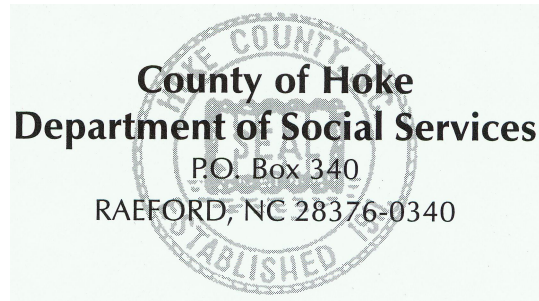


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MINUTES FOR MEETING OF
THE HOKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD
MAY 22, 2017

A meeting of the Hoke County Department of Social Services (the “**Board**”) was held at 4:00 p.m. Daylight Saving Time on May 22, 2017 in the Conference Room located in the County Department of Social Services (T.B. Lester, Jr. Building) at 314 South Magnolia Street, Raeford NC, pursuant to notice duly given. The following Board Members (“**BM**”), constituting a quorum, were present:

Carl Pevia, Chair
Bill Evans
Allen Thomas, Jr.
Shirley Wright

Also present representing the Department were Barbara Mena-Peña, 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; Dora McCallum, Income Maintenance Program Manager; Ellen Leichliter, Administrative Assistant; and Maritza Rodriguez, Personnel Technician.

Chair Pevia called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Thereafter, Chair Pevia gave the invocation. Chair Pevia noted there were no public comments. Chair Pevia asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. BM Wright made a motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of (a) the April 24, 2017 minutes; and (b) the next meeting date of June 26, 2017. BM Evans seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chair Pevia asked Ms. Brewer to present the Day Care discussion as a follow-up to last month’s reversion and reallocations provided by the DCDEE (Division of Child Development and Early Education). Ms. Brewer presented the April 2017 statistics as well as the county’s understanding that the state will cover what is needed by our county to pay the providers in the last month, May 2017, of this fiscal year. BM Thomas stated our county government approved a memorandum saying it expects the Department of Social Services to do everything in their power to spend as close to one-hundred percent (100%) of the allocation to prevent a reversion from the state. The Board discussed the non-Smart Start reversions and

reallocations. Chair Pevia said that once the Department of Social Services and the Board receive the memorandum from county government, the staff will prepare a proposed response to be approved by the Board.

Chair Pevia asked Interim Director Mena-Peña for the Senate Bill 257 discussion. Interim Director Mena-Peña said the Senate Bill 257 was in regards to the Medicaid report card and if the federal government will have any corrective actions similar to the Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) Timeliness action; Interim Director Mena-Peña introduced Mrs. McCallum for the presentation. Mrs. McCallum said since the state has been audited for Medicaid, the state is “under the gun” to come up with ways to monitor the counties more closely to make sure we meet certain standards with timeliness for applications and recertifications. The Board discussed the Senate Bill 257 Medicaid report card information.

Chair Pevia asked Interim Director Mena-Peña for the Director’s comments. Interim Director Mena-Peña updated the Board on the status of the four (4) vacancies: Director, Office Assistant III, Social Worker I, and Social Worker III. Interim Director Mena-Peña stated she spoke with Mr. Charleston’s office requesting a simplified version of the FMLA policy. Interim Director Mena-Peña hopes we will have the final FMLA policy available for the next meeting. Interim Director Mena-Peña stated the Senate Bill 594 is a key budget issue and includes Child Welfare reform. The Board discussed the Senate Bill 594 information. Interim Director Mena-Peña informed the Board about the additional funding allocation, provided with certain criteria, in the amount of \$2857 for TANF Child Welfare and Foster Care/Adoption was spent by the May 31st deadline. Interim Director Mena-Peña shared that on May 17th the management team provided food as an employee appreciation activity for the agency. Interim Director Mena-Peña asked Mr. Charleston to bring forth the Child Welfare backlog in court information. Mr. Charleston stated the judge expects to add an additional day in court beginning in June 2017. Interim Director Mena-Peña said the budget may be affected by this increase in the number of scheduled court dates. The Board discussed the Child Welfare backlog in court topic. Interim Director Mena-Peña responded to county finance’s questions regarding the FY2017-2018 budget and shared the analysis with the Board. The Board discussed the budget priority list and the Time Limited positions.

Chair Pevia asked Interim Director Mena-Peña when we will be notified from the state board about the appointment for BM Wright’s position expiring June 30, 2017. Interim Director Mena-Peña replied on June 15th.

BM Thomas made a motion to go into a closed session to discuss a personnel matter and confidential information per N.C.G.S. 143-318.11, which was seconded by BM Wright. The vote was unanimous. Those in attendance during the closed session included Chair Pevia, BM Wright, BM Evans, BM Thomas, Interim Director Mena-Peña and Mr. Charleston. Chair Pevia made a motion to exit the closed session which was seconded by BM Thomas. The vote to exit closed session was unanimous.

Chair Pevia stated the next meeting date is June 26, 2017. Chair Pevia asked for a motion to adjourn, BM Evans made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by BM Thomas. The vote was unanimous.

Carl Pevia, Chairman

Barbara Mena-Peña, Secretary

Date