
Colorado Office of Public Guardianship

Director, Sophia M. Alvarez

Commissioners

Deb Bennett-Woods, Chair
Stephanie Garcia, Vice-Chair
Kelsey Lesco
Spencer Crona
Patrick Thiessen



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PUBLIC MEETING **May 25, 2022** **RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**

CONVENE

The meeting of the Colorado Office of Public Guardianship Commission was convened by video conference via Zoom and In-person at 10:04 AM by Commission Chair Bennett-Woods.

A quorum of the Commission was present.

Commission Members Present

Chair Deb Bennett-Woods
Vice-Chair Stephanie Garcia
Kelsey Lesco
Spencer Crona
Patrick Thiessen

OPG Director

Sophia M. Alvarez

Others Present

Jacquelyn Beal, Office of Public Guardianship
Erin McGavin, Office of Public Guardianship
Rhonda Sanchez, Office of Public Guardianship
Cynthia Wells, Office of Public Guardianship
Camille Price, Office of Public Guardianship
America Paz Pastrana, Office of Public Guardianship
Grant Yoder, Office of Public Guardianship
India Kidd-Aaron, Office of the Attorney General

Public Attendance

Ann McKenzie, Silver Key Senior Services

Gina Brown, Legal Assistance Developer for the Elderly, Disability Law Colorado
Jim Tatten

Hanni Raley, Executive Director, The ARC of Aurora
Brother James Patrick Hall, Rocky Mountain Refuge
Participation was by video conference and in-person.

AGENDA ITEMS

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order. The meeting was recorded. Discussion of Agenda Items II and III were moved to later in the meeting.

II. Approval of the April 27, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Crona **moved** to approve the April 27, 2022 Meeting Minutes as presented. Commissioner Garcia **seconded** the motion. Motion **passed** unanimously.

III. Chair Report (Deb Bennett-Woods)

Chair Bennett-Woods' report, Chair Report, was distributed electronically and discussed. Chair Bennett-Woods encouraged the Commission to review the Strategic Timeline for milestones and to direct any comments to Director Alvarez. No additional updates.

IV. Director Report (Sophia M. Alvarez)

Director Alvarez's May 25, 2022, Director Report was distributed electronically along with other materials and discussed. Director Alvarez did not have additional items discussed and there were no comments.

- a. Erin McGavin, Public Guardian, provided a brief summary of the Compassion Fatigue Workshop OPG staff attended on May 6, 2022.
- b. Rhonda Sanchez, Public Guardian, provided a brief summary on OPG's participation at the Senior Law Day on May 21, 2022.

V. Final Report Status (Grant Yoder)

Grant Yoder, Research Assistant, provided a brief update on the data collection and research progress for the Final Report. Additional items discussed included, but were not limited to:

- A. Chair Bennett-Woods encouraged the Commission to read the articles from the Literature Table. America Paz-Pastrana, Staff Assistant will provide articles upon request.
- B. Chair Bennett-Woods informed that Director Alvarez and Grant Yoder are in the process of contracting with a third party to conduct interviews with clients, their support networks, and Public Guardians.
- C. Chair Bennett-Woods informed that as part of the final report there will be rollout recommendations for the expansion of statewide services. The Chair asked the Commission to provide recommendations to Director Alvarez and asked the Staff Assistant to provide maps of the judicial districts to help with the Commission's assessment.

VI. Discussion of OPG Commission Email Policy

Discussion of the OPG Commission Email Policy will be tabled for later.

Commission moved into Executive Session

Chair Bennett-Woods asked for a motion to enter into executive session for the Discussion and Update Regarding Denver Health Investigation Testimony and Relationship and Discussion of Preparation for 2023 Director Evaluation Assessment and 2022 Judicial Branch Performance Award.

Commissioner Crona **moved** to initiate moving into executive session. Vice-Chair Garcia **seconded** the motion. Motion **passed** unanimously with at least two-thirds of the membership present. The Commission exited open session and entered executive session on a separate line provided by Associate (please check – I can't remember if she is Assistant or Associate) Attorney General Kidd-Aaron at 10:44 a.m.

At 12:15 p.m., the Commission returned to open session.

At 12:15 p.m. the Commission reconvened.

VII. Commission Approval of 2022 Judicial Branch Performance Award

Commissioner Crona **moved** to approve the 2022 Director Judicial Branch Performance Award. Commissioner Thiessen **seconded** the motion. Motion **passed** unanimously.

VIII. Discussion of logistical issues related to hybrid, in-person meetings.

The Commission made the decision to continue fully virtual meetings at least through July.

IX. Public Comment

Due to unforeseen technical difficulties, we were unable to inform the public that the Commission returned to open session. We apologize for the inconvenience.

X. Adjourn

Commissioner Crona **moved** to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Thiessen **seconded** the motion. Motion **passed** unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:19 p.m.

ATTESTATION

As Commission Chair and Commission Vice-Chair, we attest that these minutes of the open public meeting of the Colorado Office of Public Guardianship Commission substantially reflect the substance of the discussion and action taken related to the matters under the authority of the Commission.



Deb Bennett-Woods, Chair

7/27/2022

Date



Stephanie Garcia, Vice-Chair

7/27/2022

Date