

Macon County Social Services Board

August 19, 2020

Minutes

Call to Order

Patrick Betancourt called the regular meeting of the Macon County Social Services Board to order. Members in attendance were: Lisa Leatherman, Evelyn Southard, Anne Hyder, Patrick Betancourt, Secretary to the Board, Cathy Makinson, Business Officer designated to record minutes.

Minutes

Minutes were approved on motion of Anne Hyder and second by Lisa Leatherman.

Financials

Business Officer, Cathy Makinson, reminded Board of auditors arriving in September for closeout of FY 19-20. Patrick reported to the Board on the Energy Outreach Plan for CIP and LIEAP. It requires DSS to reach out to the community for networking potential and requires the Board Chair signature.

Old Business

Patrick updated the Board on the lawsuit initiated by a former foster parent and the complaint DSS filed against her. Patrick was subpoenaed to testify through teleconference. The client did not show for her hearing. The Licensing Board revoked her social work license and she is prohibited from re-applying for ten years in addition to meeting a list of requirements.

New Business

Personnel updates include Sam Sterrett, new CPS social worker, and Lynne Kurimay, the new processing assistant in the reception area. Katie Norris transferred from foster care to CPS social work. One vacancy remains in foster care social work.

Patrick reported to the Board his conversation with County Management through teleconference last week. County HR is concerned regarding the number of employees filing emergency FMLA under the CARES Act with school opening and differing schedules. DSS completed an internal review of staff based on the number who could potentially claim EFMLA which could be as much as 25% of our workforce. Currently there are just a few that have gone home and teleworking. County requested all staff with children complete the FMLA request and note TBD on date to begin. Page is tracking DSS staff utilizing EFMLA and FMLA.

Patrick informed the Board Senior Services had requested to modify the dress code to allow tennis shoes to be worn by staff working in the kitchen, especially during this time when most staff are assisting in the kitchen with meal prep. Board asked for an update on meal deliveries as it was reported last month that Transit would no longer be able to assist in delivering. Patrick stated that Transit was still able to send some staff to continue delivering meals for the now but there is always a need for more volunteers. He also said that speed bumps had been installed at the rear of the building because of the one way in, one way out as the old Chamber entrance is no longer useable.

Closed Session

Anne Hyder made a motion to go into Closed Session to discuss case information as allowed under G.S. 143-318.11. Lisa Leatherman seconded, and motion carried.

Next Meeting

Next meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, September 16, 2020, at 8:30am in the Administrative Conference Room at the Human Services Building.

APPROVED BY:

Chairman | Date

Secretary | Date