Amarillo CoC (COCTX-611) Board Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2026
Hillside Christian Church – North Campus
3508 NE 24th Ave
Amarillo, TX 79107
9:00 AM

- **Board Members Present**
  - Michelle Shields, Virginia Williams Trice, Steve Smart, Janelle Evans, Dianne Ridgway, Stefanie Rodarte-Suto, Juan Maldonado, Lacey Korn via Teams
- **Board Members Absent**
  - James Bellar, Audra Rea, Rudy Montano
- **Guests in Attendance**
  - Shaira Joyce (CA), Jackie Simmons (CA), Sheldon West (APD), C. Padron (APD), Rusty Donelson (DSPILC)

1. **Call to Order**
   a. Michelle Shields called the meeting to order at **9:13 AM.**
2. **Introductions**
   a. Board members and guests introduced themselves and their respective organizations.
3. **Consent Agenda**
   a. *Consider Approval of Consent Agenda (Minutes, Reports)*
      i. The Board reviewed the minutes from the July 8 board meeting and the July 8 general meeting along with the submitted subcommittee and Collaborative Applicant reports.
      ii. ***Steve Smart*** *moved to approve the consent agenda as presented.* ***Juan Maldonado*** *seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*
4. **Discussion Items**
   a. *Shelter Committee Discussion:*

        i. The board discussed Faith City Mission's enthusiasm about leading the Shelter Subcommittee. Virginia Williams Trice will initiate scheduling to discuss leadership structure and formalize next steps.

   b. *CoC NOFO: Local Competition and Collaborative Application Update*
        i. Shaira Joyce presented an update on the NOFO to the Board. She explained that a court ruling on Friday vacated the NOFO and discussed what that meant for the current collaborative application. She described how the CA was handling the situation by moving forward with accessible tasks while pausing actions related to deadlines. She also described efforts to obtain MOUs and partnerships with the CoC to earn points for the collaborative application. As of the meeting date, there was no update on whether the NOFO would move forward.

           In the meantime, the CA has encouraged applicants to continue strengthening their applications. Shaira explained that HUD's possible next steps could include appealing the decision or issuing a new NOFO. She noted that these changes would not alter HUD's priorities but could change the process. Therefore, the CA has advised applicants to continue working on their applications.

           The application due date will likely change, and the CA will continue communicating relevant information by email and at meetings as clear direction is received from HUD. She also noted that the tiered list will not be finalized until the next steps are determined.

5. **Non Consent Agenda Items**
   a. *CoC Approval of proposed statements for Collaborative Application (Shaira Joyce)*
        i. Safe Consumption Statement. Shaira outlined the proposed statement for the application, which would allow the CoC to receive additional points. The Board reviewed the statement and provided feedback. The Board discussed its thoughts and concerns before voting. During the discussion, the Board noted that HUD had determined Narcan and safe lockers to be acceptable, addressing questions previously raised by the Board.
        ii. *Michelle Shields requested a motion to approve the Safe Consumption Statement.* ***Steve Smart*** *moved to approve the statement, and* ***Dianne Ridgway*** *seconded the motion. All were in favor, with none opposed. The motion passed.*
        iii. *Michelle Shields then requested a motion to approve the drafted Nondiscrimination Statement.* ***Juan Maldonado*** *moved to approve the*

*statement, and **Steve Smart** seconded the motion. All were in favor, with none opposed. The motion passed.*

b. Michelle Shields asked the Board if there were any new items to share or topics they would like to see discussed at the next Board meeting.

   i. A question was raised concerning camps where individuals were being victimized or experiencing trafficking. Along with the APD guests, the Board discussed ways the City could work collaboratively to address these concerns.

   ii. The APD officers discussed the Chief's objective of moving toward a resource-oriented approach rather than an enforcement-focused approach. Janelle Evans mentioned that 2-1-1 has a fund to assist in sending individuals to safe places outside the city.

   iii. The Board also discussed the increase in families living in vehicles around the city, the current housing crisis, inflation, and the ongoing rent crisis.

c. *Michelle Shields shared with the board that the next board meeting will be held **September 9 at 8:45 a.m.** to allow time to transition to the general meeting.*

6. Adjournment

a. *Michelle Shields adjourned the meeting at **10:02 a.m.***