

Oklahoma Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board
313 N.E. 21st Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73005
(405) 522-1984 | FAX (405) 557-1770

MEETING MINUTES

August 24, 2022

Meeting Venue: Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services
2000 N Classen Blvd, 6th Floor Hope Conference Room
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73106

MEMBERS

Cobb, Celia (OCME) [A]	Constanzia, Nizza (OJA alt.) [P]	Beatty, Angela (OCADVSA alt)
Cunningham, Karen (OAG) [P]	Hawkins, Scott (OSA) [P]	Pasley, Brandon (OCADVSA)
Nobles-Botkin, Jill (OSDH) [P]	Cluck, Donald (OACP) [P]	[P]
Nicholls, Emily (OSDH IPS) [P]	Goree, Julie (OBA) [P]	Stinson, Sheila (Supreme Court)
Green, Beth (OSBI) [P]	Thomas, Laura (DAC) [P]	[P]
Cropper, Heather (OSBI alt.) [P]	Jelley, Martina (OSMA) [P]	Harrison, Shelly (NAAV) [P]
Gardner, Lauren (ODMHSAS)	Coffey, Sarah (OOA) [P]	Bardin, Tania (NAAV) [P]
[P]	Carr, Janice (ONA) [P]	
Glandon, Donna (OJA) [P]	Kuester, Laura (OCADVSA) [P]	

I. Call to Order and Confirmation of Compliance with Open Meeting Act

This monthly meeting marked the start of the new DVFRB term that will run from July 2022 to June 2024. The most recent Chair, Beth Green, agreed to preside over the meeting until the election of the new DVFRB Chair and Vice-Chair of the new term. The meeting was held at the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services in Oklahoma City, OK, on Wednesday, August 24, 2022. Notice of the meeting was posted annually with the Secretary of State and at the Office of the Attorney General more than twenty-four (24) hours in advance. Member Beth Green called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

II. Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum

Roll Call was conducted at 9:04 a.m. Quorum was achieved at Roll Call with 19 members present. Since the meeting marked the start of the new term, three (3) member alternate designees were also present at the meeting. Others present included Anthony Hernandez-Rivera, OAG DVFRB Program Manager, and Phil Altes, Domestic Violence Prevention Director at Family Builders. Quorum was maintained throughout the meeting.

III. Discussion and Possible Action on Approval of Minutes from June 22-23, 2022, regular meeting*

Donna Glandon moved to approve the minutes of the June 22-23, regular meeting minutes. Lauren Gardner seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes passed by roll call vote (9 Aye, 9 Abstain, 0 Nay). The number of abstentions was due to new members not being on the DVFRB when the last meeting took place.

IV. Election of DVFRB Chair and Vice-Chair for the July 2022 – June 2024 DVFRB term in accordance with 22 O.S. §1602B

DVFRB Program Manager Anthony Hernandez-Rivera explained the DVFRB was required to elect a new Chair and Vice-Chair for the new DVFRB term that lasts from July 2022 to June 2024. The most recent Chair, Beth Green, stated she had been Chair for a little over two years. She stated she would not like to be put up for reelection because she has an upcoming law enforcement fellowship that will take her away from Oklahoma for several months in 2023. The most recent Vice-Chair, Scott Hawkins, also announced he would not be able to continue in a leadership role within the DVFRB due to his upcoming plans to potentially retire to run for public office. Members held a discussion on who would be the best fit to lead the DVFRB. It was established that seniority and length of tenure on the Board should be taken into consideration. Members identified Donna Glandon as a potential candidate for Chair. She agreed to be nominated and for it to be voted on. Beth Green made a motion to officially nominate Donna Glandon as a candidate for DVFRB Chair for the July 2022 – June 2024 term. Scott Hawkins seconded the motion. Motion was approved by roll call vote (18 Aye, 1 Abstain, 0 Nay). Afterward, a brief discussion was made on who would be the best fit to be the DVFRB Vice-Chair. Members identified Brandon Pasley as a potential candidate for Vice-Chair. He agreed to be nominated and for it to be voted on. Beth Green made a motion to officially nominate Brandon Pasley as candidate for DVFRB Vice-Chair for the July 2022 – June 2024 term. Scott Hawkins seconded the motion. Motion was approved by roll call vote (18 Aye, 1 Abstain, 0 Nay).

New DVFRB Chair Donna Glandon presided over the remainder of the meeting.

V. DVFRB Feedback on June 22-23, 2022, Community Review in Ponca City, OK and Potential Strategies for Upcoming Review Activity

DVFRB Program Manager Anthony Hernandez-Rivera reminded members that during the June 23 Community Review meeting it was agreed that this agenda item would be discussed in the next meeting to give those in attendance time to think about the experience. For the benefit of members that were not DVFRB members at the time, Mr. Hernandez gave them an overview of what the community review entailed. He explained that normally the DVFRB meets to review cases in Oklahoma City but in June 22-23 the Board visited the community where a fatality happened so the review could be done onsite and they could get first-hand accounts of community system players that were directly involved in the case.

Beth Green stated the community review was a good exercise. She added it allowed for a deeper dive into a case and the interaction with the community added more context to the facts of the case that would otherwise have been missed by just reading the written materials. In terms of feedback, Ms. Green added that moving forward there should be more time allocated towards interacting with the community. She also suggested next time we could organize the panel portion of the review into different sessions with individual community systems players. Lauren Gardner pointed out it was interesting to see the dynamic among panelist during the session. She suggested next time we should hold conversations with DHS speakers in advance to see what information they can share with the DVFRB. Emily Nicholls added next time it would be interesting to arrange for members to go on trips to the sites where events happened. In addition, Ms. Nicholls thought it might be helpful to invite people that can give the Board some insight of what is like to live in the town in terms of the culture and interaction with domestic violence systems. She added that afterwards we can have the systems players present and already have some context on the community dynamics that shape individual's interaction with systems. Shelley Harrison stated the timeline development session of the review was not necessarily helpful. She added it took away time that could have been allocated towards interacting with the community. Martina Jelley stated she would like to see more interaction with the community and panelist should be brought in single groups.

Mr. Hernandez asked the Board about their feedback on preparation leading up to review day. He reminded the Board the community review was an exercise to test out a new model for DVFRB reviews. A model in which the Board played a more active role in the development of case timelines and research. He offered the new model could be implemented by reducing the number of monthly meetings so the Board can do more deep dives on cases. Beth Green agreed that having the Board participate in timeline development was a good exercise but insisted the Board should keep reviewing cases on a regular schedule as it has been done traditionally. Scott Hawkins stated he enjoyed how case material was divided by profession. Laure Gardner agreed with Scott Hawkins and offered that subject matter assignments gave members ownership of their assigned material. General discussion was held. The consensus was case reviews should continue on a regular schedule and community reviews should be geared towards more interaction with members of the community.

VI. Discussion on Possible Rescheduling of September 28, 2022 DVFRB Regular Meeting to September 15, 2022 to Meet Jointly with the Oklahoma Child Death Review Board

For the benefit of new members, Program Manager Anthony Hernandez-Rivera explained that historically the DVFRB has met jointly with the Oklahoma Child Death Review Board (CDRB) twice a year to review cases that involved a child death in the context of a domestic violence situation. He specified the joint meeting normally takes place in January and then in July. He added that in 2022, the Boards had not been able to meet jointly yet. Mr. Hernandez mentioned CDRB program staff were receptive to the idea of holding the meeting in September if the DVFRB agreed. Mr. Hernandez mentioned the case that was slated to be reviewed in January and July was already completed and it would just be a matter of rescheduling the DVFRB September regular meeting on September 28 to coincide with the CDRB regular meeting on September 15. DVFRB members were receptive to this idea and decided to hold a vote. Beth Green made a motion to reschedule the DVFRB September 28, 2022 meeting to coincide with the September 15, 2022 CDRB meeting so that both Boards could meet jointly. Scott Hawkins seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote (19 Aye, 0 Abstain, 0 Nay). Mr. Hernandez stated he would reach out to CDRB program staff to communicate the DVFRB decision and an email confirmation would be sent to members confirming the DVFRB meeting rescheduling to September 15, 2022.

VII. Presentation by Phil Altes on Batterer Intervention Programs at Family Builders

Program Manager Anthony Hernandez-Rivera introduced Mr. Phil Altes and stated he would be giving a presentation to the DVFRB on the batterer intervention program at his organization. Phil Altes thanked the Board for having him today and stated he would be talking about the Batterer Intervention Program (BIP) at Family Builders, which is located in Oklahoma City. Mr. Altes stated Family Builders exists to strengthen relationships and break the cycles of family violence. He offered that at Family Builders they target the sources of the abuse, providing accountability, tools for change and support. Mr. Altes added this is done through the programs they offer, which include BIP and programs focused on parenting, community education, and a co-parenting and divorce class. He emphasized the effectiveness of BIP at Family Builders. He said in the previous year 101 clients completed the BIP Program and 72% showed improvement in Violence Risk Scores on the Domestic Violence Inventory post-test. Mr. Altes continued his presentation by giving an overview of personnel employed at Family Builders, their service area, which include Oklahoma, Canadian, and Logan counties, and number of clients served on a weekly basis. He also emphasized the collaborative partnership they have with YWCA, ICAN, Palomar, Cardinal Point and other victim services agencies. In addition, he stated they work closely with government systems such as dedicated DV courts, criminal and family courts, probation, DHS, and even the Federal Court for the

Western District of Oklahoma. Finally, he gave some information on his professional background. Mr. Altes then talked about BIP standards by going over the definitions contained in the administrative rules that govern what BIP should be. This was followed by an overview of inappropriate methods and theories for domestic violence intervention, including therapy, anger management, addiction counseling, among others. He particularly emphasized that anger management does not work to address domestic violence and dedicated a section of his presentation on why that is the case. Mr. Altes then gave an overview about how BIP at Family Builders looks like from start to finish. First, he discussed different avenues of getting client referrals; second, the intake or assessment process; third, victim communication process and finally how group sessions and ongoing services are structured.

General discussion was held throughout the presentation with some Board members asking questions. Shelley Harrison asked if there were any differences in treatment for offenders that pled guilty or no contest. Donna Glandon asked whether there were any juvenile BIP programs he knew about. Mr. Altes stated he was aware of anti-bullying programs but not juvenile BIP. Lauren Gardner circled back to the differences between therapy and BIP and asked how to approach batterers who refuse BIP but do want to seek therapeutic help. Mr. Altes emphasized the effectiveness of BIP and its group setting. He added that its common for other clients in the group to keep their peers accountable by pointing out unacceptable behavior. Laura Gardner asked if there were differences in outcomes depending on whether a BIP facilitator was male or female. Mr. Altes stated there was currently no empirical research that he was aware of. He did point out that female facilitators at Family Builders are as effective as their male counterparts. Scott Hawkins recommended the fifty-two (52) week accountability towards BIP be shifted to the Sheriff Offices so it cannot fall through the cracks. This was referring to offenders who do not go to their required weekly BIP sessions. Angela pointed out the effectiveness of DV coordinated court clerk who tracks BIP and makes sure judges get reports on non-compliance. Finally, Janice Carr asked for more information on BIP outcomes and success rates. Mr. Altes pointed out the earlier statistic on how those 101 individuals who completed the program, 72% saw improvement in Violence Risk Assessments. However, he did acknowledge there are also many dropouts who do not complete the program. Currently, there is no systematic way to ascertain BIP outcomes. He did quote research that suggested offenders are six (6) times less likely to not reoffend after the successful completion of a fifty-two (52) week program.

Mr. Altes concluded his presentation and thanked the DVFRB for their time.

VIII. Consideration of Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session*

Pursuant to 25 O.S. § 307B for the purpose of case review

- a. Adjourn to Executive Session***
- b. Review and discussion of case #210921**
- c. Consideration of return from executive session**
- d. Announcement by Chair as to the necessity of any Board action as a result of Executive Session**
- e. Vote as a result of Executive Session***

Beth Green made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session. Scott Hawkins seconded the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote (19 Aye, 0 Nay). The Chair led the Board into Executive Session at 10:51 a.m. The Board concluded and came out of Executive Session at 11:56 a.m. No action was taken as a result of the Executive Session.

IX. New Business Not Known or Which Could Not Have Been Reasonably Foreseen Before the Posting of the Agenda *in Accordance with 25 O.S. § 311(9).*

No new business.

X. Announcements

No new announcements.

XI. Adjournment*

Beth Green made a motion to adjourn at 11:56 a.m. Scott Hawkins seconded the motion. Chair Donna Glandon declared the meeting adjourned at 11:56 a.m.