

Henderson County Board of Social Services

October 15th, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes

A. Call to Order

The Henderson County Board of Social Services meeting was called to order by Board Chair Dr. Jennifer Hensley at 12:04 pm.

Board Members Present	Dr. Jennifer Hensley, Chair Melinda Lowrance, Vice-Chair Tyra Kirby, Member Judy Smith, Member
Staff Leadership Present	Jerrie McFalls, Secretary to the Board/Director Kevin Marino, Social Work Program Administrator Jillian Humphries, Income Maintenance Program Administrator Joe Maxey, Administrative Officer Karen Vale, Clerk to the Board
Guests	Russ Burrell, County Attorney Chuck McGrady, State House Representative District 117

B. Public Input

None

C. Adjustments to the Agenda

Dr. Hensley made an adjustment to agenda due to time constraints: The board education section will be postponed until the November meeting and a closed session will be added to the end of the meeting today. All board members present were in agreement to the adjustments.

D. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Hensley asked if there were any changes to the minutes from the September 17th, 2019 regular meeting; there were none. Vice-Chair Lowrance made a motion to approve the minutes, Mrs. Smith seconded the motion. All present were in favor and the motion passed. Clerk Karen Vale distributed copies of the closed session minutes from the September 17th, 2019 meeting to the board members present. Dr. Hensley asked if there were any changes to the closed session minutes; there were none. Mrs. Kirby made a motion to approve the closed session minutes as written, Mrs. Smith seconded. All present were in favor and the motion passes. Clerk Karen Vale collected the copies of the closed session minutes for shredding.

E. Board Education

Postponed until November 19th meeting.

F. Guest Speaker

Chair Hensley introduced Representative Chuck McGrady (District 117). She thanked him for agreeing to attend the board meeting. Mr. McGrady started by sharing that he was a DSS Board member several years ago, and then when he was a HC Commissioner, he was appointed as the liaison between the Commissioners and the Board. He is passionate about caring for the youth in our county and is currently working on legislation that will expand medical coverage for children with autism. Regarding the SFY19-20 budget process, Mr. McGrady stated that a budget was passed with bipartisan support but was vetoed by Governor Roy Cooper. Many believe that the Governor vetoed the budget due to the missing

Medicaid Expansion funding. Since that happened, the legislature has begun passing small program specific budgets. Many areas of funding have not been addressed, the two biggest being Education and Health & Human Services. Cooperative work is not happening between the legislature and the Governor's office. The legislature will go back next week, probably for two weeks; then the session will be closed until the 2020 session opens. The State House has voted to override the Governor's veto, but the Senate has not attempted a vote on an override at this point. If the Senate voted to override the veto, the full budget would go into effect. The Senate is currently 15 votes short of an override. Members of the House have tried to put forward a Medicaid Expansion Lite option in the hopes of securing the Governor's support, this version includes a work requirement that seems to be the barrier to getting it passed. Without a funding bill for Health & Human Services, the Medicaid Transformation program is in peril. Open enrollment for Phase I has begun, providers are not signing up with the plans as needed. Director McFalls believes that if a funding bill is not passed before the legislature goes home for the year, Medicaid Transformation will stop. The lack of funding has also impeded the ability to hire staff for the on-site broker to assist enrollees with their questions and enrollment process. HC is not currently scheduled for a broker, even though the Director asked for one to be in our building. If the legislature goes home for the year with no budget, the SFY 18-19 approved budget would roll to this SFY without a provision for Medicaid Transformation. Director McFalls also shared that to date, none of the major hospitals in the area have signed up as providers. She has spoken with Graham Fields at Advent Health (formerly Park Ridge) and they plan to complete their sign up soon. As a provider, Chair Hensley shared that the lack of a set fee schedule and unresponsiveness of DHHS to provider questions has led many providers to hold off signing up. There are also concerns about the coding process and what will be covered. November 15th is the current deadline for provider enrollment. Mrs. Smith asked Mr. McGrady if he knew why the Governor vetoed the budget bill. He stated that it came down to three issues: Medicaid Expansion, Funding for education (specifically teacher salaries and program allotments), and Capital Issues (he wants to float a bond to pay for school construction and the legislature wants to pay for it outright). Mr. McGrady closed his presentation by sharing how well the HC School system is doing, the children are learning at a great pace. He also shared that his "Raise the Age" bill passed last week. This will ensure that 16- & 17-year olds are not treated as adults in the court system. North Carolina is the 49th State to pass this type of legislation. Funding will be directed to the juvenile court system to handle the increase in workload. Vice-Chair Lowrance asked Mr. McGrady if he knew why Mr. Edwards and Mr. Johnson were opposed to Medicaid Expansion. He replied that the open-ended funding of the program has many legislatures concerned. Chair Hensley thanked Mr. McGrady for coming to the meeting and listening to the board's questions.

G. Reports

Director's Monthly Report (Attachment I)

No Discussion

October Employees of the Month (Attachment III)

No Discussion

September 2018-September 2019 Statistical Report (Attachment IV)

No Discussion

1st Quarter Personnel Report (Attachment V)

No Discussion

October Program Administrator's Report (Attachment VI)

No Discussion

H. Old Business

Medicaid Transformation

Discussed during Mr. McGrady's presentation.

Future Space Renovation

No new update; hope to have more information after Mr. Barry presents to the County Commissioners during their October 16th meeting.

The Board went into closed session at 12:46 PM on a motion from Chair Hensley and seconded by Mrs. Smith. The closed session is pursuant to NCGS §143-318.11(a)(1) to prevent 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. The matter is not a public record pursuant to the provisions of NCGS §108A-80.

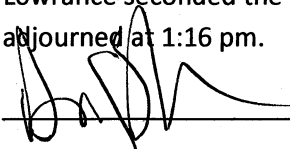
The Board reconvened the open session of the meeting at 1:14 PM on a motion from Vice-Chair Lowrance, seconded by Mrs. Kirby.

I. New Business

None

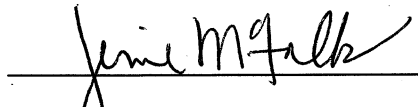
J. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, Chair Hensley made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Vice-Chair Lowrance seconded the motion, all present were in favor and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 1:16 pm.



Dr. Jennifer Hensley, Chair

Date


_____ 12/17/19

Jerrie McFalls, Secretary to the Board

Date

Attachments:

- I. Director's Report – October 2019
- II. An Evening With Ryan Hampton Flyer
- III. October Employees of the Month
- IV. September 2018 – September 2019 Statistical Report
- V. 1st Quarter Personnel Report: July – September 2019
- VI. Program Administrator's Report – October 2019
- VII. FY 19-20 3-Month YTD Budget Summary