

The Accomack County Board of Social Services met at its facility on Tuesday, May 15, 2012, at 9:30 A.M. Present were Mr. R. Dodd Obenshain, Chairman; Ms. Reneta Major, Vice-Chairman; Ms. Betty Wood; Ms. Laura B. Gordy; Ms. Kay W. Lewis; Mr. C. Ray Davis; and Mrs. Mary E. Parker, Secretary.

Mr. Obenshain called the meeting to order. Ms. Lewis gave the Invocation.

Mr. Obenshain proceeded to **Item 3 – Approve Minutes of April 17, 2012.** On motion by Ms. Major, seconded by Ms. Gordy, the Minutes were approved as written.

Mr. Obenshain continued to **Item 4 – Fraud Update.** Mrs. Parker stated we completed 339 investigations this year. Ms. Lewis stated the Tax Intercept funds were good for the month. Mrs. Parker stated Tax Intercept starts in February when people start filing their income tax returns.

Mr. Obenshain proceeded to **Item 5 – Director’s Update.** **Regular Meetings:** On April 19, 2012 Mrs. Parker attended the Disaster Preparedness Coalition meeting. Brian Rush, Chincoteague’s director of Emergency Management now chairs the committee as Sara Seaman has taken an emergency management position with NASA.

On April 27, 2012 Mrs. Parker attended a meeting to discuss County Health insurance options being considered by the Board of Supervisors. Libby Beasley is our employee committee representative.

On April 27, 2012 Mrs. Parker attended a retirement party for Glen Crim, Director of Adult Probation & Parole.

On April 30, 2012 Mrs. Parker attended a truancy meeting.

On May 1, 2012 Mrs. Parker attended a Prisoner Reentry meeting.

On May 10, 2012 Mrs. Parker attended a Community Partners of the Eastern Shore meeting.

On May 11, 2012 Mrs. Parker attended a NSU BSW/MSW Degree program meeting. They are moving forward and it appears the MSW piece will be commencing in January 2013. The BSW piece will take longer as the first two years have to be at the ESCC and the balance through NSU. Mrs. Parker stated she would keep the Board apprised.

**Regional/State Meetings:** On April 25, 2012 Mrs. Parker attended the Commissioner’s State/Local meeting in Richmond. The meeting was attended by county administrators, city managers and local DSS directors. Accomack County Administrator Steve Miner had a problem to arise and was unable to attend.

On May 2-4, 2012 Mrs. Parker attended the VLSSE Spring Conference, Virginia Beach. She attended several workshops that dealt with items that would affect our bottom line at the agency or would affect retirement; however, we are waiting for Accomack County to decide whether they are going to do the full 5% or they will do it in 1% increments. We will not know what to do with our budget until we know what the County is going to do with the health insurance and retirement.

On May 9, 2012 Mrs. Parker attended the Regional CSA meeting in Newport News. It was a focus group to talk about what is going well with the CSA and what needs work. Another meeting will be held in Roanoke and Richard Sterrett, Director of Northampton County DSS, and another person from the Eastern Region will attend and present the information collected from the meeting on May 9, 2012. Several people in attendance had a lot of ideas and opinions. Susie Clare, the new CSA Executive Director, facilitated the meeting.

Ms. Major stated a while back there had been a discussion about having a Coordinator for CSA. Mrs. Parker stated Accomack County had included a coordinator position for a few years but never filled it. They finally did away with the position. Mrs. Parker stated at the point she and Mr. Sterrett retire, their institutional knowledge of the Comprehensive Services Act will be gone for both Accomack and Northampton Counties.

Mr. Obenshain continued to **Item 6 - Members Helping Members Update**. Mrs. Parker stated we have enough funds to make it through the current week and the following week depending on the number of applications. Members Helping Members has been a help to those who are between the CRISIS program and the cooling program which begins June 15, 2012.

Mr. Obenshain proceeded to **Item 7 - Random Moment Sampling Single Pool**. Mrs. Parker stated Administrative Office Manager Shirley Harmon's unit is responsible for sampling benefits and service staff at determined times. This is in lieu of everyone on staff keeping a timesheet in 15 minute increments for the Federal Government to determine the percentages of staff for certain programs. This is how we pull money down from the Federal Government. Mrs. Harmon receives a list from the state of those to be sampled and at an appointed time either she or her staff goes to that worker and asks what the worker is doing. They have to document this to include case numbers. State staff reviews a sub-section of cases to assure that the employee was actually working on the specific case when sampled. The greater the number of samples attributing work to a specific federal program translates to more federal funding being drawn down by our locality. If someone is on break, on vacation, or is out of the office for a meeting that would be noted as well.

We currently have two administration lines; i.e., service administration and benefit program administration. The State is seeking a waiver from the Federal government to have only one budget line for staff and operations. If approved, it will not become effective until FY 2014. They anticipate the match will be 25%. Currently our match is 15.5%, but when you go to the service pass-thru, the local match is 90% to draw down 10% in Federal funds.

Mr. Obenshain inquired whether this was a Federal initiative. Mrs. Parker stated what started this was a Federal review of the State and they found errors in how reimbursements we claimed. The State was required to do a corrective action plan. They then began a discussion regarding the single RMS line. It will be less error prone than what we are doing now. Mrs. Harmon has agreed it will make her job easier as well.

Mr. Obenshain continued to **Item 8 - VRS Update**. Mrs. Parker stated last year all State employees were required to pay the 5% member contribution. Beginning in July all school and local government employees will be required to do so as well. Localities can phase it in over a period of five years and the employees' salary must receive the same

percentage increase each year. Employees hired after July 1, 2012, will have a defined benefit plan feature. The retirement benefit for currently vested employees will not be affected, but the multiplier will reduce for those employed after July 1, so their benefit will be less. The hybrid plan would give the ability to pay into the retirement system but you would not be getting as much out of it as someone who is eligible to retire at the present time.

Mr. Obenshain proceeded to **Item 9 – A Conversation – Virginia’s Social Services System**. Mrs. Parker stated VDSS Secretary Hazel was present and he spoke about Medicaid and the funding available through the Federal health care law which would give all records online instead of having paper copies. VDSS Secretary of Finance Rick Brown was also present.

Mr. Obenshain continued to **Item 10 – Financial Statement – Administrative Office Manager Shirley Harmon**. Mrs. Harmon stated for the month of April – the 11<sup>th</sup> month of our Fiscal Year – our Total Expenditures were \$285,851.31. Our Total Local Adjustment was \$473,392.41 and our Total Local Balance to Date is \$186,200.59. Mrs. Harmon stated there appeared to be no problems in meeting the expenses for the final month of our Fiscal Year.

Mr. Obenshain proceeded to **Item 11 – Destruction of Deceased Energy Assistance Cases 1998 to 2007**. Mrs. Parker stated we need a motion from the Board in order to destroy the above cases. On motion by Ms. Lewis, seconded by Ms. Wood, Mrs. Parker was instructed to destroy the Deceased Energy Assistance Cases 1998 to 2007.

On motion by Ms. Wood, seconded by Ms. Major, the Board went into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing Adoption Subsidy (Foster Care Case # 001-042338008), as permitted by Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3712.

On motion by Ms. Gordy, seconded by Ms. Major, the Board returned to Open Session. On motion by Ms. Major, seconded by Ms. Gordy, the Board confirmed the matters discussed in Closed Session (Ms. Wood – yes; Ms. Major – yes; Ms. Gordy – yes; Ms. Lewis – yes; Mr. Davis – yes).

On motion by Ms. Lewis, seconded by Ms. Wood, the Board was polled (Ms. Wood – yes; Ms. Major – yes; Ms. Gordy – yes; Ms. Lewis – yes; Mr. Davis – yes) and approved the following item:

- I. Adoption Subsidy:
  1. Foster Care Case #001-042338008

Mr. Obenshain stated the next regular meeting would be held on June 19, 2012, at 9:30 A.M.

On motion by Ms. Gordy, seconded by Ms. Major, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 A.M.

APPROVED: R. Dodd Obenshain

ATTEST: Mary E. Parker

