

The Northampton County Board of Social Services met in the Board Room of the Social Services Building on March 19, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am. Present were Edith Johnson, Chairman, John Williams, Vice Chair, H. Spencer Murray, Board Member & Mozella Francis, Director.

On a motion by Mr. Williams, the minutes of the February 19, 2019 meeting were approved with no noted changes. There was no public comment or correspondence.

The Board was provided a copy of the 2018-19 budget. The budget is right in line as predicted, with no notable outliers. AS and APS will use all their budgeted funds and may have to request additional funds due to the large and ever-increasing caseload.

The Board was given an update on the Benefits programs. All departments are operating at status quo with no significant changes or developments, other than the Benefits department which continues to see a steady influx of new Medicaid applications – 580 potential new Medicaid cases to date.

Mrs. Francis made the Board aware that on occasion we make the training room available for outside agencies to use for their meetings. Currently, NAMI the National Alliance on Mental Illness and the Democratic Party of Northampton County use the training room. Mrs. Francis met with The Eastern Shore Coalition Against Domestic Violence,

executive director, to discuss establishing a MOU. If an agreement is established, they will begin use in April.

Mrs. Francis discussed with the Board the difficulties we face with foster care recruitment. The agency has been running advertisements on WESR for some time now in an effort to recruit foster parents. Currently, the majority of our foster children are placed in the Tidewater/Hampton Roads area.

Mrs. Francis updated the Board on the 2019 Agency Dashboard. The October-December 2018 Dashboard was released internally; it showed areas that we did very well in and areas that need improvement. Ms. Francis emphasized that the areas of improvement are currently being addressed through strategic planning and evaluation of processes and procedures. Mr. Murray asked Mrs. Francis to add the dashboard as a standing item on the agenda. The January-March 2019 Dashboard will be published for the public in May 2019.

On a motion by Board Member Spencer Murray, the Board went into Closed Session in accordance with Section 2.1-344 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, for the purpose of discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining appointees or employees of any public body.

The Board returned to Open Session.

There were two motions coming out of Closed Session:

Motion #1 by Board Member Spencer Murray was to accept the internal alignments for two staff members not included in the 2018 State Internal Alignment Review. Vice Chair John Williams 2nd the motion.

Motion #2 by Vice Chair John Williams called for the hiring of an Administrative Assistant for Director Francis. Board Member Spencer Murray 2nd the motion.

On a roll call vote certifying to the best of each member's knowledge, only public matters exempted from the public meeting and in the original motion were discussed. The vote was Chairman Johnson: yes, Vice Chair Williams: yes, Board Member Murray: yes.

Mrs. Francis will be in the office until the next scheduled Board Meeting except for the Regional Director's Meeting in Norfolk on March 22 and the VLLSE Board Conference in Huddleston, VA April 2-4.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Edith Johnson, Chairman
April 16, 2019

Attested by _____
Mozella F. Francis
Director

