

Macon County Social Services Board

March 16, 2023

Minutes

Call to Order

Patrick Betancourt called the regular meeting of the Macon County Social Services Board to order. Members attending were Anne Hyder, Dale West, Evelyn Southard, Amy Sanderfur, DSS employee to observe, Page McCurry/HR, Patrick Betancourt, and Cathy Makinson, Business Officer designated to record minutes

Agenda was approved on motion of Dale West and second by Evelyn Southard.

Minutes

February minutes were approved on motion of Anne Hyder, second by Dale West.

Financials/Energy Update

Budget Officer, Cathy Makinson, presented the preliminary analysis of FY 23, reporting an anticipated \$84,042 in county savings. This savings includes the IV-E AA payback of \$54,000 and a deficit of \$39,537 at Senior Services. Senior Services had a decrease in contributions as well as pandemic revenues ending. The proposed budget for FY 24 reflects an overall decrease of county dollar by \$9,903. This decrease includes an increase to the retirement contribution for all employees from 12.63% to 12.91%, 3 potential retirements and an increase of \$37,895 at Senior Services. Energy assistance budget was decreased as the State has initiated some direct deposits to participating vendors. State has advised DSS will continue to receive hold harmless funds for the reduction in Medicaid dollars due to the 75/25 enhanced adjustments. The Indirect Cost Plan (ICP) breaks out the cost of space identified to receive the 75% Medicaid reimbursement which was not identified in the current ICP. As Patrick and Cathy worked on the highlights to be included for County Admin to consider, we included a critical ask to hire a Medicaid Staff Development/Trainer now to assist in the Medicaid Expansion transition expected very soon. This position was requested last budget cycle but was not approved at that time. Patrick updated the Board on the upcoming Medicaid Expansion and the lack of trained employees with 8 of the 11 Medicaid workers newly hired since COVID began. We have included a request for 3 more Medicaid workers based on the increase in applications once the Expansion passes. Directors were informed that the State intends to provide additional funds to reimburse these needs at 100% rather than 75% to assist counties. A similar Staff Development/QC position is requested again this year as well. Budget handouts will be attached to the minutes in the DSS Board book for 2022-2023. Patrick requested a motion from the Board to endorse this recommended budget. Motion made by Evelyn Southard and second by Dale West. Financials were provided in the board books.

Foster Care Court Process

At the request of the Board, Patrick provided an overview of the court process in regards of when children come in to custody and foster care. Discussion between the Board and Patrick with further clarification given in response to Board questions.

Employee Appreciation & Senior Services Volunteer Appreciation.

Page invited the Board to attend the appreciation luncheon scheduled the day of next month's meeting on April 20th at noon. That same day, Senior Services will be hosting an appreciation dinner for all their volunteers at 4pm.

Personnel Updates/Turnover Rate

Page informed the Board that DSS turnover rate for the first quarter is 1.4% and 12.86% based on the fiscal year. Both Tammy Drinnon and Kayla Hardy are being reclassified this month from IMC I to IMC II.

Additionally, Stephanie Anderson, who was one of our clerical staff, was hired into the Adult Medicaid unit. Page informed the Board, that at Patrick's request, she has designed and initiated a DSS Facebook page for information purposes and no comments are allowed. Page reported with Cathy Makinson's impending retirement in June, internal applications are being accepted through 5pm this Friday, with interview times scheduled for next week.

Closed Session

No closed session this month.

Next Meeting

Patrick proposed changing the time of next month's meeting from 9am to 10:30 am on Thursday, April 20, 2023, due to the appreciation lunch that day. Board agreed and the meeting will held in the Admin Conference Room. Motion to adjourn made by Dale West, second by Evelyn Southard.

APPROVED BY:

Chairman/Date

Secretary/Date