

The Northampton County Board of Social Services met in the Board Room of the Social Services Building on October 22, 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 Vice Chairman Williams, the minutes of the September 24, 2019 meeting were approved with no noted changes. There was no public comment or correspondence.

The Board was provided a copy of the 2019-2020 budget. The budget is right in line as predicted, with no notable outliers.

Mrs. Francis gave The Board insight into her plans for the 2021 budget. Due to Medicaid expansion, the Agency has added over 865 new Medicaid cases. This is the caseload for three workers and the State only supplied funds for 1.5 FTE. Salary for an additional Medicaid caseworker needs to be included in the budget going forward. The Agency may also need an additional Human Services Aide. Legislative changes and how UAI screenings are conducted is requiring additional time. Prior to this change, initial phone screenings could rule out those who did not meet the minimum requirements.

The Board was given an update on the Benefits programs. All departments are operating at status quo

with no significant changes or developments. Medicaid expansion applications continue to roll in. Benefit Programs Specialist are at max caseload capacity and two workers are currently on leave.

Mrs. Francis informed the Board that the state is working diligently with the Work Force Investment Boards, through the establishment of a MOU, to provide opportunity for required work participants to obtain a living wage. The state has taken the SNAP pledge and is waiting to hear from the Federal Government. Once approved, workforce development will be offered to any client receiving SNAP benefits.

On a motion by Board Member Murray, and seconded by Mr. Williams 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 Vice Chairman Williams was to schedule the November Board Meeting for Tuesday November 12 at 9:00am. Board Member Murray seconded the motion.

Motion #2 by Vice Chairman Williams was to schedule the December Board Meeting for Tuesday

December 17th at 9:00am. Board Member Murray seconded 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 out of the office 11/6 through 11/8 for the VLSSE Conference in Newport News

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 12, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

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

Edith Johnson, Chairman
November 12, 2019

Attested by _____
Mozella F. Francis
Director

