

The Accomack County Board of Social Services met at its facility on Tuesday, October 15, 2019, at 9:30 A.M. Present were Ms. Reneta Major, Chairman; Mrs. Elsie Mackie, Vice-Chairman; Mr. Robert Crockett; Mr. John Sparkman; Mr. Robert Martin and Mrs. Vicki J. Weakley, Secretary. Ms. Laura B. Gordy was unable to attend.

Ms. Major called the meeting to order. Mrs. Mackie gave the Invocation.

Ms. Major proceeded to **Item 3 – Approve Minutes of September 17, 2019**. On motion by Mr. Crockett, seconded by Mrs. Mackie, the Minutes of September 17, 2019 were approved as written. The motion carried.

Ms. Major continued to **Item 4 – Fraud Report**. Ms. Major stated there was an article in the Eastern Shore Post stating Fraud Investigator Frances Bailey had been nominated for an award. Ms. Major requested Mrs. Weakley to pass on congratulations to Mrs. Bailey from the Board. The fraud report was excellent, as usual.

Mrs. Weakley then stated she needed to add an additional item to the Agenda. She stated we needed permission from the Board to purge 197 CPS (Child Protective Services) records. They are all being purged in accordance with the State guidelines. She further stated for any Board Member who was not aware the CPS records are purged after three years, seven years or 18 years depending on the severity of the situation and provided no additional cases or complaints have come forward. On motion by Mr. Crockett, seconded by Mrs. Mackie, the 197 CPS records were to be purged. The motion carried.

Ms. Major proceeded to **Item 5 – Director's Report**. Mrs. Weakley stated she attended a Members Helping Members Board meeting. They continue to assist people with their electric bills and have done an excellent job. So far we have not used up all of the funds allotted for this year. If not used the funds are rolled over to the next year. This year we started allowing people to come back for a second time if they did not use the \$250.00 limit. This has allowed some people to get additional help.

Mrs. Weakley attended a 4-H meeting. They are hoping to assist some of our clients.

Mrs. Weakley attended a Webinar in reference to Comp Plan Pay Practices. The State's intent is to give us more options to be able to attract more qualified candidates. Unfortunately, there is no more money, to put the options into practice. We have a worksheet we complete when we hire someone. It figures in their experience, the number of years they worked, and how closely related the work was to what they are being hired to do. Once completed the worksheet gives a suggested beginning salary. Often the suggested salary is not within the agency budget.

Mrs. Weakley attended a Workforce Development meeting. The state several years ago put one stops in place, to assist folks in finding employment. A lot of places have partnered with their Community College. Our lead agency is the Chesapeake Bay Consortium. After a delay, they have renewed our Memorandum of Understanding with them. We are now meeting again. We are hoping this partnership will help our VIEW clients, as well as the upcoming SNAP program participants. The SNAP program was supposed to go into effect October 31, 2019; however, all of the details have not been ironed out with the State, so the program has not yet started. Workforce Development meets quarterly.

Mrs. Weakley attended the regular CPMT meeting and an Emergency CPMT meeting. Mrs. Weakley also attended a Housing Summit meeting.

Mrs. Weakley also attended the VLSSE (Virginia League of Social Services Executives) meeting where they gave the Directors updates. The new staff computers have been delayed again. The suggested changes to the comp plan practices were reviewed. Many directors complained that changes were good; however, there was not enough money to put them into practice. They want to raise the minimum salary, which was supposed to have occurred last year, but it was dropped from Governor Ralph Northam's budget. The Governor stated he planned to put it back in this year.

Mrs. Weakley stated she had to cancel the Eastern Shore Disaster Preparedness meeting after she completed the Agenda. She further stated she attended a Healthy Communities Executive Committee meeting and the ACDSS Staff Recognition luncheon. Mrs. Weakley stated she was sorry Ms. Major and Mr. Crockett could not attend. The two Board Members stated they were sorry they missed it.

Ms. Major continued to **Item 6 – Commissioner's Letter**. Mrs. Weakley further stated the State passed the IV-E review which covers children in foster care who were removed from a situation of depravation; i.e., a single parent household. This is very old policy standards that have not been updated. Mrs. Weakley further stated she believed this was the first time Virginia had passed the Federal IV-E review. The State of Virginia only had two errors and according to the Feds this was the best review they had seen. That was nice to hear as we are normally on the bottom of the list with the number of errors

Mrs. Mackie inquired about the last bullet on the first page about the Department of Defense and the Child Care Program. Since we do have military in our area she was wondering whether anything would be done about that or whether Mrs. Weakley had heard anything about it. Mrs. Weakley stated we were not part of the pilot. However, we will probably be a part at some point. Mrs. Weakley stated the military folks are still are welcome to come and apply for child care services.

Ms. Major proceeded to **Item 7 – Back to School Project**. Mrs. Weakley stated the Board Members had a recap of Project 2019. We provided 64 backpacks full of school supplies which helped 23 families and a total of 56 children. This is an annual project the CPS Unit does.

Ms. Major continued to **Item 8 – Staff Recognition Luncheon – 10/11/19**. Mrs. Weakley wanted to thank everyone who attended. Mrs. Weakley further stated for those not in attendance she wanted them to know Administrative Office Manager Shirley Harmon was recognized for 45 years of service to the agency. The Board congratulated her for her years of service.

Ms. Major proceeded to **Item 9 – Financial Statement – Administrative Office Manager – Shirley Harmon**. Mrs. Harmon stated for the month of September our Total Expenditures were \$314,818.21. Our Year-To-Date Total Local Adjustment was \$170,745.99 and our Total Local Balance to Date is \$645,553.01. Mr. Crockett stated we are 4.4% below budget.

On motion by Mr. Crockett, seconded by Mr. Martin, the Board went into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing Evaluations (Greenley and Rew) and Director's Consult, as permitted by the Code of Virginia Section 2.2.3712.

Mrs. Mackie made a motion that the only things discussed in Closed Session were the above items listed on the Agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr.

Crockett. Ms. Major called a vote (Mr. Martin – yes; Mrs. Mackie – yes; Mr. Crockett – yes; Mr. Sparkman – yes; and Ms. Major – yes).

Ms. Major stated the next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, November 19, 2019, at 9:30 A.M.

On motion by Mr. Crockett, seconded by, Mr. Martin, the meeting adjourned at 9:58 A.M.

APPROVED; **C. Reneta Major**_____

ATTEST: **Vicki J. Weakley**_____