The answer to your question is yes. We are looking at it right now because our independent living program is going to be growing and it is going to look different.

Marissa Johnson: I think it is also a capacity issue in terms of supporting families with teenagers. It isn't just about the relationship within the home but it is about the supports for the family outside of the home. There is a real lack of capacity. We have heard already about therapy for children. It is also a problem for the transition age youth. Another challenge is, when a child is 19, but does need some type of supervision or that type of support, that often there are not community resources or some that are available are not really available for a kiddo that has challenges with their behavior or other challenges. There is a capacity issue for supporting parents of teenagers as well.

Greg: My takeaway for the day is a lot of what we focus on is services for the children. My takeaway for the day is the holistic approach and there are other things that we should be doing for you all, including support on an emotional, human level.

	<p><b>Lunch</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commissioner spotlight -- Jessica Riutzel-Schmidt</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Work Group/Subcommittee Updates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding/Budget and HB amendment Work Group</li> <li>• Structure Work Group</li> <li>• Systems subcommittee</li> </ul> <p>Chair Colas: The Commission needs to think about whether we want to have a legislative person on board, or to see if the Commission wanted to designate one legislative person to be in charge of looking at what is in the works and what the Commission wants to weigh in on. Is this something we should do right now or something that we need to wait until we are a little more comfortable? We also need some type of legislative committee to work through our own House bill to get that passed if we want to have staffing and ability to reimburse people to come and talk and testify to us.</p> <p>Chair Hinkle: I think part of the ask will be, who on the Commission, Commission members are interested or open to being in the legislative work group ready to either go and testify or talk to representatives or senators about the bill to make sure it gets all the way through to the other side. Who has flexibility for that or what that looks like as part of the conversation?</p> <p>Tim C: I am there almost every day so I am happy to.</p> <p>Emily R: I am there a lot also. I cannot be legislative point person for the committee, but I am happy to help out.</p> <p>Chair Hinkle: And I am interested in being on it. Thoughts about what that should look like? Is it just the group having a phone call to start off to figure out what make sense and go from there or other ideas, concerns, questions?</p> <p>Kari R: I'd like to be notified of it. I am kind of slammed right now but I would like to see if I can at least participate in the legislative pieces of this.</p> <p>Chair Colas: It sounds like we have consensus that we do want to have an impromptu workgroup right now to look into pushing forward at least our legislative concept and other bills that are out there. Chair Hinkle and I will go back and look for a phone call and then for us to figure out the logistics of this. Then figuring out what bills are there and using Rosa and Marissa to see what else is out there and for the Commission to then decide what we are going to go for and what is proper – especially for a Commission like this that is advisory.</p> <p>Carolyn C: I was just appointed to the Alcohol and Drug Commission so I am hoping to link some things on that side which is more my field.</p> <p>Chair Colas: From our retreat, the Commission was talking about having an August roundtable. That would be the time where we would bring together everything that the Commission has learned for the year and bringing the different agencies together, for us to figure out how to have a communication process to ensure that all the different agencies that interact with foster care/child welfare are talking to each other. That would be the time we would also make sure that we would invite foster parents and foster youth and children and biological families to come and be a part of it and take the center of sharing what we</p>

<p><b>ACTION</b></p>	<p>have heard from them, all Commission year, these are the recommendations that they have come with and share that with the different agencies to see how we can continue that work so that it's not just us saying these are the priorities for upcoming years. It is to say that we came up with these priorities because we actually heard it from the people who were experiencing it and this is what they have all come together to tell you. I want to make sure that the Commission is still interested in this? There is an opportunity for us to team up with Judicial, the Juvenile Court Improvement project. They are going to have their yearly CLE, where judges, case workers and attorneys from all around the State of Oregon, from all 36 counties. It is August 11, and for the Commission to have it's roundtable before it starts so that we can ensure that we have all the counties present. The Commission will still need to figure out the funding part of it and trying to rework our budget because we don't have funding right now. Hopefully, once our bill passes, we will have in 2020. If it is something that the Commission still wants to go ahead with, knowing that we will need to figure out the funding. I would like to entertain a motion where we at least have a workgroup to work on this August roundtable. Leola said she would like to take part in it and help. JCIP will be meeting in August and will have people coming from the various counties at that time already has the place, so for us to figure out how we can work in line with them.</p> <p><b>Does anyone want to move to set up a August roundtable work group?</b></p> <p><b>Motion: Tim C</b></p> <p><b>2<sup>nd</sup>: Emily R</b></p> <p>Chair Colas: Let's have discussion. Does anyone have questions about this?</p> <p>Kari R: My concern is we still don't have that DHS roundtable stuff that we have been asking for. I'm just wondering if there is a way . . . because I think this is critical to whatever work that we are going to be doing and also for that roundtable as well, to kind of understand what was heard around the state already. Has anybody heard anything regarding that?</p> <p>Chair Colas: From what I last heard from Rosa, they had a draft but they haven't completed their report yet. I think DHS went all around the state and heard from various stakeholders about the issues and they were supposed to draft a report and to have that out about what are the issues they have heard. They were supposed to have the report out sometime last year, and it seems like the deadline keeps moving. I do think it is important to hear what DHS said, this would be a Commission led effort for our August roundtable. We are also doing our own work and hearing from various people about what is going on. We will follow up with DHS, and with the action items, we can add that as a request from Greg and Marilyn to say, where is this report? Can you make sure that you let the Commission know where it is and to share that with us?</p> <p>Marissa Johnson: There is also the Children and Youth with Special Needs group. There were things left on the table from their conversations which also had to do with the Judicial branch. Also, the continuum of care conversation was predominately between DHS and OHA. There has been efforts to do this cross-collaborative outreach between the agencies. I think Children and Youth with Special Needs group is probably the most comprehensive effort, but there was also this continuum of care effort. I would urge the Commission to explore what has already been done in those fields and want to be up to speed prior to your engagement. The resources for all those groups are also listed on our website, Foster Homes of Healing under resources.</p>
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<p><b>ACTION</b> continued after discussion</p>	<p>Emily R: I think in terms of timing it makes sense to pair up with the judicial improvement folks, especially if we want equitable representation from around the state. We have had trouble sometimes with managing the work of our committees and having enough Commission members to accomplish the things we want to accomplish. If this is an early August event, that doesn't allow a whole lot of time after legislative session wraps up. Theoretically, the group that is probably spearheading the work towards this event would need to be separate from the group that is working on the legislative stuff. I just want to make sure we have enough Commission member who can commit that kind of time so we have the capacity to plan.</p> <p>Kari R: I agree with that and would also add that I think we ought to look at the timing. Not only the time but also the amount of time that people are being asked to be pulled away for the (inaudible) conference with the attorneys and judges and if that is the appropriate audience that we want vs doing (inaudible) shoulder to shoulder in October where you are going to get people who are involved in the system to come together to have that conversation. My request would be that the workgroup would take (inaudible) what is an appropriate conference to piggyback on.</p> <p><b>Chair Colas: Requested whether Commissioner Colahan would be willing to make a friendly amendment to his motion to remove that the work group would look into an August round-table and instead explore appropriate dates for the round-table (either August or October), which Tim agreed and amended his motion so that the Commission will establish a round-table work group to explore the round-table and appropriate time for it.</b></p> <p><b>Tim C: Indicates it is OK to amend the motion.</b></p> <p><b>Chair Colas: With tweaking the Commission will have a round-table but looking at who is going to volunteer to see whether the timing and who else we should look at (inaudible) resources (inaudible). Do we still have need for discussion or can I take the vote? All who are for having a work group to work on looking into doing a round-table, please say aye. The ayes have it for a work group to look at a round-table.</b></p>
<p><b>ACTION</b></p>	<p>Emily R: I wonder if we should take this opportunity, if folks are comfortable with the Commission endorsing the Governor's Children's Cabinet investments recommended budget today. Unless folks feel like they need to delve deeper and look up some of the 1-pagers. The next time we meet in person will be 2 months from now and the session will be nearing its midway point. If we are going to form a group off to the side, it might be helpful for that group to have had the Commission bless this document now so that we can then figure out the best strategy for who is talking when?</p> <p><b>Chair Colas: I am going to take that as a motion Emily</b></p> <p><b>Action: Commission should endorse the Governor's proposed recommended budget.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Move: Emily R</b></li> <li>• <b>2nd: Carolyn C</b></li> </ul>

<p><b>ACTION</b> continued after discussion</p>	<p>Chair Colas: Do we need discussion? Do people need more information about what else is being supported, or for the Commission as a whole to take a stance on this?</p> <p>Emily R: I would just add that I am very involved in the housing portion of this agenda, so I am happy to bring updates back to the Commission or email periodic updates, especially as it relates to the ones that affect children and the overlap with DHS. Sounds like Caroline might be a good connection to the addiction and recovery part of what is going on so if we could divvy up who is paying attention to what, that might help. We can talk about that strategy in the workgroup.</p> <p>Chair Colas: (To Commissioner Cruz) You did not volunteer for the legislative workgroup, but would you be willing to at least let us know about anything that is happening with addiction bills?</p> <p>Carolyn C: I will try.</p> <p>Chair Colas: I will be asking for our Commission to have an email so that we can get updates for the legislative session. I did sign up for it but I am getting a lot of emails with different agendas. Perhaps for us to have a Commission email for us to track bills that way so that would be easier to get updates too. With that, I am going to go ahead and take the vote unless anyone else has any further discussion.</p> <p><b>Chair Colas: It was moved and seconded that the Commission should endorse the Governor’s proposed recommended budget.</b></p> <p><b>All aye</b></p>
<p><b>ACTION</b></p>	<p><b>Review Subcommittee Charters and Appoint Chairs</b></p> <p>Chair Colas: We have to have more Commission members on subcommittees than there are non-Commission members and other people would like to participate. As a Commission we are strapped with how much we can do on each committee. I was wondering whether we would allow an amendment that would not cap how many non-Commission members serve on our subcommittees.</p> <p><b>Motion to amend the subcommittee charters so that there are no more than 10 members but with no cap on how many non-Commission members may serve on the subcommittee. In addition, to add language that the subcommittees are subordinate to the Commission and that the Commission can delegate tasks and priorities to the subcommittees.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Move: Tim</b></li> <li>• <b>2<sup>nd</sup>: Jessica</b></li> <li>• <b>All aye</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Does the commission want to put the Judicial and Placement subcommittees back online or put them on hold?</b></p>

	<p>YES on Placement: Jessica to take on Placement during the summer</p> <p>YES on Judicial but wait until summer too to see how the bills pan out and see if we have any resources. Bill will chair if no one else will.</p> <p>Tim's article updates on child welfare issues, Valerie will forward.</p> <p>YES Commissioners liked getting the emails with updates and recap after meetings.</p>
	<b>Public Testimony - None</b>
1:20	<b>Adjourn</b>