

Child Support Task Force Minutes

January 31, 2018

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

180 State Office Building, Room 10

100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Saint Paul, MN 55155

Members Present: The following task force members were present on Wednesday, January 31, 2018:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jimmy Loyd, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Senator Mary Kiffmeyer	<input type="checkbox"/> Representative Laurie Pryor
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Melinda Hugdahl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Representative Peggy Scott	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa Kontz
<input type="checkbox"/> Jodie Metcalf	<input type="checkbox"/> Jeffrey Jorgenson	<input type="checkbox"/> Rachel Sablan
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jason Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Melissa Rossow	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rahya Iliff
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Senator Melissa Wiklund	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pamela Waggoner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mia Wilson

DHS Staff:

Other Meeting Participants:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sonya Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessica Raymond	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charlie Petersen, facilitator
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tara Borton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Sommerfeld	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jane Venohr, economist
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Julie Erickson, alternate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shaneen Moore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stacy Sjogren, facilitator
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brynn Rhodes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bruce Erickson	<input type="checkbox"/>

Welcome:

Agenda review, introductions of the group and farewell to Charlie.

Updates:

None

Reminders, logistics, and announcements:

- a. Task Force scope and purpose: Stacy references posters on wall, ground rules and purpose of the task force.
- b. Process Revisions and announcements for 2018:
 - i. Response to data requests: Various data requests are received, how does the task force want to handle the amount of requests?

Following discussion, agreement that task force does not need to be notified of task-force related data requests, generally. However, notification of requests for personal information of the task force members, or information which would be helpful to the task force in their work is appreciated.

- ii. Reminder about use of Dr. Venohr's time:

The first contracted task has gone over the allocated time in the contract. If more work is needed on the guidelines table, DHS and Dr. Venohr will need to begin adjusting other tasks to stay within the contract amount. Nothing needed from the task force at this time.

- c. Acknowledge current group organizational documents
 - i. Glossary of Terms: Contact Jessica with questions or terms to add

- ii. Visual Guide: Brynn created this document
- iii. Decision Chart as of January 31, 2018: This will be kept up to date with decisions
- iv. Tentative 2018 Decision Timeline: Jessica created this document

Review and approval of December meeting minutes:

Minutes approved: The December meeting minutes were approved and will be posted on the Child Support Task Force website. **Completed 2/1/18**

Discussion

Peggy requested that names of task force members be used in minutes rather than referring to “a member.” Also requested that public comment be included substantively in the minutes.

Julie, Mia, and Jimmy spoke against the proposal because of concerns for potential misrepresentation of intent of the speaker if staff must summarize comments. Mia additionally expressed concerns for discouraging comments.

Melinda questioned whether a Tenessen warning would be required.

Peggy and Jason support the proposal for transparency purposes.

Decision: First name of public commenter and bullet point topic list to be included in minutes.

Review desired meeting outcomes

- a. Finalize timeline for making remaining required decisions and 2018 meeting schedule including an approach for continuing work during the legislative session.

Jimmy: Introduced idea of small sub-groups during the legislative session. Each group would look into one or more issues then report back to main task force meeting for discussion and decisions.

Brief discussion about record keeping and logistics.

Jimmy: Meetings would be open to the public, but there will not be public comment.

Julie: DHS staff would provide support for meetings. However, note taking and record keeping details would need to be determined at the group and may or may not be done by staff.

Discussion about remaining topics and which should be included.

Jimmy: Send topic interests (three) and scheduling preferences to Jimmy or Rahya.

Discussion about larger task force meetings.

Decision: May will be the next full task force meeting (May 30, 9:00-1:00, Room 10). DHS, Chair, and Stacy will gather preferences and send an email with groups and meeting details.

- b. Decide type of Task Force involvement in the Quadrennial Review Report:

- i. Jessica gave an overview of Quadrennial requirements under federal law, and the task force's statutory obligation. DHS's position is that the task force has already met the statutory requirements, but may decide to contribute further. Provided clarification of the difference between the Quadrennial Review and reports to the MN Legislature.
- ii. Discussion

Decision: Task Force will be available if requested by the Department. DHS will provide a draft of the Quadrennial Review before finalizing, and will provide a presentation to the task force in the fall. DHS will inform the task force of any findings relevant to the task force's work throughout the process.

- c. Dr. Venohr appears on the phone:
 - i. Review updated "Option B.4" from Dr. Venohr. This guidelines table option takes out the \$250 medical consideration, does not include a tax adjustments, and uses an alternative multiplier for multiple children.
 - ii. Table needs to be wrapped up, as contract for task already exceeded. SSR, low income adjustment, and minimum order is up next.
 - iii. Clarifications that this version includes Dec. 2017 price levels. New will be available in Feb. 2018. There is no low income adjustment built into the Option B.4 table yet.
 - iv. Clarification of gross/net. The chart uses the USDA numbers, which use gross income. Tax adjustments to be included in the worksheet
 - v. Question regarding data for multiple children: Dr. Venohr can send articles for members to review if interested.
 - vi. Discussion about change in spending patterns and costs of raising children in recent years.
- d. Discussion of low income adjustments which were not included in the latest numbers from Dr. Venohr. Would like runs involving low income obligors and see how the unadjusted chart interacts with the Self Support Reserve. Make sure to be clear what assumptions we used. Show a few parenting time scenarios.
- e. Introduction to self-support-reserve. Postponed to next meeting
- f. Other: Peggy will provide information about the definition of "net income" in different states. Will send to Sonya to distribute to the task force.

Upcoming Decisions

1. Self-Support Reserve
2. Adjustments- 2nd Household, non-joint children, and adjustments for more than three children
3. Explanation of any tax assumptions within USDA

Public Comment

Two audience members provided public comments.

1. Diane
 - Low-income adjustment
 - Quadrennial Review
2. Michael

- Table is too high

New Action Items

1. Definition of “net income” in different states (Peggy will provide information).
2. Department to provide some comparison cases between Dr. Venohr’s B.4 table and Minnesota’s current table, including the self support reserve.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, May 30, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Room 10

State Office Building, St. Paul, MN.