

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE REACH FOUNDATION
May 21, 2020**

Attendees:

Arif Ahmed	Jerrihlyn McGee
Laura Bond	Wendy Neal
Katie Ferro	Todd Pleimann
Tom Handley	Joe Reuben
Angela Harse	Heather Samuel
Vicki Hohenstein	Jim Sanders
Danielle Jones	Brenda Sharpe
	Lynette Sparkman-Barnes
Andy Klocke	Lisa Thurlow
Jon Marshall	

Guests:

Becky Benak, REACH Staff	Pattie Mansur, REACH Staff
Mathew Davis, REACH Staff	Glory Olson, REACH Staff
Dawn Downes, REACH Staff	Jo Yun, REACH Staff
Carla Gibson, REACH Staff	

Welcome

This meeting was held via Zoom due to COVID-19 restrictions. Vicki Hohenstein called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

President's Report

Brenda Sharpe gave a quick overview of Zoom teleconference features for this first ever board meeting via Zoom. She then noted that this is Vicki Hohenstein's last meeting as a board member and chair.

Brenda gave an update on REACH Healthcare Foundation's response to COVID-19. She thanked the board for their support and quick response. Safety Net healthcare providers were immediately impacted, and our response allowed them to deploy resources around PPE already in short supply, to retain staff, and to continue operations and service to the community. She noted that she continues to receive numerous notes of thanks for our response.

Brenda reviewed REACH staff's return to the office. She will meet with each staff person individually to determine his/her comfort level and will plan a staged return. Brenda has returned to the office 3 days per week.

Brenda stated that REACH has contributed to KC Regional Covid-19 Response and Recovery Fund financially, and that Carla Gibson has spent a significant amount of time serving on the Advisory Board for the fund. She then asked Carla to give a brief report on that program.

Carla noted that the Steering Board consists of members ranging from various foundation representatives to community members and leaders. She noted the turnaround is very quick, and the review process has been

necessarily swift. The Fund to-date has raised \$16 million and received over 500 requests. Funds have been dispersed in three rounds of grants. Currently, there have been 197 awards totaling \$8,916,000; and \$8.6 million remain in the fund. The first round focused on response in the areas of housing, food insecurities, access to childcare, access to health care, and other critical basic human needs. The Fund continues to receive recovery requests, so the next round of funding will focus on asset building in social support systems, workforce development, housing stability, education and childcare, and community mental health.

Carla then reported on core partners and their activities around COVID-19 responses. She noted that their responses indicate they have had significant challenges, but that the organizations are working creatively to resolve those challenges in order to meet their clients where they are and to continue to provide services.

Brenda then asked Dawn Downes to report on how community partners have been impacted by COVID-19. She noted that our partners expressed appreciation for REACH's quick response to reallocate award dollars to COVID-19 expenses. Partners also expressed relief for unrestricted funds to meet immediate needs such as payroll and PPE. She noted that partners recognized the strength/weakness of their organization's capacity in operations (billing, payroll, communications) and technology. They also realized how well prepared they were/were not related to staff/workforce flexibility to work remotely. And many reported gratitude for existing partnerships and recognized the need to strengthen those relationships with such organizations as Happy Bottoms for diapers, Harvesters for food, and Giving the Basics for hygiene/person care items to help meet client needs.

Brenda reported on a new regional effort titled C19, focused on regional testing and contact tracing. She noted that the leadership of this effort has not yet fully engaged philanthropy, but that she is expecting a significant request for financial support. REACH will continue to conduct due diligence and apprise the Board accordingly. She noted that our immediate response of \$1 million in funding in the early days of the crisis, our ability as a foundation to lobby, and our experience with convening are and will continue to be significant contributions to regional efforts.

Brenda recognized and thanked outgoing Board members Vicki Hohenstein, Laura Bond, and Andy Klocke for their service. She shared a few remarks and highlights regarding their contributions to REACH, and each of the outgoing Board members said a few words before being recognized with a plaque and a \$1,000 CEO Discretionary Grant made in each of their names to a REACH grantee of their choosing.

Brenda reported that she is working with the respective appointing authorities to fill the upcoming CAC vacancies. Beth Barlow, an Attorney General appointee, will not seek another term. Shelley Phalen, also an AG appointee, will conclude her second term. Rachel Jefferson is seeking reappointment by the Unified Government, and she will seek a Johnson County appointee to replace Kevin Klamm, who was elected to the Board. Brenda is following up on leads for the Attorney General appointments. Brenda also noted that the June 4, 2020 CAC Meeting would be held via Zoom teleconferencing.

Foundation Business Consent Items

Vicki Hohenstein noted items on the Consent Agenda, consisting of a ratification of the March 18, 2020 COVID-19 Board Actions, and the February and March 2020 financials. Tom Handley made a motion to accept the consent agenda as presented. Jerrihlyn McGee seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Program and Policy Committee Report

Danielle Jones referred to the Discretionary Grants report in the meeting materials packet and asked for discussion. None was noted. She then asked Pattie Mansur to provide an update on the 2020 Census, and Kansas and Missouri Public Policies.

Pattie reported that due to COVID, 2020 Census response rates are lagging. The nationwide rate is 59.5%; Kansas rate is 63.9%; and was 70% in 2010. Missouri's current response rate is 60.1% and was 67.5% in 2010.

REACH Foundation contributed \$25,000 to the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation to help launch the KC Metro Census Equity Fund. That fund has now concluded: 23 grants totaling \$220,000 were awarded in the bistate metro area. Separately, REACH awarded grants to MARC to coordinate the regional complete count committee, and to implement a communications and outreach plan, and gave \$10,000 grants to Johnson County and Kansas City Missouri to help support their complete count committees.

Pattie reported the Kansas legislative session began with a sense of possibility around a bipartisan compromise on Medicaid expansion but within a month was stalled. The Legislature adjourned for early spring break in mid-March, passing an \$8 billion budget as the pandemic was beginning. Lawmakers will return to the capitol on May 21 for a one-day session. The hot topics will be curbing the Governor's executive authority as it relates to COVID spending and other decisions; and passing liability protections for businesses and health providers related to COVID. The latter is supported by the KS Chamber of Commerce and the KS Medical Society. Other issues may be raised, including income and property-tax related bills, remote powers for notaries, and KPERS-related bills. But because Legislature is not expected to take up budget cuts, there is no clear vehicle for attaching Medicaid expansion.

In Missouri, Pattie reported a coalition of doctors, faith leaders, and others who hoped to see Medicaid expansion on the November 2020 ballot delivered 346,000 signatures — more than two times the 172,000 needed to qualify for the ballot. The ballot language asks voters to amend the Missouri Constitution to expand MO HealthNet services for individuals 19-64 with an income level at or below 133 percent of FPL. Expansion would help 230,000 Missourians.

Efforts in both the House and Senate to impose work requirements for Missouri Medicaid failed in the last week of session. House Joint Resolution 106 and Senate Joint Resolution 32 would have required a vote of Missouri voters and likely would have appeared on the ballot in November alongside the Medicaid ballot initiative. The large number of bills and legislators' efforts to pass legislation via omnibus bills contributed to the failure of these measures. The REACH Foundation signed a letter of opposition prepared by the Missouri Budget Project.

The highest-profile win for Missouri Republicans was passage of "Cleaner Missouri," a bill that will place a constitutional amendment on the ballot in November to repeal the 2018 voter-approved Clean Missouri bill. That bill called for changes in the redistricting process, including use of a nonpartisan state demographer to draw legislative maps. Clean Missouri was approved by 62 percent of voters in 2018.

The next P&P meeting scheduled for Tuesday June 9, 2020 has been cancelled.

Finance Committee Report

Andy Klocke referred to the March 2020 Financial Dashboard and Q1 Investment update materials. He specifically directed attention to page 41 *The Financial Dashboard* and page 45, *Monthly Report on Investment Performance*. He noted that this period is worse than was recorded in 2008. He believes there could be more stability in the second half of the year. Andy noted the importance of a set financial policy and a diverse portfolio built to withstand such uncertainty.

Jo Yun directed the Board's attention to the Conflict of Interest form required for the Foundation's Form 990 reporting. The conflict of interest form aids in answering various questions on the Foundation's tax return, but particularly helps to document and support the statement of board member independence. She noted that the delivery and acceptance of the document would be electronic and set a deadline of June 5, 2020.

The next Finance Committee meeting is Tuesday, June 3, 2020 via Zoom teleconference.

Executive Committee Report

Vicki Hohenstein directed attention to the items for approval before the Board.

The Executive Committee recommends the following slate of Board Officers and At-Large Members. Jon Marshall, Chair; Joseph Reuben, Vice Chair; Tom Handley, Treasurer; Angela Harse, Secretary; Lisa Thurlow, Program & Policy Chair; Arif Ahmed and Lynette Sparkman-Barnes, At-Large Members. Officer terms are two years and begin June 1, 2020. At-large member terms are one year and begin June 1. Vicki requested any other nominations from the floor and there were none.

Next Vicki reviewed the Executive Committee's recommendation to extend the term of Jon Marshall for one year, in keeping with the Foundation's by-laws, to allow him to serve a two-year term as Board Chair, beginning June 1, 2020 and expiring May 31, 2022.

Vicki then reviewed a recommendation, also from the Executive Committee and in keeping with the Foundation's bylaws, that Andy Klocke be appointed to serve as a non-board member of the Finance and Investment Committee for a term of 1 year beginning June 1, 2020 and expiring May 31, 2021.

Last, Vicki reviewed the 2020-2021 Board and Committee appointments provided in the Board materials and seeks the Board's approval.

Vicki requested a motion to approve all above action items and recommendations as presented. Jerrihlyn McGee made a motion to approve and Laura Bond seconded. Motion carried.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be Thursday, June 11, 2020 via Zoom teleconference.

At 5:08 p.m., Andy Klocke made a motion to adjourn to closed session for 20 minutes to discuss personnel matters before the Board. Jon Marshall seconded. Motion carried.

At 5:27 Lisa Thurlow moved to extend session by 10 minutes. Jon Marshall seconded. Motion carried.

At 5:28 the Board returned to open session. Tom Handley moved to approve renewal of the employment agreement between REACH and Brenda Sharpe, CEO, per the terms and compensation discussed in the closed session, and based upon the Board's review of the CEO performance assessment summary provided by CMA, and CEO market compensation data provided by Croner Company. Jon Marshall seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Laura Bond made a motion to authorize Jon Marshall to execute the revised employment agreement with Brenda Sharpe as discussed in the closed session. Lisa Thurlow seconded. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:29.

The next Board Meeting will be Thursday, June 25, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom teleconference.

Respectfully submitted,
Glory Olson
Executive Assistant & Board Liaison