

BECKY MORROW  
INTERIM DIRECTOR



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**MINUTES FOR MEETING OF**  
**THE HOKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD**  
**MAY 21, 2018**

A meeting of the Hoke County Department of Social Services (the “*Board*”) was held at 4:00 p.m. on May 21, 2018 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:

Carl Pevia, Chair  
Charlotte Kelly, Vice-Chair  
Bill Evans  
Allen Thomas, Jr.  
Brenda Branch via conference call

Also present representing the Department were Becky Morrow, Interim Director of the Hoke County Department of Social Services; Jonathan Charleston, Department of Social Services Attorney; Tammy Brewer, Social Work Supervisor for Family Support Services; Barbara Mena-Peña, Administrative Officer; and Ellen Leichliter, Administrative Assistant.

Chair Pevia called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Thereafter, Chair Pevia asked BM Thomas to give the invocation. Chair Pevia noted there were no public comments. Chair Pevia asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Vice-Chair Kelly made a motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of (a) the April 30, 2018 minutes; and (b) the next meeting date of June 25, 2018. BM Thomas seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chair Pevia asked Ms. Brewer to present the Day Care discussion. Ms. Brewer advised on April 25, 2018 the county received an additional allocation in the amount of \$125,000 due to overspending. Ms. Brewer presented the April 2018 statistics for DCDEE (Division of Child Development and Early Education) for a total of \$204,018 with a spending coefficient of 97%. Ms. Brewer shared as of May 18, 2018, the number of children on the waiting list was one-hundred, forty (140). Chair Pevia asked how much allocation is remaining for FY2017-2018. Ms. Brewer said the unexpended total is \$278,773. BM Evans asked if we are still having NC Fast system issues. Ms. Brewer expressed when workers have an issue in NC Fast

with a case, she submits a help ticket to the state; Ms. Brewer advised she sends tickets every day. Ms. Morrow shared in the NC Fast system there are still printouts doing underpayments and overpayments that are being worked out. A lot of the overpayments we find are NC Fast system overpayments and we put money (\$1000-\$2000) in the budget line item for FY2018-2019 in case there are keyed items for children that we have to pay from the county due to the reconciliation at the end of next fiscal year. BM Evans said his concerns are with the understanding that all programs will be added in NC Fast at some point in time. Interim Morrow shared the statewide implementation of the Child Welfare program in NC Fast has been temporarily put on hold. The pilot counties for Child Welfare program will continue to work in NC Fast and the non-pilot counties have been put on hold because the state is not sure how it will work. Ms. Morrow said the driving instrument is when the state received the funds for NC Fast, it was for Child Welfare. If the state does not put Child Welfare in the NC Fast system, legislature will have to pay back money. Currently it is not evident the system can do what is needed.

Chair Pevia asked for motion for a closed session. BM Evans made a motion for a closed session to consult with counsel and discuss a personnel matter pursuant to the N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3) and 143-318.11(a)6, which was seconded by Vice-Chair Kelly. The vote was unanimous. Those in attendance during the closed session included Chair Pevia, Vice-Chair Kelly, BM Evans, BM Thomas, BM Branch, Mr. Charleston and Interim Director Morrow. BM Thomas made a motion to exit the closed session which was seconded by Vice-Chair Kelly. The vote to exit closed session was unanimous.

Chair Pevia asked Interim Director Morrow for the Director's comments. Ms. Morrow advised the Board the receipt of an additional funding allocation in the amount of \$20,000 for CIP (Crisis Intervention Program). Ms. Morrow shared we have to move \$250,000 from the day care line item to the foster care line items in the current budget. Ms. Morrow asked Ms. Mena-Peña to present the details to the Board why the day care line item budget is there. Ms. Mena-Peña said at the beginning of this fiscal year, day care funds were budgeted with the anticipation that payments would be processed through NC Fast at a certain time period. The day care program went into NC Fast much sooner. In the past, day care was paid out of county expenditures and the county would receive the reimbursement from the state. Now the state pays directly to the day care providers. Ms. Mena-Peña explained the expenditures and revenues left in our budget are stagnant. Ms. Mena-Peña and Ms. Morrow explained the budget amendment is needed due to (a) the under projection of the number of foster care children in care; (b) the actual board rates were higher than estimated; and (c) a lot of teenaged children were not projected for the actual level of care as provided by the Foster Care and Program managers for the current FY2017-2018 budget. Ms. Morrow advised we need \$100,000 in funds to cover the state foster care and \$150,000 for the federal foster care line items. The Board discussed the budget amendment request.

Chair Pevia asked the Board to return the notebooks to Ms. Morrow. Chair Pevia stated the notebooks included the applicants for the director search process. Chair Pevia asked for comments. Vice-Chair Kelly asked about the increase in the program integrity collections for the month. Ms. Morrow and Chair Pevia explained

the larger than usual amount is probably due to the garnishment of taxes process seen at this time of the year coinciding with the IRS tax return deadline.

Chair Pevia asked for a motion to recess this meeting. BM Thomas made a motion to recess this meeting and reconvene on Tuesday, May 29<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. at the Hoke County Social Services building in the conference room. Vice-Chair Kelly seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous.

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Carl Pevia, Chair

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Becky Morrow, Secretary

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Date