

BOARD MINUTES
NASH COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
March 30, 2015

The Nash County Department of Social Services held its regular meeting on March 30, 2015 in the second floor Board Room of the Nash County Claude Mayo, Jr. Administration Building. Members present were Ms. Patricia Adams, Mr. Chris Battle, Ms. Dorothy Battle, Mr. Dan Davis, and Ms. Jeannette Pittman.

Mr. Davis called the meeting to order.

Minutes of the February 23, 2015 regular meeting were unanimously approved following a motion by Mr. Battle and second by Ms. Battle.

Old Business

None

New Business

Ms. Donna Boone introduced Amy Pridgen-Hamlett who will begin her role as Deputy Director April 1, 2015. Amy has served DSS for 19 years in Child Welfare, primarily in Foster Care and Family Support Services. She has her MSW and is very qualified to assume this new role.

Ms. Melissa Whitehead presented the draft budget for 2015-2016. The draft was presented to the County Manager on March 23, 2015 for which we received support. Major changes include purchasing new computers for staff working in Medicaid because we have a one-time opportunity to receive 75% federal reimbursement for such equipment. We are requesting the following positions: IMC II in Family and Children's Medicaid; IMC II in Adult Medicaid; 2 IMC I in Food and Nutrition Services; unfreezing a Child Support Agent II. We will eliminate 2 funded positions and 2 temporary staff in FNS. Also included are 3 temporary staff for the Medicaid units for 4 months as they continue to convert cases into NC FAST. The Social Work Program Administrator position will remain frozen.

Ms. Boone advised that March is widely recognized as Social Work Appreciation Month. The supervisors provided a breakfast in their honor. Ms. Boone reflected on the important work that Social Workers carry out every day to ensure safety and wellbeing as well as promote self-sufficiency and independence of those in need.

Ms. Boone advised that the Health and Human Services Consolidation process continues and the next step is to solidify the Board. Mr. Dan Davis participated on the nominating committee and reported that there are 19 slots of which 16 have been filled. Remaining slots needing to be filled are: Psychologist, Psychiatrist, and Pharmacist. The Board can have up to 25 members but the committee is recommending to keep it at a more manageable size. This list will be submitted to the Commissioners for consideration at the April 6th meeting. Ms. Boone thanked the current DSS Board

Members for agreeing to serve on the Consolidated Board which will help provide a more balanced transition as we move forth.

Ms. Boone provided the board with copies of the Revenues/Expenditures and Services/Financials reports for the month of February 2015. The financials are in line with our goals at this time of year. The child care waiting list has been cleared and we are able to serve those in need. We have depleted the Crisis Intervention Funds and the Low Income Energy Assistance Program will end on March 31st.

In accordance with N.C.G.S. 108A-80 and pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11, Mr. Battle made a motion, seconded by Ms. Adams and passed unanimously to enter a closed session to consider suspected fraud cases.

Upon return to open session, and there being no further business, on a motion by Ms. Adams and second by Mr. Battle, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Davis, Chairman

Donna Boone, Secretary