

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
MINUTES OF MAY 15, 2018 MEETING

The Henderson County Board of Social Services conducted their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 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 and John Boyd. Present from the DSS staff were Jerrie McFalls (Director), Kevin Marino (Social Work Program Administrator), Joe Maxey (Administrative Officer), Sandy Morgan (Economic Services Program Administrator) and Karen Vale (Clerk for the Board).

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 12:05 PM by Chair Summey.

**Public Input:** None

**Adjustments to the Agenda:** Chair Summey would like to add under New Business: DSS Board Member Appointment – Judy Smith.

**Approval of Minutes:** No changes were requested. Mr. Boyd made a motion to approve the minutes, Dr. Hensley seconded the motion. All present were in favor, the minutes were approved.

**Directors Report (Attachment I):** Director McFalls reviewed her submitted report. Regarding the status of P-4, the second set of counties that were added to the pilot program as part of the P-4 rollout have reported that their line staff has 50% less time to be out in the field working with families since the rollout. The time they are spending entering case information into NC FAST and trying to keep up with the changing job aid document have impacted direct service time. Director McFalls explained the Job Aid document (**Attachment II**). After the Director conference call last week, a meeting was set up with State House and Senate members, as well as representatives from NCACDSS and DHHS to discuss delaying further implementation of P-4 until all the issues have been resolved. The State legislature will go back into session on 5/16/18 for a short budget session, they plan to be done by 7/1/18. Finally, Director McFalls reviewed the final draft of the State/County Agreement (**Attachment III**). Concerns continue to be raised across the State regarding county DSS's being held accountable for situations outside of their control i.e. court continuances and reunification goal being extended past 12 months by the Court. There is no explanation of how data will be kept/retrieved to measure the county performance. Attachment XI of the Agreement outlines a process for DSS's found to not meet the measures. Dr. Hensley asked who would be signing the agreement for Henderson County? Director McFalls shared that she had discussed the agreement with Assistant County Manager Amy Brantley and a firm decision has not been made. Dr. Hensley further asked that if this agreement is a contract, is their room for negotiation on certain points? It's possible, some DSS directors may sign the agreement with caveats included regarding not being held accountable for factors out of DSS control. NCACDSS did respond to DHHS via letter with an outline of questions and feedback. The final version of the agreement is scheduled to be ready by 5/18/18.

**Program Administrators Reports (Attachment IV):** Social Work Program Administrator Marino reviewed his report. Mr. Boyd asked about the cost of the Child Welfare Simulation Lab, to which Mr. Marino responded between \$250,000 and \$300,000 annually that would train 1,200 staff, supervisors and BSW/MSW candidates in the Western Counties. Chair Summey asked if the cost would be allocated based on # of attendees per county? Mr. Marino hopes that IV-E funding could be directed to cover these trainings. Currently, funding would come from tuition paid by each attendee.

With the successful selection of a candidate for the clinical position as part of the Duke Endowment grant, a press release will be forthcoming and Frank Crocker from WLOS will be meeting with Mr. Marino to talk about the grant and the new position.

Economic Services Program Administrator Sandy Morgan reviewed her report.

Fiscal Officer Maxey reviewed his report and added that the HC Commissioners would be holding a budget meeting tomorrow, May 16<sup>th</sup>, to review the submitted department budgets. Once the commissioners approve the FY 18-19 budget, Joe will distribute the approved budget to the board members. Mr. Maxey also added that expenses for client travel have been dropping for the last three years as staff are encouraged to use the county vehicles for transportation. On average, \$5,000 per year has been saved.

**Focus Area Updates:** Chair Summey asked if there were any new updates to the topic areas.

- Dr. Hensley – Child Welfare/CCPT: None
- Mr. Wilson – Diversity/Minority: Did not attend meeting
- Mr. Boyd – Housing/Sustainability: None
- Mrs. Kirby – Aging/COA: Did not attend meeting
- Mrs. Summey – Mental Health/Substance Abuse: The Council on Aging is working on their strategic plan and will be holding an all-day meeting on Thursday, May 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Old Business:**

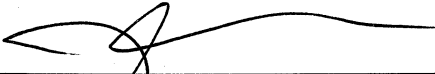
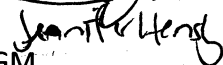
- Board of Social Services Vacancy – Nominations: Chair Summey shared some background highlights on the boards applicant for the 5<sup>th</sup> member, replacing John Boyd. Mrs. Smith taught in Henderson County for many years and is recently been serving on the Child and Family Resource Center Board.
- Times-News Article Submission – May: Mr. Marino shared that the article is ready to go and will be submitted for publication.

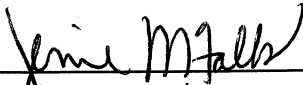
**New Business**

- DSS Board Members Stipend: Chair Summey reminded the board members that Clerk Karen Vale will be processing the stipend payments for the first half of 2018 in late June. If board members would rather have their stipend reallocated to children's services, please let Karen know by the June meeting.
- DSS Board Member Appointment – Judy Smith: Chair Summey opened the floor to discussion regarding the appointment of Judy Smith to the DSS Board of Social Services, there being none, Dr. Hensley made a motion to nominate Judy Smith to fill the 5<sup>th</sup> seat on the Henderson County Board of Social Services. Mr. Boyd seconded the nominations. Chair Summey called for a vote from all board members present, all were in favor. Judy Smith will be notified of her selection, and sworn in at the July 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. Her term will be 7/1/2018 – 6/30/2021.

**Next Meeting and Adjournment:** Chair Summey reminded the board that the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 12:00 PM; as Vice-Chair Dr. Hensley will lead the meeting as Chair Summey will be on vacation. Karen alerted the members to the Save the Date in their packet for the annual DSS staff picnic on Friday, June 15<sup>th</sup> at Jackson Park. Mr. Boyd made motion to adjourn

the meeting, Dr. Hensley seconded the motion, and all present were in favor. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 12:59 PM.

  
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Penny Summey, Chair  
  
: JGM

  
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Jerrie McFalls, Director/Secretary to the Board

Attachments:

- I. Director's Report (May 2018)
- II. Child Welfare Resources – Job Aid 2-5-18
- III. Annual Written Agreement Between DHHS and Henderson County – Draft 4-28-18
- IV. Statistical Report (April 2017 – April 2018)
- V. Program Administrators Report (May 2018)
- VI. NC DSS Academy Power Point Presentation
- VII. May Foster Care/Adoption Picnic Invitation
- VIII. FY17-18 Ten Month Report (July 2017 – April 2018)
- IX. Save the Date – DSS Staff Annual Picnic