

The Accomack County Board of Social Services met at its facility on Tuesday, February 20, 2024, at 9:30 A.M. Present in person were Mrs. Elsie Mackie, Vice-Chairman; Mr. Robert Martin; Mr. Jackie Phillips; Mr. David Whalen; Mrs. Vicki Weakley, Secretary, and Mrs. Nadine Greenley, Assistant Director.

Mrs. Mackie called the meeting to order and welcomed the Board Members. Mr. Whalen gave the Invocation.

Mrs. Mackie proceeded to **Item 3 – Introduction of New Employee – Kara Cadena & Selina Coulbourne**. Mrs. Weakley introduced Kara Cadena who was a Fiscal Assistant III. She has been promoted to a Benefit Programs Specialist I. Selina Coulbourne has been promoted from a Family Services Specialist III to Family Services Supervisor in the Adult Services Unit. Mrs. Mackie congratulated Mrs. Cadena and Mrs. Coulbourne on their promotions. The Board, in unison, expressed the same.

Mrs. Mackie continued to **Item 4 – Approve Minutes of March 19, 2024**. Mr. Martin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Phillips, to approve the Minutes as written. Hearing no discussion, the motion carried.

Mrs. Mackie proceeded to **Item 5 - Fraud Report**. Mrs. Weakley stated that the Fraud Investigator position is still vacant. Interviews are scheduled for tomorrow and Thursday. Hopefully by the next meeting that position will be filled.

Mrs. Mackie continued to **Item 6 – Director’s Notes**. Mrs. Weakley stated that since the last meeting, she attended a CPMT (Community Planning and Management Team), a Comp Plan training (The template for the Comp Plan was supposed to be sent out by March 7th. It has not been released as of today. Hopefully at the next meeting we will be able to present it to the board for approval as it is due April 30th.), meeting with new child welfare consultant (They are planning to come on a regular basis which will be an asset to the Child Welfare Unit.), participated in a personnel committee meeting, director’s coffee break (The governor recommended a 1% raise, but the House and the Senate have both approved a 3% raise. The governor has not signed off on that yet. Mr. Phillips stated that it was confirmed at another board meeting he attended that there was a proposal for a 1% one-time bonus. Mrs. Weakley surprisingly stated that it was not translated to us as a bonus.), a full staff meeting, Child Protective Services interviews (One gentleman will be starting on April 16th), interviews for Family Services Supervisor, met with the VEC (They would like to co-locate with us, needing ten offices. They proposed sending staff here and to Northampton DSS. Northampton DSS may be able to accommodate if all ten staff members are not present at the same time. We do not have the space to accommodate them.), and a supervisor’s meeting.

Mrs. Mackie proceeded to **Item 7 – March – Social Worker Appreciation Month**. The family services staff will be getting together to decide when and where they would like to have lunch and participate either later in the month or early part of next month. Mrs. Weakley stated that benefit workers are having their lunch today for benefit worker appreciation.

Mrs. Mackie continued to **Item 8 – Medicaid Unwinding Update**. Mrs. Weakley stated that the State has not changed anything in terms of their expectations for completion. The agency is down to 2,335 overdue Medicaid reviews. Completion will not happen for the expected deadline of April 30th. One hundred and ten cases have been completed from the prior month which is good, especially considering there are three vacancies in the unit that carries the brunt of the work. We also have two retirees that are working from home to help. Mrs. Weakley stated that she has not heard of any consequences if the cases are not completed by April 30th. Looking at the other 120 agencies in the state, there are some that will meet the deadline based on the small number that they have to complete, but they are all the smaller agencies. The remaining larger agencies will not meet the deadline. Mrs. Weakley feels that workers are working diligently and are completing an appropriate number of cases each month.

Mrs. Mackie continued to **Item 9 – Financial Statement**. Ms. Linton stated that the local budget was \$944,084.00. The Year-To-Date Local Expenditures were \$510,106.36, and the Total Local Balance-To-Date is \$433,977.64. Ms. Linton stated that we are running 11.97% below budget.

Closed Session - On motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Whalen, the Board went into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing items stated on the Agenda (Foster Care Entrustment case #21229641, Custody case #21229773, and Relief of Custody case #21131426, and Director's Consult) as permitted by the Code of Virginia, Section 2.2.3712. The motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Whalen, the Board returned from Closed Session and confirmed the only items discussed were the ones listed on the Board Members' Agenda. Mrs. Mackie called a vote (Mr. Martin – yes; Mr. Whalen – yes; Mr. Phillips – yes; Mrs. Mackie – yes). The motion carried.

Mr. Phillips made a motion, seconded by Mr. Whalen that the Board accept the Entrustment case #21229641, Custody case #21229773 and Relief of Custody case #21131426. Mrs. Mackie called a vote for all in favor to signify by Aye. The motion carried.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 9:30 A.M.

Mr. Phillips made a motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 A.M.

APPROVED: **Cassandra Reneta Major**

ATTEST: **Vicki Weakley**