

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

September 18, 2012

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, Linda Shook, Gail Dickens and Ophelia Livingston. 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 September agenda, there were none. Mr. Riddle asked all in favor.

Aye: Linda Shook, David Riddle, Gail Dickens. (Mrs. Livingston arrived after the motion and vote)

Nay: none, motion carries.

Mr. Riddle asked if there were any adjustments or changes to the August Board minutes, Mrs. Shook made a motion the August Board minutes be accepted as written. Mrs. Dickens seconded the motion, motion carries. The meeting was turned over to Mrs. Potts.

NEW BUSINESS

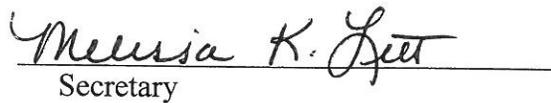
Update on NC Fast-Mrs. Potts provided the board with a hand out which explained the five pilot counties that are actively using NC FAST to complete: New Applications, Re-certifications and changes in circumstance. Of the five counties; Buncombe, Carteret, Catawba and Johnston have completely converted out of FSIS and are working only in NC FAST, Guilford will be converting remaining FSIS cases at a later date. Lee County is completing phase 1 (processing new applications in NC FAST) the second part of phase 1 Hard launch will be November 13, 2012 or December 17, 2012 and is dependent on Readiness Assessment (number of vacant positions and training dates for Wave 2 training), Technical Validation(Lee Co. Completed) and Case Processing Timeliness (applications, re-certifications and timeliness). Mr. Riddle asked if all counties on NC Fast at this time and what are their history thus far. Mrs. Potts explained that counties have had to hire temporary staff to help in the keying of the cases into NC Fast system. Lee County has some 5000 plus cases that will need to be converted at hard launch (next phase). Johnston County hired 10-12 temporary staff and keyed somewhere around 100 cases a day. New staff seems to learn faster with NC FAST rather than the old FSIS system. They will take some time to learn policy but the NC FAST system is not so convoluted, however some of the language (terms) are different for the older staff to become familiar with. The NC Fast Champion and the FNS supervisor are looking forward to once we get through all the change- over. Sherry Bradsher, DHHS Director came for a meeting to check and see how things were going and if she could assist with any matters. Mrs. Potts expressed her concerns for there not being enough information offered to the county commissioners association regarding NC Fast. Ms. Potts told the board that the County Commissioner's Association had been kept informed about the changes that were coming down regarding Medicaid Transportation; therefore, it was easier for them to understand the needs of the county. With NC Fast, the CC Association was not advised of the magnitude of work and the big changes it means for the local social services agencies. Mrs. Bradsher stated that this had been expressed to her by others and she would see that the information would get out to the CC Association. Mrs. Potts also inquired of NC FAST and the affect it

might have on current job classifications. Mrs. Bradsher did say that she would be talking with Office of State Personnel concerning the 1 level of Eligibility class in IMC. The trend will be to go toward more generic workers in the future, which would definitely change the current classifications.

Director's Report- The staff is doing better, moral pretty good. Clients are getting more aggressive. Positions have been filled. The county has addressed the whooping cough issue and staff that wish to take will get on October 12 from the Health Department. Mr. Crumpton has asked that we take a look at Performance Based Budgeting for the 2011-2012 year, and line items with a +/- 5% we will need to give an explanation. This is a way to determine if a department might be inflating revenues in order to spend more money. Mrs. Potts explained that she hesitates in using this form of budgeting for many of the programs as the cost of the programs is purely based on the demographics of those that apply. For instance in Foster Care the cost is based on the number of referrals where the children have to come into custody and the age of the children being brought into care. The payments are based on 3 to 4 age groups.

Mr. Riddle asked if any further discussion. 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, Mrs. Dickens seconded the motion, the vote was unanimous and the meeting was adjourned.


Chairman


Secretary