

**Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes – October 22, 2009**  
**Will Rogers Building – State Capitol Complex – Fifth Floor Conference Room**

**Call to Order:** Mary Walker, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

**Roll Call:** Kathryn Jones, Secretary, called roll.

**Commissioners Present:** Rita Aragon, Patty Bryant, Deena Fisher, Catherine Haynes, Kathryn Jones, Ashley Kehl, Rebecca Kennedy, Denise Kinzie, Lou Kohlman, Debbe Leftwich, Joyce Martin, Carolyn McLarty, Bernice Mitchell, Patricia Presley, Claudean Reynolds, Joyce Horton Sanders, Nancy Smith, Mary Walker, Adeline Yerkes

**Commissioners Excused:** Fern Bowling, Bob Darcy, Lee Deeney, Marilyn Harmon, Lyn Hester, Valeska Littlefield, Chris Morriss, Jennifer Paustenbaugh, Pam Peterson, Nancy Rothman

**Commissioners Absent:** Valerie Thompson

**Advisory Council Members Present:** Kitty Asberry, Jan Peery, Laura Pitman, Heather Simon, Gail Stricklin, LaTasha Williams (Wilson), Tya Smith (staff)

**Guests:** Liz Roth, professor of art at Oklahoma State University, and guest of Jennifer Paustenbaugh; Department of Corrections: Debbie Boyer, SPHR, Administrator, Quality and Operational Services, Division of Female Offender Operations; Kenny Holloway, Interim Deputy Director, Treatment and Rehabilitative Services; Courtney Woodard, Female Diversion Coordinator, Treatment and Rehabilitative Services

**Minutes:** The minutes of the Sept. 24, 2009, meeting were approved as distributed (motion, Adeline Yerkes; second, Patty Bryant).

**Financial Report:** The financial report as of Sept. 30, 2009, was approved as distributed (motion, Patty Bryant; second, Deena Fisher; abstain, Debbe Leftwich).

**OCSW Website:** A presentation on the Commission's website was made by Tim Cramer, OPM. The website will also include pictures and information about the Advisory Council. A motion was made by Lou Kohlman and seconded by Patty Bryant that the OCSW approve members of the website committee to put up the website when they feel it's substantially complete. Per a friendly amendment from Debbe Leftwich and accepted by Lou Kohlman, the motion was restated to authorize the Chair to direct the website be activated when the Chair and the committee feel it's ready.

**Women's History Moment:** Kathryn Jones reminded those present that Gov. Henry Bellmon had founded the Governor's Commission on the Status of Women in 1965. Rebecca Kennedy moved and Rita Aragon seconded a motion that a letter acknowledging his establishment of the Governor's Commission on the Status of Women which led to the Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women be forwarded to his daughters and the Commission's appointing authorities.

**Report of the Chair:** No report

**Report of the Vice Chair:** In the absence of the Vice Chair, Deena Fisher noted that the Summit Steering Committee is considering the dates of April 16, 23, or 30 and the location of Metro Tech, the Air National Guard, or institutions of higher education in the metro area and requested endorsement by the Commission of the direction the committee is moving. The endorsement in the form of a motion passed (Deena Fisher, motion; Lou Kohlman, second).

**Secretary:** No report

**Advisory Council:** Joyce Martin, Chair, thanked the members of the Advisory Council for attending the meeting.

**NACW Representative:** Bernice Mitchell distributed a report to the Commission.

**Health Committee:** Adeleine Yerkes distributed a handout which highlighted the two recent conferences, thanked Commissioners Rebecca Kennedy and Deena Fisher for their “on-site leadership” with the conferences, and noted that two more will be held.

**Personnel and Finance:** Debbe Leftwich noted that she had visited with Marilyn Capps and OCSW staff is progressing with the development of a job description and a timeline for the Commission’s major activities. After a discussion re/ the importance of the Commission being billed by OPM for actual expenses, a motion was made by Rita Aragon that OPM bill the Commission for actual expenses. The motion was withdrawn after a suggestion that this should be a separate agenda item at a future meeting to allow time for further discussion.

**Kate Barnard Luncheon:** Kathryn Jones called attention to the summary page included in the meeting agenda materials. Commissioners approved the date of Feb. 25, 2009, for the Kate Barnard Luncheon; the specific time of the luncheon will be announced later (Deena Fisher, motion; Bernice Mitchell, second).

**Legislative Coordinator:** Patty Bryant reviewed the upcoming bill deadlines.

**Review of Policies and Procedures:** Lou Kohlman requested Commissioners review the current Policies and Procedures and forward comments to her. Debbe Leftwich reminded Commissioners that 2/3 of the body must be present to vote on the Policies and Procedures.

**Women Incarcerated Committee/Solutions Summit:**

Business Items:

Recommendation from the Steering Committee: Adopt the goals and objectives for the Initiative and Summit with the following addition: The Oklahoma Women Solutions’ Initiative and Summit 2010 is a nonpartisan, statewide effort. (motion, Lou Kohlman; second, Debbe Leftwich; passed)

Adopt the draft document which outlines the structures (motion, Patricia Presley; second, Catherine Haynes; passed).

Presentation:

Patricia Presley introduced Kenny Holloway, Interim Deputy Director, Treatment and Rehabilitative Services. Mr. Holloway discussed contributing factors toward criminal behavior.

**Announcements:**

Liz Roth, professor of art at OSU, announced she is involved with a project of portraits of incarcerated women.

The Commission has been invited to visit the Mable Bassett Correctional Center at 10:00 a.m., Nov. 19 (the day of the next regular meeting of the Commission). Information re/ the logistics of the visit will be forwarded.

The Chair encouraged commissioners to sign up for Summit and topical committees.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.