

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF SOCIAL SERVICES
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2017 MEETING

The Henderson County Board of Social Services conducted their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 19, 2017 at 12:00 PM in the East Conference Room (C2104) of the Human Services Building. Present from the Board were Chair Penny Summey, Vice-Chair Dr. Jennifer Hensley, John Boyd, Tyra Kirby and Frank Wilson. Present from the DSS staff were Jerrie McFalls (Director), Kevin Marino (Social Work Program Administrator), Sandy Morgan (Economic Services Program Administrator), Joe Maxey (Administrative Officer), Trina Hill (Adult Services Program Manager) and Karen Vale (Clerk to the Board). Assistant County Manager Amy Brantley and County Attorney Russ Burrell were also in attendance.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:00 PM by Chair Summey.

Public Input: None

Adjustments to the Agenda: Chair Summey asked for several adjustments to the agenda: Item III - Years of Recognition Awards to DSS Staff will be moved to the end of the meeting, and Item IX - Closed Session will be moved to the beginning of the meeting. All board members agreed with these adjustments.

Chair Summey made a motion to go in to closed session at 12:03 PM pursuant to North Carolina General Statute §143-318.11(a)(1) to prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to the laws of this State or of the United States, or not considered a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the General Statutes. Mr. Boyd seconded the motion, all present were in favor.

The DSS board was motioned back into open session at 12:50 PM. Mr. Boyd made the motion and Dr. Hensley seconded, all present were in favor. Ms. Brantley, Mr. Burrell and Mrs. Hill were excused from the meeting. For the benefit of the newer board members, Chair Summey reminded everyone that items covered in closed session are confidential and not to be discussed outside the closed session.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the August 15, 2017 meeting were approved on a motion from Mr. Boyd, seconded by Mrs. Kirby; all present were in favor.

Director's Report (Attachment I): Director McFalls reviewed her report and the August Statistical Report (**Attachment III**). Food Stamp cases are down (-5.0%) and Work First Employment cases are up (20.0%). The move of Child Day Care into NC FAST has changed the timetable on statistical reporting. Those numbers will be updated on the next report. CPS-Children in Custody and APS Open cases are both down, -10.5 % and -16.4% respectively.

Director McFalls highlighted the September Employees of the Month (**Attachment II**) and asked Mrs. Morgan and Mr. Marino to share about their staff.

Program Administrators Reports (Attachment IV): Social Work Program Administrator Marino updated his report: The NC FAST meeting scheduled for 9/13 & 14 in Polk County has been postponed to late October or early November. There will be a demonstration of a proposed case management system in Caldwell County on September 26th and October 24th that he, along with PA Morgan and AO Maxey will be attending.

Economic Services Program Administrator Morgan reviewed her report, stating that the information coming out of NC FAST and from the State of NC is so inconsistent regarding policy that her staff spends a lot of time on research and phone calls to ensure that they are correct in their benefit determinations.

Administrative Officer Maxey highlighted the positive feedback he has been receiving from the on-call social work staff regarding the response times from Henderson County deputies. We are currently sharing three deputies assigned to Parks detail, they respond to DSS as needed. The deputies have been extremely cooperative and responsive. Mr. Maxey reminded the board that we are still without a law enforcement presence in the building during the work day. Regarding the FMLA topic shared by Director McFalls during her report, Mr. Maxey reviewed how FMLA (Family Medical Leave Act) affects

the lapsed salary line of the budget. Finally, Mr. Maxey stated that the two month year-to-date budget update was in the board packet, and we are doing well.

Focus Area Updates: Chair Summey asked if there were any new updates to the topic areas, none were provided. Chair Summey asked to review the assigned areas as a follow-up to the discussion at the August meeting. She proposed the following assignments:

- Dr. Hensley – Child Welfare/CCPT
- Mr. Wilson – Diversity/Minority
- Mr. Boyd – Housing/Sustainability
- Mrs. Kirby – Aging/COA (input from Program Manager Hill)
- Mrs. Summey – Mental Health/Substance Abuse

All board members agreed to these assignments and will bring information to share at the next meeting.

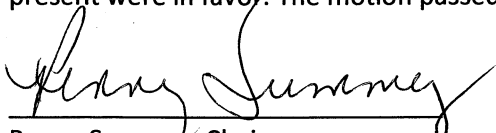
Old Business:

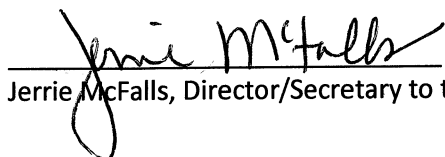
- Times-News Article for September: The article was published on the Community page of the 9/17 edition. Mr. Boyd was credited with the article and Chair Summey would like the topic submitted to the Commissioners for inclusion in their October 2nd meeting. Mr. Boyd will not be available on that date, Chair Summey will discuss with the Director after the board meeting.
- Social Services Institute: October 18-20, Hickory, NC: Chair Summey reviewed the current list of attendees; Mrs. Kirby has cancelled her reservation due to her new position with Glen Marlow Elementary. Any changes need to be sent to Karen so she can adjust reservations if needed.
- Focus Area Assignments: See above notes.

New Business: None

Years of Recognition Awards to DSS Staff: Income Maintenance Supervisor 2 Cindy Doyle joined the meeting at this time. Chair Summey recognized Ms. Doyle for her 20 years of service to the State of NC, and also recognized Mrs. Morgan for her 25 years of service to the State of NC. Recognition awards were presented to each of them. Additional staff receiving awards but not present were Child Support Agent 2 Suzie Nanney – 20 years; Social Work Supervisor 2 Tina Morgan – 20 years; and retired Income Maintenance Supervisor 2 Frank Verhaeghe – 25 years. Awards and congratulatory cards will be delivered to them by their supervisors. Mr. Verhaeghe's will be mailed.

Next Meeting and Adjournment: Chair Summey reminded the board that the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 17th at 12:00 PM. Mr. Boyd made motion to adjourn the meeting, Vice-Chair Hensley seconded the motion, all present were in favor. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 PM.


Penny Summey, Chair


Jerrie McFalls, Director/Secretary to the Board

: JGM

Attachments:

- I. Director's Report (September 2017)
- II. Employees of the Month (September 2017)
- III. Statistical Report (August 2016 – August 2017)
- IV. Program Administrators Report (September 2017)
- V. Memorandum on Financial Institution and Law Enforcement Efforts to Combat Elder Financial Exploitation (8/30/17)
- VI. Economic Service Program Administrators Report (September 2017)
- VII. FY17-18 Two Month Report (July 2017)