

JCICS Board Meeting  
January 27, 2009  
In Person

**Attendees:** R. Pearlman, H. Stultz, J. Rolsky, R. Gibson, K. Sacco, K. Wallace, L. Brownlee, K. Altwies Nicholson, T. DiFilipo, N. Fox, S. Cox

**Absent:** P. Singer, A. Hayo, D. Johnson

**Call to Order & Agenda:** R. Gibson at 1:47 PM EST

**Programs & Services Overview:** T. DiFilipo

Reports on programs and services were emailed to the board in advance and briefly reviewed together in person. The board was encouraged to ask questions if more detail was required. It was noted that staff member Taylor Fleeson was laid off, thanks to Nancy for the letter written to her on behalf of the board. Taylor handled the news very well and continues to cooperate in any way she can, including an offer to come in and continue to help.

For the full report on the categories below, please see the attachments to the minutes.

Member Services Report

Discussion was held about agencies that are currently considering closure. K. Wallace & J. Rolsky agreed to draft some basic guidelines, referring to the merger tip sheet that JCICS distributed in 2008.

JCICS has 18 new member agencies in 2009 to date.

Education & Research Report

Advocacy Report

A request was made to consider changing to the name of Mbali's Message to something more universally appealing. Going forward the board will also directly receive all mass mailings or email posts that are sent out to any group or organization.

Operations Report

**CEO's Report:** T. DiFilipo

Country Updates

For Hague cases children have to be fully up-to-date on all vaccinations. The blanket waiver from the CDC is not working as a resolution; it appears this issue will require a legislative fix. Tom will send talking points to FCC.

## Families for Orphans Act

Executive summary material was reviewed by the board. Title 1 would create an office within the U.S. government that would help set policy and coordinate the activities of U.S. government programmatic services. The budget for the office will be \$20 million, same as the office of Trafficking & Persons which is the model this is based on. It requires ambassadors to include this issue in their portfolios; any aid under this act provided to another government directly or indirectly can only be available if that government allows intercountry adoption is an option for children living outside of family care. Title 2 says that when a child's adoption is completed in another country and meets all requirements, they would be issued a COC in-country and be considered a citizen from birth. When the child turns of legal age they could choose to opt out and it just be a citizen but not from birth.

T. DiFilipo will give feedback to the coalition & Senator Landrieu regarding the link between funding and children available for adoption. Further conversation will be held tomorrow during Terri Baugh's presentation.

## Conference Preview

Board responsibilities were reviewed. Board members need to arrive Tuesday night to be present for Wednesday's adult adoptee conference. The board meeting will be held Saturday night from 5-7 PM after the conference ends.

A suggestion was made to reschedule some of the caucus meetings to 7 AM on Saturday to avoid too many being held at the same time.

## Permanency Council

There is no new activity to report at this time. The council has essentially become inactive after concerns expressed about its purpose and function. This group now continues to meet outside of the auspices of JCICS.

Discussion was held about a JCICS CEO Fall retreat via video conference. Susan, Nancy, Richard, Keith & Jared will form a subcommittee to develop a formal suggestion to be presented to the Directors.

## COA Liaison: J. Rolsky

Accreditations will no longer be staggered going forward, instead all will be issued in four year increments. A response from COA regarding an appeal process still has not yet been received. After resubmission of materials by JCICS to DOS, reconsideration is being made regarding outgoing cases. Tom will most likely serve on the COA board starting in March 2009.

**Secretary's Report: H. Stultz**

Action items were reviewed.

**MOTION: To approve the minutes from December 17, 2008.**  
**N. Fox MOVED/ S. Cox PASSED Unanimously**

**Nominating Committee: N. Fox & H. Stultz**

The 2009 slate was reviewed. There are three available slots and six candidates. Running are Kathy Brodsky, Dana Johnson, Stephanie Mitchell, Richard Pearlman, Sam Pitkowsky and Andrea Stawike. All documentation is in and interviews will be held next week.

Discussion took place that monthly board calls will continue and that there will be limited in-person meetings due to the 2009 budget. One will be held at the conference. Due to the limited budget, JCICS cannot offer reimbursement for travel expenses. Board members who are unable to attend due to financial constraints can participate via conference call.

**MOTION: To approve the 2009 slate.**  
**J. Rolsky MOVED/ R. Pearlman SECONDED PASSED Unanimously**

**Miscellaneous: T. DiFilipo**

The board is encouraged to assist staff with calls to non-renewing members.

**MOTION: To recess the meeting at 5:10 PM EST.**  
**N. Fox MOVED/ J. Rolsky SECONDED PASSED Unanimously**

**Action Items:**

1. K. Wallace & J. Rolsky – draft tip sheet regarding agency closure.
2. T. DiFilipo – send talking points to FCC regarding the Hague vaccination issue.
3. Staff – reschedule some caucus meetings for Saturday morning during the conference.
4. S. Cox, N. Fox, R. Pearlman, K. Wallace & J. Rolsky – draft proposal for fall CEO retreat via video conference for JCICS.
5. Board – assist with calls to non-renewing members.

**Open Action Items from December 17, 2008:**

1. J. Rolsky – follow-up with V. Peterson regarding Ethics Committees' proposed revisions to the SOP.

**Open Action Items from September 16, 2008:**

1. S. Cox, K. Altweis-Nicholson, N. Fox & J. Rolsky – work on plan for new affiliate acquisition.

**Open Action Items from June 24, 2008:**

1. T. DiFilipo – send statement regarding members advertisement of pending Hague status to Executive Committee for review.
2. Staff – post finalized Hague status statement on JCICS website.

**Open Action Items from April 23, 2008:**

1. Staff – notify BOD 24-48 hours before new website goes live.



# Board of Directors Meeting January 27 – 28, 2009

## Agenda

### Tuesday, January 27, 2009

10:00 – 12:00

**US DOS and US CIS Quarterly Update Meeting**

Department of State – Office of Children’s Issues

12:00 – 1:15

**Lunch**

1:15 – 1:45

**Transit** – Cabs to Meeting Space

1:45 – 2:00

**Chair’s Report and Welcome** – *Rick*

1. NCFA Update

2:00 – 2:45

**Programs & Services Overview** (*attachment*) – *Tom & Staff*

1. Member Services Report
2. Education & Research Report
3. Advocacy Report
4. Operations Report

2:45 – 3:30

**CEO’s Report** – *Tom*

1. Country Updates
2. Families for Orphans Act (*attachment*)
3. Conference Preview
4. Permanency Council
5. COA Liaison - *Jared*

*[Staff participation ends]*

### Tuesday, January 27, 2009 (continued)

3:30 – 3:45

**Break**

**3:45 – 4:45**

**Officers' Reports & Committee Updates**

1. Secretary's Report – *Heather*
  - a. Action: Vote on Minutes (*attachment*)
2. Treasurer's Report – *Jared*
  - a. Finance Committee
  - b. 2008 Financial Review
  - c. 2009 Budget (*attachment*)
3. *Nominating Committee Report* – *Heather & Nancy*
  - a. Action: Vote on Slate of Candidates (*attachment*)
4. *Board Committee Structure*
  - a. *Finance*
  - b. *Development*

**5:00**

**Adjourn** – *Rick*

**Wednesday, January 28, 2009**

**8:30 – 9:00**

**Transit** – **Cabs** to Meeting Space

**9:00 – 9:15**

**Welcome and Review of Tuesday** – *Rick*

**9:15– 9:45**

**CEO Performance Review** – *Rick*

1. 2009 Review Committee

**9:45 – 10:45**

**Membership** – *Rick*

1. Survey Results
2. Membership Criteria – non-denied Hague Accreditation

**10:45 – 11:30**

**Development Session** – *Susan*

**11:30 – 1:00**

**Lunch**

**1:00 - 2:00**

**Board Self Review – All**

**2:00 – 2:15**

**New Business – All**

**2:15**

**Adjourn – Rick**