

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF SOCIAL SERVICES
MINUTES OF MAY 16, 2017 MEETING

The Henderson County Board of Social Services conducted their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 16, 2017 at 12:00 PM in the East Conference Room (C2104) of the Human Services Building. Present from the Board were Chairperson Penny Summey, Dr. Jennifer Hensley and newly appointed board member Tyra Kirby. Present from the staff were Jerrie McFalls (Director), Kevin Marino (Social Work Program Administrator), Sandy Morgan (Economic Services Program Administrator), Joe Maxey (Administrative Officer) and Karen Vale (Clerk to the Board). Board members Melinda Lowrance and John Boyd were absent, with regrets.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 11:58 AM by Chair Summey.

Oath of Office: Chair Summey introduced new board member Tyra Kirby, who was appointed to the DSS Board by the Henderson County Commissioners during their May 1, 2017 meeting. Mrs. Kirby is replacing Jerry Rice, who resigned from the board on April 10, 2017. Clerk Karen Vale administered the oath to Mrs. Kirby.

Public Input: None

Adjustments to the Agenda: Chair Summey asked that the approval of the April minutes be postponed to the June meeting due to the lack of a quorum being present that had attended that meeting. All present were in favor, the approval of the April minutes will be added to the June agenda. Secondly, Chair Summey also asked to move the Daycare P3 Update to earlier in the meeting so that Mrs. Morgan could be excused from the meeting.

Approval of Minutes: See Above

Director's Report (Attachment I): Director McFalls reviewed her report; adding that the plan with the HC Sheriff's Department incorporates a deputy that would be assigned to Jackson Park; going out on the calls we need, then reporting back to Jackson Park. Director McFalls gave a brief history of the deputy vacancy since October 2015 to new board member Tyra Kirby. Regarding the County Fee Schedule included in the FY 17-18 Budget; DSS has had fees for several years and it is unclear as to why they have not been included on the County Fee Schedule since 2008. All appropriate fees have been added to the schedule for this year. Director McFalls then reviewed the May Employees of the Month (**Attachment II**). Chair Summey asked that the award certificates for the June Employees of the Month be brought to the June DSS Board meeting to enable the board members to sign the certificates. Clerk Karen Vale will bring them to the meeting. Director McFalls reviewed the April Statistical Report (**Attachment III**). Work First cases are down 24.8% over the prior 12 months; children participating in Day Care are down 17.4% to stay within budgeted guidelines for expenditures; Adult Protective Services Investigations are up 15.7% based on more calls and more reports being screened in for case determination.

Program Administrators Reports (Attachment IV): Program Administrator Marino reviewed his report. He updated the adoption number for the year to 33 and added that 29 family reunifications have also been completed. Program Administrator Morgan reviewed what the "Medicaid Application Processing Report Card" should contain for the benefit of the new board member. The report card for April was not available due to issues with NC FAST. Mrs. Morgan also shared that the county single audit is currently taking place; they have stated that their tolerance level is one (1) case in error. A report will be presented at the end of the week. Administrative Officer Maxey reviewed his report and added that he plans to have the approved DSS budget books ready for board distribution at the June meeting. Dr. Hensley asked if there had been any more discussion on the software selection for Child Welfare moving into NC FAST. Director McFalls stated that no decision has been announced, but that it should be coming any day.

Focus Area Updates: Dr. Hensley expressed her appreciation to Mr. Marino for his help to pull together the presentation to the County Commissioners. She also shared that Mr. Marino did a great job handling the questions presented by the commissioners during the presentation. Dr. Hensley added that she will report on her attendance at the CCPT meeting during the June board meeting.

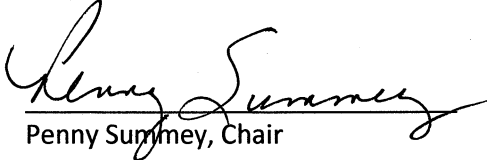
New Business:


- CFRC/Community Support Grant News Article: The article is written, Director McFalls will review it one more time prior to submitting to the Times-News by the June 9th deadline. The article will appear in the June 15th edition of the paper; Mr. Boyd will be the submitting author.
- Daycare P3 Update: Program Administrator Morgan shared that all current cases have been loaded into NC FAST and Henderson County is ready to proceed once DHHS gives us the go ahead. All providers in HC have been trained. The current rollout has the day care centers moving to NC FAST in July, with the first payments going out in early August. HC DSS did include six months of expenditure/revenue in the proposed FY 17-18 budget in case the State of NC delay's the roll out.

Old Business:

- Pending State Legislation: Director McFalls reviewed several of the pending Senate and House bills. Specifically, House Bills 386, 513, 529 and 611. Lengthy discussion was held regarding House Bill 608/Senate Bill 594 that proposes regionalizing the county DSS offices into 30 regions. No information has been provided about how this structure would look, how counties would accurately be able to pull down the funds for services completed in their areas, and whether this would move DSS to a State supervised/regional administered form of process, currently we are State supervised/county administered. The North Carolina Association of County Departments of Social Services (NCACDSS) opposes the bill as written, and has been in contact with the author of the Senate bill, Tamara Barringer. The North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) has not taken a position on this bill to date. Director McFalls shared that she met with Buncombe County DSS Director Mandy Stone last week; they drafted a letter to our area legislator's about their concerns with this bill, and the impact it will have on services. Chairperson Summey would like to meet with Director McFalls in the next week or two to discuss the actions the Henderson County Board of Social Services could take in response to this proposed legislation. A meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, May 30th at 2:00 pm.
- DSS Board Vacancy Update: The State Social Services Commission will meet on June 14th to appoint a new DSS Board member to fill the vacancy due to the departure of Vice-Chair Melinda Lowrance. Mrs. Lowrance has served on the board since July 2011 and has reached the maximum number of terms allowed by law. The Board will honor Mrs. Lowrance during the June 20th meeting. Chair Summey would like to discuss at the July meeting a board retreat in August or September and invite County Attorney Russ Burrell to present his training on confidentiality. With two new board members, it would be beneficial to review this training again and ensure everyone is comfortable with the statute.
- HC Commissioners Budget Workday: Director McFalls and Administrative Officer Maxey will be attending the budget workday on Wednesday, May 17th.

Next Meeting and Adjournment: Chair Summey reminded the board that the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 20, 2017 beginning at 12:00 PM; lunch will be served at 11:45 AM. Dr. Hensley motioned to adjourn the meeting, Mrs. Kirby seconded the motion, and 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 (May 2017)
- II. Employees of the Month (May 2017)
- III. Statistical Report (April 2016 – April 2017)
- IV. Program Administrators Report (April 2017)
- V. FY 16-17 10-Month YTD Expenses Report
- VI. Board of Social Services Term Chart (May 2017)