

**LEE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
BOARD MEETING**

January 15, 2013

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 of the Lee County Government Center, 106 Hillcrest Drive, Sanford, North Carolina. Board members present were, David Riddle, Charles Parks, Ophelia Livingston, Paul Utley and Gail Dickens. Also present was Brenda Potts, Ex-Officio.

Chairperson, Mr. Riddle called the meeting to order and opened the meeting with the serenity prayer. Mr. Riddle asked if there were any changes to the January agenda, Mr. Riddle asked all in favor.

Aye: David Riddle, Gail Dickens, Charlie Parks, Paul Utley, Ophelia Livingston

Nay: none, motion carries.

Mr. Riddle asked if there were any adjustments or changes to the December Board minutes, there being none, Mr. Riddle asked all in favor.

Aye: David Riddle, Gail Dickens, Charlie Parks, Paul Utley, Ophelia Livingston

Nay: none, motion carrier.

NEW BUSINESS

New Board Appointment- Chairperson, Mr. Riddle asked the board to welcome new board member, Charles Parks. Mr. Parks is taking the vacant seat left by Mrs. Shook when she resigned due to relocating out of state. Mr. Riddle then turned the meeting over to Mrs. Potts.

Staffing Need in Food and Nutrition Unit-Mrs. Potts asked the board to look at the package in front of them, which included the request for the hiring of staff for the FNS unit. This request is due to the increase in the FNS caseload and the NC Fast onset that has been occurring in FNS in the past few months. This additional staff is to help lightened the load that the workers are facing at this time. At the present time the workers have to work in the old FSIS system and the new NC Fast system until the conversion process has been completed. At the present time customer service is not going well in fact, it is poor and workers have extensive overtime. The conversion process is slow due to the daily work with FNS. Also included in this packet are some comparisons with other counties to show how Lee County compares in terms of caseloads.

Since 2008, the FNS unit has been on a roller coaster ride. The caseload has doubled between 2008-2012; when the economy went bad our volume of work went up. Since 2008, I have been requesting a position each year but Mr. Crumpton's directives have been no increase in head count. The FNS unit is slowly drowning, workers are overworked and tired. I would like to be able to take this information to the Board of Commissioners and request the following; I would like to request a permanent Full time position to help us with our everyday work of taking and processing applications & recertification's and making changes to cases. In addition, we have to convert the existing cases from the old system to the new systems and I would like to request 3 part time temporary positions to help with the conversion process. I

am asking the board for a motion in support to get the staffing needs as requested. Mr. Riddle asked if there was a motion, Mrs. Livingston made the motion, Mr. Parks seconded all in favor.

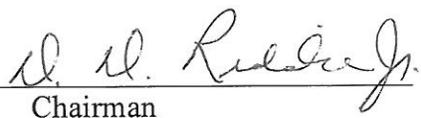
Develop Schedule for Program Presentations- As there had been discussions in prior meeting about learning more about the different programs, Mrs. Potts asked for the boards input on where they would like to begin. It was decided that we would begin with the Work First Program. A presentation will be developed for the next regular meeting.

OLD BUSINESS-

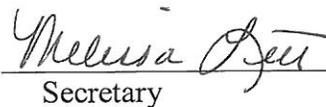
NC FAST UPDATE- When the state started the move of Lee County's FNS cases from the old FNS system (FSIS) into a dummy case in the new NC Fast System, it was very important that the counties do prep work to clean up cases so the crossover would go more smoothly. Lee County was the second best county behind Wilson County. The difference was one of our workers slipped up and keyed a case in the old system by mistake; causing us to have one outstanding case. That was fine; we would take second best anytime when it comes to NC Fast. The state is very pleased with our FNS Unit's progress in Lee County.

Director's Report- This morning was the STARS Presentations, Social Services was Department of the Month, and two of our staff were recognized, Janet Maynard by a citizen and Robyn Henningsen by her staff.

There being no further business brought before the Board, Mr. Riddle asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Livingston made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Utley, seconded the vote was unanimous and the meeting was adjourned.



Chairman



Secretary