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MINUTES FOR MEETING OF

THE HOKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD

April 25, 2022

A meeting of the Hoke County Department of Social Services (the “*Board*”) was held at 4:00 p.m. on April 25, 2022 in the Commissioners Room located in the County Administration Building (Pratt Building) at 227 N. Main St, Raeford, NC, pursuant to notice duly given. The following Board Members (“*BM*”), constituting a quorum, were present:

Allen Thomas, Jr., Chair
Brenda Branch
Virginia Chason
Linda Revels
Harry Southerland

Also present representing the Department were Terry Stanton, Director of DSS; Barbara Mena, Administrative Officer; Tera Campbell, Personnel Tech; Tammy Brewer, Family Support Services; and Jonathan Charleston (via teleconference), Department of Social Services Attorney.

Chair Thomas called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and welcomed the Board to this month’s meeting. Thereafter, Chair Thomas gave the invocation.

Chair Thomas asked for public comments. Ms. Annie M. Brown, a new citizen to the area, came forth to give an update on her housing search and to thank everyone for their assistance. Chair Thomas asked for any other public comments. There were none.

Chair Thomas asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. BM Southerland made a motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of (a) the March 28, 2022 minutes (b) the next meeting date of Monday, May 23, 2022 and (c) the Attorney Invoice, which was seconded by Vice-Chair Branch. The vote was unanimous.

Chair Thomas asked for the Child Care update from Ms. Tammy Brewer. Ms. Brewer reported the total amount spent for March service month was \$168,939.00. The amount spent in Smart Start was \$3,396.00. The amount spent in Non-Smart Start was \$165,543.00. The current spending Coefficient is 98% (ninety-eight percent). The Unexpended balance in Non-Smart Start is \$375,016.00 and the

Unexpended balance in Smart Start is \$1,036.00. Ms. Brewer also reported that Child Care still does not have a waiting list. Chair Thomas asked if the Board had any questions. There were none. Chair Thomas thanked Ms. Brewer for her time and her report.

Chair Thomas asked for the Coronavirus (COVID19) Update and Director's Presentation from Director Stanton. Director Stanton informed the Board that the agency has not had any cases. Director Stanton stated the agency is running well. He stated the agency does not have a face covering mandate but some employees and clients continue to wear face coverings. He also stated the agency continue to offer face coverings to clients who desire to wear one. Chair Thomas asked how are the agency employees dealing with coming back into the agency to work. Director Stanton responded. Director Stanton asked if the Board had any questions. There were none.

BM Southerland asked about employee raises, additional positions and employee training in the budget. Director Stanton responded and it was discussed.

Director Stanton directed everyone to the County – Mandated Performance Requirements Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) in the handout. The Board reviewed the March 2022 data and measurements of the MOA report. Director Stanton elaborated on the MOA. Director Stanton asked if the Board had any questions or comments. There were none.

Director Stanton mentioned the DSS Board Member vacancy closes Thursday, April 28, 2022. It was discussed. Director Stanton informed the Board he has been doing some research about the new building and was putting together a building committee. He asked for the Board's suggestion as to how many people should be on the committee. It was discussed. Chair Thomas mentioned that someone should be able to give a clear presentation on reimbursement for the new building at the budget workshop. It was discussed. Chair Thomas asked if the Board had any comments or questions. There were none.

Chair Thomas asked for a motion to adjourn. BM Revels made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Vice-Chair Branch. The vote was unanimous.

Allen Thomas, Jr, Chair

Micka T. Stanton, Secretary

Date