



CHILD PROTECTION OMBUDSMAN of COLORADO

COLORADO CHILD PROTECTION OMBUDSMAN BOARD

PUBLIC MEETING
November 10, 2022

Record of Proceedings

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 via Zoom teleconference at 8:04 a.m. by Chair Ann Roan.

A quorum of the Board was present.

INTRODUCTIONS

PRESENT AT THE MEETING

Board Members on Zoom

Ann Roan, Chair
Judith Martinez, Vice-Chair
Hon. Ken Plotz
Jerene Petersen
April Lane
Hon. Amanda Hopkins
Dr. Coral Steffey
Commissioner Charles Tedesco
Benjamin Rounsborg

Others Present

Stephanie Villafuerte, Child Protection Ombudsman
Jordan Steffen, Deputy Ombudsman
Karen Nielsen, Director of Administrative Services
Amanda Pennington, Director of Client Services
Janna Fischer, Assistant Attorney General

PRESENT FROM THE PUBLIC

None

INTRODUCTIONS

Pursuant to guidance handed down by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment regarding the spread of COVID-19, Chair Ann Roan facilitated the meeting via teleconference. Board members, Office of Colorado's Child Protection Ombudsman (CPO) leadership staff and Assistant Attorney General, Janna Fischer participated via Zoom teleconferencing.

Chair Roan welcomed everyone.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September 8, 2022, Meeting Minutes

Chair Roan entertained a motion to approve the final minutes of the meeting held on September 8, 2022. Jerene Petersen made a motion to approve the final minutes of September 8, 2022, April Lane seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, minus Dr. Coral Steffey who later joined the meeting.

October 14, 2022, Meeting Minutes

Chair Roan entertained a motion to approve the final minutes of the meeting held on October 14, 2022. Judge Amanda Hopkins made a motion to approve the final minutes of October 14, 2022, Ms. Petersen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, minus Dr. Steffey who later joined the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:08 a.m. Chair Roan called for a motion to enter executive session for the purposes of: (1) Discussing the Board's response to a public complaint, received pursuant to C.R.S. §19-3.3-102(3); and (2) Discussing Ombudsman Stephanie Villafuerte's Fiscal Year 2021-22 performance evaluation. Ombudsman Villafuerte requested both matters be discussed in executive session.

Judge Ken Plotz made a motion to enter executive session for the purposes of discussing the Board's response to the public complaint, received pursuant to C.R.S. §19-3.3-102(3), and finalizing Ombudsman Villafuerte's FY 2021-22 performance evaluation. Comm. Charles Tedesco seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, minus Dr. Steffey who later joined the meeting.

Executive Session was held for the Board to receive legal advice pursuant to
§24-6-402(3)(a)(II), C.R.S.

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

Ombudsman Villafuerte, Deputy Ombudsman Jordan Steffen and Director of Client Services Amanda Pennington attended the executive session.

At 8:19 a.m. Deputy Ombudsman Steffen and Director Pennington left the executive session.

At 8:32 a.m. Dr. Steffey joined the executive session.

At 9:16 a.m. Chair Roan returned the meeting to open session.

At 9:17 a.m. Comm. Tedesco left the meeting.

Motion 1

Chair Roan called for a motion directing her to draft a letter, containing the amendments discussed during executive session, responding to the public complaint. She stated the letter will be shared with board members prior to being sent out.

Judge Hopkins made a motion that Chair Roan shall draft the response letter with the discussed amendments and will share the draft with the Board prior to its distribution. Dr. Steffey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Roan stated she will work with Assistant Attorney General Janna Fisher to send the response letter.

Motion 2

Chair Roan called for a motion to approve the final, amended draft of Ombudsman Villafuerte's FY 2021-22 performance evaluation. Judge Hopkins made a motion to approve the amended draft of Ombudsman Villafuerte's FY 2021-22 performance evaluation. Dr. Steffey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously minus.

BOARD BUSINESS

CPO Human Resources Employee Assistance Manager Position

Chair Roan wanted to know more information about the CPO's contract Employee Support Services Manager Tony Marusic, and his role with the agency. Ombudsman Villafuerte reported that Mr. Marusic's first day was November 1, 2022. He was hired as a contract employee. That contract will run through June 30, 2022. She stated the CPO's Fiscal Year 2023-24 Agency Summary and Budget Request will seek to make this contract position a full-time, permanent position at the agency.

Ombudsman Villafuerte reported that Mr. Marusic responsibilities including assisting in the development and implementation of a strong human resources program. In addition to providing employees services and supports, the position will also address employee recruitment, retention and performance management. The position will create an in-house resource for CPO employees to address their needs safely and confidentially.

CLOSING REMARKS

Chair Roan thanked the board members for their participation in today's meeting. She stated that the next CPO Board meeting will be held at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 12, 2023, via Zoom teleconference.

ADJOURN

Chair Roan entertained a motion to adjourn. Judge Hopkins made a motion to adjourn, and Dr. Steffey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board formally adjourned the meeting at 9:28 a.m.

ATTESTATION

As Board Chair and Board Vice-Chair, I attest that these minutes of the open public meeting held on November 10, 2022, 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.

Ann M. Roan

Board Chair

January 13, 2023

Date

Judith Mastz

Board Vice-Chair

January 17, 2023

Date

