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MINUTES FOR MEETING OF

THE HOKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD

January 31, 2022

A meeting of the Hoke County Department of Social Services (the "**Board**") was held at 4:00 p.m. on January 31, 2022 in the Commissioners Room located in the County Administration Building (Pratt Building) at 227 N. Main St, Raeford, NC, pursuant to notice duly given. The following Board Members ("**BM**"), constituting a quorum, were present:

Allen Thomas, Jr., Chair
Brenda Branch
Virginia Chason
Linda Revels
Harry Southerland

Also present representing the Department were Terry Stanton, Director of DSS; Deidra Hadley, Processing Assistant V; Tera Campbell, Personnel Tech; Tammy Brewer, Family Support Services; and Jonathan Charleston, via teleconference, Department of Social Services Attorney.

Chair Thomas called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and welcomed the Board to this month's meeting. Thereafter, Chair Thomas asked Vice-Chair Branch to give the invocation.

Chair Thomas asked for public comments. There were none. Chair Thomas asked about the location of next month's Board meeting. It was discussed. Chair Thomas asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda with the change of next month's meeting location from Hoke DSS Conference Room, T.B. Lester, Jr. Building back to the Commissioner's Room, Hoke County Pratt Building. BM Southerland made a motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of (a) the December 20, 2021 minutes (b) the next meeting date of Monday, February 28, 2022 at the Commissioners Room located at the Pratt Building, 227 N. Main St., Raeford, NC (c) Budget Amendment (LIEAP and Pandemic LIEAP) and (d) the Attorney Invoice, which was seconded by BM Revels. The vote was unanimous.

Chair Thomas asked for the Child Care update from Ms. Tammy Brewer. Ms. Brewer stated she received an update for November service month on January 5, 2022. Ms. Brewer reported that the total amount spent for November service month was \$132,389.00. The amount spent in Smart Start was \$18,344.00. The amount

spent in Non-Smart Start was \$114,045.00. Ms. Brewer reported the total amount spent for December service month was \$161,715.00. The amount spent in Smart Start was \$9,914.00. The amount spent in Non-Smart Start was \$151,801.00. The current spending Coefficient is 100% (one hundred percent). The Unexpended balance in Non-Smart Start is \$774,030.00 and the Unexpended balance in Smart Start is \$36,858.00. Ms. Brewer reported that Child Care still does not have a waiting list. It was discussed. Chair Thomas asked if the Board had any questions. There were none. Chair Thomas thanked Ms. Brewer for her time.

Chair Thomas asked for the Coronavirus (COVID19) Update, Director's Presentation and the introduction of DSS employees from Director Stanton. Director Stanton introduced Ms. Nikkia McIntyre and Mr. Adam Hall from the Child Welfare Department of the agency. He stated they were there just to observe. Chair Thomas asked if they wanted to share any words. BM Southerland asked how were things going in the department. Chair Thomas asked Ms. McIntyre to come forward to speak. Ms. McIntyre introduced herself and spoke about her department. It was discussed. Chair Thomas asked Mr. Hall to come forth. Mr. Hall introduced himself and spoke on behalf of the agency social workers. It was discussed. Chair Thomas encouraged Mr. Hall that the social workers voice has been heard and thanked him for coming. Chair Thomas asked if there were anything from the Board. There were none.

Chair Thomas asked Director Stanton to proceed with COVID19 update. Director Stanton informed the Board that it has been tough. He stated the agency has a lot of employees out due to COVID. He stated that he is cleaning offices himself and Kris Covington sprays the offices on a regular basis. He stated the staff continues to stay on their side of the building with no visiting other co-workers. Director Stanton stated the agency is doing all it can to stay on top of COVID19. Chair Thomas spoke about the countywide effects of the pandemic. He thanked Director Stanton for continuing with the COVID restrictions

Director Stanton directed everyone to the County – Mandated Performance Requirements Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) in the handout. The Board reviewed the December 2021 data and measurements of the MOA report. Director Stanton elaborated on the MOA. Director Stanton asked if the Board had any questions. There were none.

Director Stanton spoke about the Time Limited vacancies and asked for the Board input about them. It was discussed. Chair Thomas asked if there were any other questions. There were none.

Chair Thomas asked if there were any comments. Director Stanton stated that a couple of churches wanted to set up outside of the agency to pass out food, clothing and etc. It was discussed. Chair Thomas asked Attorney Charleston if he had any words. He had none.

Chair Thomas asked if there were any other comments. There were none. Chair Thomas asked for a motion to adjourn. BM Revels made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Vice-Chair Branch. The vote was unanimous.

Allen Thomas, Jr, Chair

Micka T. Stanton, Secretary

Date