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MINUTES FOR MEETING OF
THE HOKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD

August 31, 2020

A meeting of the Hoke County Department of Social Services (the “**Board**”) was held at 4:00 p.m. on August 31, 2020 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:

Bill Evans, Vice- Chair
Brenda Branch
Linda Revels
Allen Thomas, Jr.
Harry Southerland

Also present representing the Department were Terry Stanton, Department of Social Services Director; Barbara Mena-Peña, Administrative Officer; Tera Campbell, Personnel Tech; Tammy Brewer, Family Support Services Supervisor; and Jose Coker, Department of Social Services Attorney.

Vice-Chair Evans called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and welcomed the Board to this month’s meeting. Thereafter, Vice-Chair Evans asked BM Revels to give the invocation. Vice-Chair Evans asked for public comments. There were none.

Vice-Chair Evans asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. BM Southerland made a motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of (a) the July 20, 2020 minutes and (b) the next meeting date of September 28, 2020, which was seconded by BM Revels. The vote was unanimous.

Vice-Chair Evans asked for Election of Officers. Vice-Chair Evans turned the process over to Attorney Coker. Attorney Coker asked for a motion to open the floor for nominations of Officers. BM Revels made the motion. BM Southerland nominated BM Thomas for Chairman. BM Revels seconded the motion. Attorney Coker asked if there were any more nominations. There were none. Attorney Coker asked for a motion to close nominations for Chairman. BM Southerland made the motion which was seconded by BM Revels. The vote was unanimous. BM Thomas accepted the nomination. Attorney Coker opened the floor for nominations for Vice-

Chairman. Chair Thomas made the motion to nominate Vice-Chair Evans to remain as Vice-Chairman, which was seconded by BM Revels. Attorney Coker asked if there were any more nominations. There were none. Attorney Coker asked for a motion to close nominations for Vice-Chairman. BM Southerland made the motion, which was seconded by BM Revels. The vote was unanimous. Vice-Chair Evans accepted the nomination.

Chair Thomas asked for the Child Care update from Ms. Tammy Brewer. Ms. Brewer updated the Board on the June expenditure report that was not received prior to July's board meeting. Ms. Brewer reported that the total Child Care amount spent for June 2020 was \$195,970.00. The amount spent in Smart Start was \$29,259.00. The amount spent in Non-Smart Start was \$166,711.00. The spending Coefficient was 106% (one hundred six percent). Ms. Brewer reported that the total Child Care amount spent for July 2020 was \$223,969.00. The amount spent in Smart Start was \$27,578.00 and the amount spent in Non-Smart Start was \$196,391.00. The current coefficient is 121% (one hundred twenty-one percent). The unexpended Non-Smart Start balance was \$1,689,578.00 and unexpended Smart Start balance was \$109,163.00. Ms. Brewer informed the Board that the high amount of spending is due to State paying Child Care differentials during the COVID19 pandemic. She explained State will stop paying this as of September 1, 2020 in hopes to decrease the amount of spending. Ms. Brewer stated that they will look at the expenditures for September 2020 service month to see if a waiting list is needed. The Board discussed the presentation. Chair Thomas asked if the Board had any questions. The Board had none.

Chair Thomas asked for the Coronavirus (COVID19) Update. Director Stanton updated the Board of the process and preventive measures the agency is taking in regards to COVID19. He stated the agency continues to operate as it has in the past few months. Director Stanton informed the Board the agency continues to have tables with applications and information set up outside the entrance to the agency for the public to utilize. He stated the agency continues to limit public access into the building. Director Stanton mentioned the applications for different programs has improved. He mentioned that if there was a storm and the DSNAP program is needed, State is in the process of making those applications accessible online. He also mentioned that the State is aiming to do a lot of things online, away from face to face. BM Southerland asked about vacancies within the agency. Director Stanton replied and it was discussed. Chair Thomas asked about the COVID19 funding for utility and rental assistance that was published in the newspaper from Governor Cooper. Director Stanton responded and it was discussed. Director Stanton also mentioned the Food and Nutrition Services were offered a food program called Healthy Helping that will assist clients who receive Food and Nutrition benefits to receive fresh produce from Food Lion. The program was discussed by the Board. Chair Thomas asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Chair Thomas asked for Director's comments. Director Stanton directed everyone to the County – Mandated Performance Requirements Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) in the handout. The Board reviewed and discussed the July 2020 data and measurements of the MOA report. Chair Thomas congratulated and extended his appreciation to Director Stanton and the agency on the hard work that

has been performed to meet State requirements. Chair Thomas asked if there were any questions for Director Stanton from the board. There were none.

Chair Thomas asked if there were any comments. Chair Thomas expressed the seriousness of the Coronavirus and the importance of wearing a mask, social distancing and washing your hands. It was discussed by the Board. Chair Thomas asked BM Southerland to comment on the courthouse project. BM Southerland commented and it was discussed. Chair Thomas asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Chair Thomas asked for a motion to adjourn. BM Branch made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by BM Revels. The vote was unanimous.

Allen Thomas, Jr, Chair

Micka T. Stanton, Secretary

Date