

The Northampton County Board of Social Services met in the Board Room of the Social Services Building on August 21, 2018. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am. Present were John Williams, Vice Chair, H. Spencer Murray, Board Member and Mozella Francis, Director.

On a motion by Mr. Williams, the minutes of the July 17, 2018 meeting were deferred until next meeting when Chairman Johnson will be present to approve. There was no public comment or correspondence.

The Board was provided a copy of the 2018-19 budget. Agency expenditures for July were right in line with the predictions. Mr. Murray asked Mrs. Francis how she was able to return approximately \$130,000.00 of the FY17-18 budget back to the County. Mrs. Francis responded that she was able to return that amount due to position vacancies and frugal spending, but that is will change this fiscal year due to new employee hires and the internal alignment conducted during FY2018. Mr. Williams asked if in the future, we could keep a portion of those unused funds to better retain employees or to help pay increasing employee healthcare costs. Mrs. Francis responded that she is not able to carry over funds. It is not an option that the County allows.

Mrs. Francis gave the Board an update on the Agency programs. Benefit caseworkers working adult Medicaid will feel the greatest impact because of Medicaid Expansion. It is anticipated that SNAP

cases will increase as well. Medicaid Expansion goes live on January 1, 2019, but November 1, 2018 is when the changes will really begin to be felt as we change our practices to cover the increase in workload. Job interviews will take place next week for additional Medicaid caseworkers.

Prevention cases will continue to rise due to the Family First Act and the opioid crisis. In addition, schools are holding parents accountable when their children are truant. Cases are being referred to Social Services under a (chins) Child In Need of Services. This will require family service workers to get involved.

On a motion by Vice Chairman John Williams, the Board went into Closed Session in accordance with Section 2.1-344 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, for the purpose of discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining appointees or employees of any public body.

Action Item: Invite County Administrator and County Finance Director to the September Board Meeting for the Closed Session. Also agenda items Expansion – Future Local Match, Expansion – Staffing Update, Staff Impact – Insurance Increase and HIPP – Health Insurance Premium Payment will be tabled until that time

The Board returned to Open Session.

On a roll call vote certifying to the best of each member's knowledge, only public matters exempted from the public meeting and in the original motion were discussed. The vote was Vice Chair Williams: yes, Board Member Murray: yes.

Mrs. Francis' schedule for the remainder of July is as follows: Healthy Communities of the Eastern Shore, Community Partners of the Eastern Shore, Fatality Review Team, Eastern Shore Foundation Board, Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Regional Director NCDSS location visit. All meetings are local.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 18, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Edith Johnson, Chairman
September 18, 2018

Attested by _____
Mozella F. Francis
Director

