

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

June 17th, 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, Commissioner Charles Parks, and Gail Dickens 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 June agenda. With no changes made, the agenda was approved.

The Board considered changes to the May 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 introduced Angelina Noel, supervisor for Work First, Program Integrity, and Daycare. During the March 2013 board meeting Mrs. Noel gave a detailed presentation concerning the TANF Benefit Diversion policy to the same seated board. Today Mrs. Noel gave a brief overview of Benefit Diversion to the board, and then asked if they wish to continue to have Benefit Diversion services in Lee County as it was time to designate for the fiscal year. Mrs. Livingston asked the board for a motion to continue the benefit diversion.

Mr. Riddle made the motion.

Aye: Livingston, Riddle, Utley, Parks

Nay: None

Mrs. Dickens was absent

Chairperson Livingston ruled the motion had been adopted.

Ms. Potts furnished the board with the email where COLTS would not be providing NEM Transportation on holidays. Mrs. Potts expressed her concern for having to revisit Medicaid Transportation; however there is a need for NEM Transportation for lift van wheelchair patients that have to go to dialysis on holidays. It is not a problem for non-lift van patients as we can use Service cab. Ms. Potts and Ms. Price shared with the board the contacts that have been made with vendors. The issue with local vendors was they either did not do that type of service we required, could not guarantee an appointment, or not available during the time of day the service was needed. Ms. Potts also advised the board of the vendors outside the county that have expressed an interest in providing NEM transportation. Ms. Potts' concern there is the issue of if the outside vendor's price is cheaper than the local vendors. The 4th of July needs have been worked out so we will need to have a contract in place by Labor Day.

Ms. Livingston suggested we see about the possibility of DSS having the use of a COLTS van on holidays to transport the lift van wheelchair patients. The driver would have to be DSS's responsibility and would have to meet all the requirements of a van driver.

Other issues we are researching are what is our county liability, if we fail to provide transportation to a dialysis patient and the patient dies or is hospitalized as a result of the patient not getting to dialysis. Dialysis patients are an exception to all the rules that other Medicaid Transportation recipients must follow. They cannot be denied transportation even if they break the rules. When we get more information from the state, we will refer the question to the county attorney for some guidance.

Director's Report: We received a call on last Thursday letting us know that Lee County DSS had been selected as one of the first six counties to go live on July 1, 2014. We believe that due to our strong management team, the commissioner's supporting us and allowing new positions and the utilization of our staff to bring the back log up to a good point, this is why we were chosen.

CLOSED SESSION - Member Utley moved for the Board to go into closed session to consider a personnel matter per N.C. General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6). Member Riddle seconded the motion. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: All
Nay: None

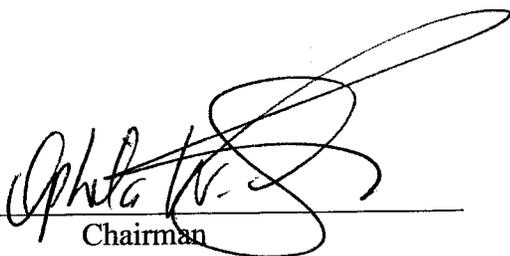
Chairperson Livingston ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously and the Board was in closed session.

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

With no further business to come before the Board, Member Riddle moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Member Utley. 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