Amarillo CoC (COCTX-611) Board Meeting Minutes
July 8, 2026
Hillside Christian Church – North Campus
3508 NE 24th Ave
Amarillo, TX 79107
8:30 AM

- **Board Members Present**
  - James Bellar, Lacey Korn, Virginia Williams Trice, Rudy Montano, Steve Smart, Audra Rea, Janelle Evans, Dianne Ridgway, Stefanie Rodarte-Suto
- **Board Members Absent**
  - Juan Maldonado, Michelle Shields
- **Observers in Attendance**
  - Shaira Joyce (CA), Jackie Simmons (CA), Aubrey Scarth (Lived Experience), Thomas Higgins (APD), David Borron (APD), Kathy Olson (Four Winds), Rusty Donelson, Nick Mitchell (Homebase)

1. **Call to Order**
   a. The meeting was called to order at 8:34 AM by James Bellar without quorum.
2. **Homebase Presentation**
   a. Nick Mitchell presented a CoC board capacity training focused on strengthening the board's structure, governance, and overall effectiveness. The presentation covered HUD's vision for CoCs, the board's core responsibilities, best practices, and how those principles are applied within the Amarillo CoC.
   b. During the question-and-answer session, board members discussed the 2026 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), current board processes, and the need for action guides to support the board's day-to-day operations.
   c. *Audra Rea entered the meeting at approximately 9am, and a quorum was reached.*
3. **Consent Agenda**
   a. Consider Approval of Minutes
      i. The Board reviewed the minutes from the June 10 and June 26 Board meetings, along with the Consent Agenda.

ii. Rudy Montano made a motion to approve the meeting minutes and the Consent Agenda. Audra Rea seconded the motion. All members voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion carried.

4. **Discussion Items**
   a. *Scoring and Ranking Committee Appointments*
      i. Stefanie Rodarte-Suto informed the Board that four to five non-conflicted members are needed to serve on the Scoring and Ranking Committee. She noted that a vote was not required. The committee will meet on **July 30** to score and rank all project applications and will also meet beforehand to review the scoring and ranking tool and process.
      ii. **Lacey Korn, Virginia Williams-Trice, Dianne Ridgway, and Janelle Evans** volunteered to serve on the committee.
      iii. Stefanie added that committee members are not required to be local and encouraged seeking qualified non-conflicted members from other communities if needed.
   b. *Appeals Committee Appointments*
      i. The Board discussed the Appeals Committee, which will meet on **August 6** only if appeals are received. **Audra Rea** volunteered to serve on the committee.
   c. *Collaborative Applicant Scoring Priorities*
      i. Shaira Joyce presented the Collaborative Applicant scoring priorities for the FY 2026 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). She reviewed the strategy for maximizing available points by prioritizing achievable scoring categories, identifying points already secured, and recognizing areas where the Amarillo CoC is unlikely to receive points.
      ii. She also explained that the current NOFO places significant emphasis on coordination among CoC partners. The Collaborative Applicant plans to highlight both existing and planned coordinated activities, as these account for more than half of the available scoring points.
   d. *September Agency Spotlight Recommendations*
      i. James Bellar requested recommendations for the September Agency Spotlight. Lacey Korn recommended **No Boundaries.**
      ii. Audra Rea shared that she and Janelle Evans are developing a new program and expressed interest in presenting it at a future Agency Spotlight once it is fully established.
      iii. Lacey Korn also invited agencies to present at the Lived Experience Committee meetings, held every other Tuesday.

5. **Non-Consent Agenda Items**
   a. *Audra Rea announced the Road to 2027 Tour Advocacy Roundtable Discussion and stated that she would distribute the event flyer to the Board.*

6. Adjournment

a. *James Bellar made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Audra Rea seconded the motion. All members voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at* ***9:47 a.m.***