

LEE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD MEETING

May 20th, 2014

The Board of Social Services for the Lee County Department of Social Services convened at 12:00 noon, in the Board of Commissioner's Room at the Lee County Government Center, 106 Hillcrest Drive, Sanford, North Carolina. Board members present were Ophelia Livingston, Paul Utley, David Riddle and Gail Dickens. Commissioner Charles Parks was absent. Also present was Ex-Officio member Brenda Potts.

Chairperson Livingston called the meeting to order and opened the meeting with the serenity prayer.

The Board considered changes to the May agenda. With no changes made, the agenda was approved.

The Board considered changes to the April Minutes. With no changes made the Minutes were approved.

The meeting was turned over to DSS Director Brenda Potts.

PUBLIC COMMENT - No one signed up to speak during the Public Comments section of the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS-Mrs. Potts updated the board on the direction of NC FAST at this time. Children's Medicaid is in the last month of having to do double the reviews. The new staff has been in training so they have been able to help which has helped. For the most part most of the staff is able to put in overtime and carry their caseload with only a reasonable percent of cases going overdue. A few staff continue to have problems managing their work load along with the issues in NC Fast.

The applications coming from the Federal Market Place (FFM) continue to be, for the most part, overdue when the county gets them from Raleigh. There has been discussion of them being sent directly to the county rather than by way of the state. The new enrollment period for the FFM applications will be around November 2014.

The state is still talking about a hard launch roll out for all functions in Children's Medicaid to be in NC FAST, so this staff will continue to have excess work to be done. The first six counties will roll out in July with another six in August; all being converted in a very short period.

Lisa Minter and Mr. Crumpton are busy with the budget. Social Service budget meeting is scheduled for June 2 with the County Commissioners.

General Services has placed the order for our new county car (van), which was approved by the commissioners in the 13/14 budget.

FMLA has been an issue for the department since last July. Positions affected were discussed. Most staff affected had/has enough sick leave to carry them through their recovery time. Ms. Potts explained that FMLA is federal law where an employee can receive 12 weeks of family medical leave (FMLA). FMLA protects their position, or a comparable position, and ensures they have health insurance during the 12 weeks. When the employee has leave during their FMLA period, they remain on payroll so there is no lap salary to cover the cost of coverage, if it was available. This requires the remaining staff to handle their

own caseload and cover the vacant caseload as well. In a small county, this makes it very difficult and definitely affects the quality and timeliness of the services being provided.

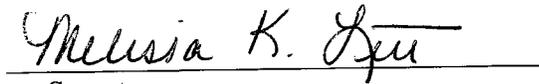
With no further business to come before the Board, Member Paul Utley moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Member Gail Dickens. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: All
Nay: None

Chairperson Livingston ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously and the meeting adjourned.



Chairman



Secretary