

The Accomack County Board of Social Services met at its facility on Tuesday, July 18, 2017, at 9:30 A.M. Present were Ms. Reneta Major, Chairman; Ms. Laura B. Gordy, Vice-Chairman; Robert D. Crockett; Mrs. Elsie Mackie; Mr. John Sparkman; and Mrs. Vicki J. Weakley, Secretary.

At this time Ms. Major stated Mrs. Hickman would not be present at the meeting and would also not be present at the August meeting as it will be her family reunion. She was regretful about missing both meetings; however, Mrs. Weakley told her to enjoy her summer.

Ms. Major called the meeting to order. Mr. Crockett gave the Invocation.

Ms. Major proceeded to **Item 3 – Introduction of New Supervisors and Family Services Specialist II: A) Gar Kellam – Benefit Program Supervisor; B) April Major – Benefit Program Supervisor; and C) Keva Davis – Family Services Specialist II.** Mrs. Weakley stated Mr. Kellam had to be at training and was unable to be present. She then introduced Ms. Major, Benefit Program Supervisor, and stated it was her primary responsibility for training new employees and be in charge of the new Tri-Take/Intake Unit. Mrs. Weakley further stated recent reports showed we had 0% overdue Medicaid applications and Ms. Major was quite beneficial in this report. The Board commended her on her new position and her accomplishment.

Mrs. Weakley then introduced Ms. Davis, Family Services Specialist II. She further stated she had come to us from Eastern Shore Agency on Aging and that she was excited about being in her new position. The Board welcomed Ms. Davis to ACDSS.

Ms. Major continued to **Item 5 – Fraud Update.** Mrs. Weakley stated this was the final report for Fraud Investigator Jack Thomas as he was retiring August 1, 2017. Mrs. Weakley stated he had written a letter to the Board, which she read to them. After reading the letter Mr. Crockett stated they needed to discuss the letter in Closed Session.

Mrs. Weakley stated Alfonso Montalvo had previously joined our staff as a Benefit Program Specialist II. For a while he had been Fraud Investigator for Northampton County DSS, and Mr. Thomas had trained him. Mr. Thomas has done refresher training with Mr. Montalvo to cover fraud after Mr. Thomas's retirement.

Ms. Major stated the Board is saddened by Mr. Thomas' retirement and they appreciated all he had done for our agency by saving Accomack County money.

Ms. Major proceeded to **Item 6 – Director's Update.** Mrs. Weakley stated she had attended three Truancy meetings; an Opioid/Drug Task Force meeting; a regular CPMT meeting; a Healthy Communities Executive Committee meeting.

Mrs. Weakley further stated she had a conference with ANEC re: Members Helping Members that morning.

Mrs. Weakley stated on August 14, 2017 we would be having another QAA (Child Welfare Review). She further stated she would let the Board Members know how the review goes.

Mrs. Weakley stated we had a Child Care Provider Training at our agency on Wednesday, June 1, 2017, free to child care providers. We had 18 people to attend. They were all given copies of surveys to see how we can improve, in the

future. This is a required training each year. This was open to all Pre-K and Kindergarten teachers. Ms. Major inquired whether this training was through Smart Beginnings and Mrs. Weakley stated it was. She further stated everyone was fed pizza and seemed to enjoy the evening.

Mrs. Weakley then stated she, Mozella Francis, Director of Northampton County DSS, and a representative from ANEC would be going to WESR on the 26<sup>th</sup>, to record a public service announcement for Members Helping Members. This announcement will be on the radio various times to encourage people to donate to the program and let everyone know they do not have to be receiving services through Social Services to receive help.

Ms. Major continued to **Item 7 – Board Training on Shore: Possible Dates 9/21, 10/4, 10/5 or 10/11/17**. Ms. Major asked the Board Members what dates would be suitable. Mr. Crockett stated he did not have his calendar. Ms. Major stated Thursdays would be better than Wednesdays. Mrs. Weakley stated the meeting would probably start between 9:00 AM and 10:00 AM. It would probably be more convenient for our Eastern Regional Director JoAnn Wilson-Harfst to go to NCDSS as it is closer to her location. Everyone decided to look at their respective calendars and call Vicki Weakley with the dates they are available.

Ms. Major proceeded to **Item 8 – State Board of Social Services – Proposed Regulations**. Mrs. Weakley stated the Code of Virginia requires the State Board of Social Services to notify local boards if they are making proposed changes to regulations which could have a fiscal impact on the agencies. They sent three changes. The first one is with reference to Standards for Licensed Child Day Centers providing criteria for the public and the Virginia Department of Social Services to evaluate the safety of care that children receive in licensed child care centers. All providers are required to have First Aid and CPR training and attend a 10 hour DSS sponsored orientation training. The State Board does not anticipate this costing local departments anything, but we are allowed to use grant money to pay for the CPR training. This has to be redone every couple of years.

The second one is a joint action to repeal and replace 22VAC40-661. The regulatory action is necessary to bring state Child Care Subsidy Program requirements into alignment with the federal Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014. The goals of this action are to broaden the purposes of the program by emphasizing child development, increase the number of children receiving healthy, safe and quality care, and implement family-friendly policies, as required by the CCDBG, the major funding source of the program. This does not cost local departments anything additional. If an individual is not currently First Aid or CPR certified, an initial cost of \$90-\$100 may apply with an additional cost for recertification every two years. The cost will be borne by the child care centers themselves.

The third is the Permanency regulation, 22 VAC 40-201, which encompasses the full range of services for prevention, foster care, adoption and independent living services. The regulation provides LDSS with rules for the provision of child welfare services consistent with the Code of Virginia and federal law. There will be minimal cost associated with the notification of siblings' parents when a child enters foster care. This condition will only exist for some cases. The total cost for notifying siblings' parents is estimated to be less than \$1000/year.

Changes to the regulation will require local departments to provide foster care services to youth who turn 18 in foster care or who were in foster care immediately prior to being committed to DJJ and are not yet 21. Funding for this activity was included in the FY 2017 base budget as a result of the

Appropriations Act of 2016. They are trying to provide sufficient funding for local boards to comply with regulations.

Ms. Major continued to **Item 9 – CPS Case Purge**. Mrs. Weakley stated there were 11 cases from CPS (Child Protective Services) that have reached their purge dates. She stated when a CPS child case is founded, it is retained 3, 7 or 21 years, depending on the severity of the case. However, if another complaint comes in within that time frame, it is maintained for the life of the more severe complaint.

On motion by Mr. Crockett, seconded by Ms. Gordy, the CPS case purge was approved. The motion carried.

Ms. Major proceeded to **Item 10 – Financial Statement – Administrative Office Manager Shirley Harmon**. For the month of June, the first month of our new Fiscal Year, our Total Expenditures were \$314,543.58. Our Year-To-Date Total Local Adjustment was \$380,052.46 and our Total Local Balance to Date is \$741,446.54,

Mr. Sparkman stated Medicaid had doubled since 2004 but everything else looked pretty good.

Mrs. Weakley stated she had forgotten to put an item on the Agenda but wanted to give the Board a copy of the new Dress Code for ACDSS which would become effective July 5, 2017. The Board was in agreement with the new plan.

On motion by Mr. Crockett, seconded by Mr. Sparkman, the Board went into Closed Session, for the purpose of discussing Personnel issues– Leave Without Pay –6/14/17 – 7/18/17 – Total 200 Hours), as permitted by the Code of Virginia, Section 2.2-3712.

On motion by Mr. Crockett, seconded by Mrs. Mackie, the Board returned to Open Session. On motion by Mr. Crockett, seconded by Mrs. Mackie, the Board confirmed the matters discussed in Closed Session (Mrs. Mackie – yes; Mr. Crockett – yes; Mr. Sparkman – yes). Ms. Gordy – left early due to illness. The motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Crockett, seconded by Mr. Sparkman, the Board approved the following Personnel issue – Leave Without Pay (Mrs. Mackie – yes; Mr. Crockett – yes; Mr. Sparkman – yes):

- I. Personnel:
  - A. Leave Without Pay:
    1. Employee – 6/14/17 – 7/18/17 – Total 200 Hours

The next regular Board meeting will be held Tuesday, August 15, 2017, at 9:30 A.M.

On motion by Mr. Crockett, seconded by Ms. Mackie, the meeting adjourned at 10:40 A.M.

APPROVED: C. Reneta Major

ATTEST: Vicki J. Weakley

