

**Child Support Advisory Committee Minutes  
 October 10, 2014  
 Botanical Center – Walsh Room  
 909 Robert D. Ray Drive  
 Des Moines, IA**

<b>Members / Alternates Present</b>	<b>Others Present</b>	<b>Members / Alternates Absent</b>
Christopher Robinson	Carol Eaton	Greg Hughes
Maja Rater	Marla Byers	Honorable Eliza Ovrom
Evelyn Ocheltree	Jana Eighmey	Dodie Bauman
Kathy Mika	Sara Siedsma	Suzanne Overton
Debra Moore	Dena Sloan	Honorable Janet Petersen
Fred Scaletta	Janelle Rueber	Honorable Julian Garrett
Barbara Van Allen	Terry Tesar	Cherie Lawson
Dick Woods		Matthew Weichers
David Jungmann		
Honorable Nancy Boettger		

**I. Welcome**

Mr. Robinson called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm and welcomed everyone.

**II. Discuss / Approve April 2014 Minutes**

Ms. Van Allen moved to approve the minutes for the April 11, 2014 meeting. Ms. Moore seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

**III. Bureau Chief's Report**

**A. Web Update**

Terry Tesar, Policy Specialist, gave an update on Website Enhancements including more frequent "What's New" information, "Case Details" pages including balance information and debit and credit card payments.

"What's New" will include general program updates "as needed" and "Important Updates." No sign-in is required for these items.

"Case Details" is limited to registered parties and gives an overview of specific case information including case status, court orders, payments made, balance, and employer information.

Debit and credit card payments will be available for registered payors beginning October 28, 2014 with a convenience fee of 3%. Payments will be taken by Visa, Master Card, and Discover Card. Only the financial institution will store the credit card information. CSRU keeps a record of the payment but not the card information and the connection is encrypted. The payor will receive an email confirmation once the payment has been made.

## **B. Budget Update**

Ms. Eaton provided an update on the SFY16-17 budget proposal and reviewed the materials. During SFY14, in cases where support had been established or modified by CSRU, the median annual income of a custodial parent served by CSRU was \$13,284. For noncustodial parents served by CSRU, the median annual income was \$17,976.

CSRU sent 174,494 income-withholding notices to employers in SFY14. Seventy-seven percent of collections come from employer withholdings. In SFY14, the Collections Services Center (CSC) processed 2,928,036 child support payments, totaling \$325.8 million.

The average annual cost for CSRU to provide services is \$305 per case. CSRU collects an average of \$2,060 annually per court-ordered case.

For every \$1 spent to collect child support, \$5.91 was collected for children, families, and to reimburse taxpayers for the cost of public assistance (welfare).

## **C. Legislation**

Sara Siedsma, Policy Specialist, provided an update on legislation. CSRU plans to propose the suspension legislation again during the 2015 session. This will provide another alternative for a payor to suspend support when they are unable to locate or receive a response from the payee.

Sara provided a handout with details regarding the federal legislation on H.R. 4980; Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act of 2014, that was signed by the president on September 29, 2014.

She highlighted items related to the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA), tribal access to the Federal Parent Locator Service (FPLS), parenting time arrangements, interoperability, reporting to Congress, and required electronic processing of income withholding.

## **D. Deceased Payee Project**

Janelle Rueber, Policy Specialist, provided an update on the deceased payee project that CSRU has been working on. Currently when the payee dies, the court order continues and the payor would have to go to court in order to end the court order obligation. Policy changes are being looked at in order to be able to address this issue in some situations, without requiring the payor to go to court in order to end the collection of support.

**E. Child Support 101 Overview**

Ms. Eaton provided an updated Child Support 101 document and reviewed.

**F. Child Support Debt Report**

Ms. Eaton provided handouts on the history of the child support debt and collections. She indicated that the debt continues to decline. As of SFY14, the total debt is \$857,222,511.

**G. Performance Statistics**

Ms. Eaton provided a handout on performance statistics and reviewed. Performance continues to remain strong with paternity establishment hitting 104% in FFY14 which includes paternity affidavits, adoptions, and child support orders.

**IV. Old Business**

**A. Guidelines Schedule**

Ms. Eaton provided a timeline on the last guidelines review process. Members discussed having only one public hearing as opposed to several this time, with presenters signing up for a specific time to speak. Members discussed adding a link on the DHS website for comments from the public.

There was discussion regarding holding a two day meeting, rather than one, to discuss guidelines recommendation. The meeting dates will be set at the October 2015 meeting. The committee will have additional discussion at the April 2015 meeting to determine the public hearing and meeting schedule and then vote on the process for going forward.

**B. By-laws Update**

Members reviewed draft updates to the by-laws and discussed further recommendations. Ms. Eaton will provide an updated version at the April meeting for voting.

**V. New Business**

**A. CSAC on DHS Website**

Terry Tesar, Policy Specialist, provided information about CSAC on the website. This includes CSAC members' names, meetings, minutes, and agendas.

Members discussed wanting a "comments" link on the website.

**VI. Other Business**

**VII. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 3:11 pm.

The next meeting will be held on April 10, 2015 from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm at the Des Moines Botanical Center Walsh Room.