

**LEE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
BOARD MEETING
April 18th, 2017**

The Board of Social Services for the Lee County Department of Social Services convened at 12:00 PM, 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, David Riddle, Paul Utley, and Gail Dickens and absent was Commissioner Amy Dalrymple. Also present was Ex-Officio member Brenda Potts.

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

The Board considered changes to the April agenda. No changes being made a motion was made by member Utley to accept.

Aye: Paul Utley, David Riddle, and Gail Dickens, (Absent from the vote Amy Dalrymple and Ophelia Livingston)

Nay: None

The Board considered changes to the March minutes. No changes being made a motion was made by Member Utley to accept.

Aye: Paul Utley, David Riddle, and Gail Dickens, (Absent from the vote Amy Dalrymple and Ophelia Livingston).

Nay: None

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

The meeting was turned over to DSS Director Brenda Potts.

NEW BUSINESS-

CURRENT LEGISLATION- Ms. Potts provided the board with copies of General Assembly Session 2017, legislation Bills, DRS45352-MR-59A (Accuracy/Medicaid Eligibility Determinations), Senate Bill 594 & corresponding HB (Family/Child Protections & Accountability Act.) which is where the State would take a more active role in DSS supervision in Child Welfare and implement regionalization of all DSS program as well as House Bill 529 (Amend Funeral Home Laws).

Ms. Potts discussed with the board what each bill would mean to the county social services programs. Bill 594, Family/Child Protections & Accountability Act, this bill would regionalize DSS, similar to the regionalization of Mental Health a few years ago. The state would setup 30 regions possibly tied to the judicial districts as both Child Welfare and Child Support are tied to judicial districts. Lee being the smaller county could find itself benefiting the least.

Bill 529 Amending Funeral Home Laws, assures that funeral homes will receive compensation for expenses incurred with unclaimed bodies. The responsibility would be the county of residence. Most of our unclaimed bodies are individuals that were in a facility. Historically the county of residence is the county in which their Medicaid is from (where they last lived in a private living arrangement). The bill would need to be clearly defined or we could find ourselves responsibility of every unclaimed body that dies in Lee County. There is also wording "a cost that is reasonable" so who would determine what is reasonable. . Bill DRS45352-MR-59A, the secretary DHHS is concerned about Medicaid Error Rate in the counties and develop standards for Medicaid accuracy, Medicaid caseworkers to be certified in NC FAST, State could take over Medicaid Administration.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT-

CLOSED SESSION-Member Utley move for the Board to go into closed session to consider a personnel matter per N.C. General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6);

Member Dalrymple seconded the motion. Upon a vote the results were as follows:

Chairperson Riddle ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously and the Board was in closed session.

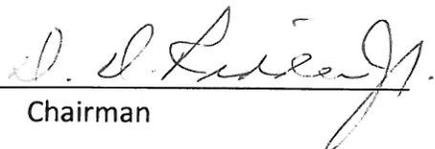
Upon returning from closed session, the regular meeting resumed with members, Riddle, Utley, Dickens and Livingston.

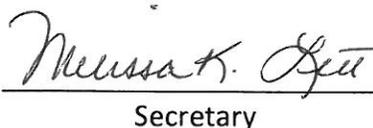
With no further business to come before the board, Chairperson Riddle moved to adjourn the meeting, upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Ophelia Livingston, David Riddle, Gail Dickens and Paul Utley (Absent from the vote Amy Dalrymple)

Nay: None

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


Chairman


Secretary