

The Northampton County Board of Social Services met in the Board Room of the Social Services Building on November 20, 2018. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am. Present were Edith Johnson, Chairman, John Williams, Vice Chair, H. Spencer Murray, Board Member & Mozella Francis, Director.

On a motion by Mr. Williams, the minutes of the October 16, 2018 meeting were approved with no noted changes. There was no public comment or correspondence.

The Board was provided a copy of the 2018-19 budget. October expenditures were slightly elevated due to the agency's internal alignment, but the amount was right in line with predictions.

The Board was given an update on the Benefit programs. Family and Children has had little change, but there is anticipation of increased case load due to Medicaid Expansion. Mrs. Francis proposed a change in policy for Foster care. When a child comes into services, the Agency becomes their legal guardian. Mrs. Francis would like to have these cases mentioned during closed session so that the Board can motion to accept the case. Mr. Murray motioned to accept this as practice; Mr. Williams seconded the motion. Mr. Williams asked what Accomack County DSS does with difficult to place children. Mrs. Francis responded that Accomack has more foster homes, but they too have challenges placing children and often rely on off the Shore, as does Northampton.

Greg Routzong, Adult Protective Services case worker, gave the Board an overview of APS/AS.

Mrs. Francis gave details on the Medicaid Expansion Public Forum that was hosted at NCDSS. Unfortunately, the turnout was less than hoped for, but the Agency made the effort to communicate to the community. A couple of local accountants came to the presentation to see how expansion would impact their clients.

New figures on possible Medicaid Expansion enrollment were given to the Board. 377 new enrollees have been approved under Plan First and are automatically approved for Medicaid effective January 1, 2019. 460 potential enrollees have been invited to apply. That equals a minimum of 837 new Medicaid applications on January 1, 2019.

Mrs. Francis asked the Board about their recent Board of Director's training. Most of the training was focused on the outcome of the Rockbridge DSS investigation, although it was not said; and the liability that both the agency Director and Board of Directors carry when not responding to problematic situations within the agency.

Mrs. Francis reminded the Board about Angel Tree/Toy Closet on December 12 & 13 and notified them that Secretary Daniel Carey, Virginia Secretary of Health and Human Services, would be visiting the agency on December, 5th at 3:30pm.

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.

Coming out of Closed Session, no motions were brought forth.

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 Chairman Johnson: yes, Vice Chair Williams: yes, Board Member Murray: yes.

Mrs. Francis will be in the office until the next scheduled Board Meeting except for the VALSSE Conference in Roanoke, VA November 14-16th.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 18, 2018 at 1:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

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| _____ Attested by _____ | |
| Edith Johnson, Chairman December 18, 2018 | Mozella F. Francis Director |

