

Cherokee County Department of Social Services

Board of Directors

MEETING MINUTES

January 24, 2022

I. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Cherokee County Department of Social Services was duly called and held on January 24, 2022, at 8:07 P.M., at the Cherokee County Courthouse, 75 Peachtree Street, Murphy, N.C. 28906.

Present were:

Dan Eichenbaum, Chair

Gary Westmoreland, Member

Randy Phillips, Member

Jan Griggs, Member

Cal Stiles, Member

Staff present were:

Amanda Tanner-McGee, DSS Director

Andria Duncan, DSS Attorney

Mr. Eichenbaum called the meeting to order at 8:07P.M., and Andria Duncan recorded the minutes.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Prior to the Board of Commissioners Meeting

III. Modification of Agenda

Director McGee requested to remove the DSS minutes section of the agenda.

IV. Adoption of the Agenda

Mr. Stiles made a motion to adopt the agenda, with Mrs. Griggs seconding the motion and with all in favor, the Board approved the agenda as modified.

V. Public Forum

There was no Board or public comments or questions.

VI. Approval of Minutes

December 12, 2021 DSS Board Minutes

The Board approved the modification to the Agenda and deferred the approval of the December, 2021 minutes to the next scheduled DSS Board meeting.

VII. Old Business

A. MOU for CVA CPS Reports

Director McGee informed the Board that the agreement with Jackson County to handle all future CPS CVA reports is no longer feasible. Director McGee updated that Board that Cherokee County DSS and Graham County DSS are working together to hire a part-time employee to handle future CPS CVA reports.

VIII. New Business

A. Cherokee County DSS Together Facing the Challenge Site Certification

Director McGee informed the Board that Cherokee County DSS has achieved national Site Certification status in Together Facing the Challenge from Duke University.

B. Legislative actions that will impact budget next fiscal year

Director McGee provided the Board with a handout of the legislative actions that will impact the fiscal year 2022-2023.

C. Family First Prevention Services Act Lost Federal Revenue Splits

Director McGee informed the Board that the Family First Prevention Services Act denial of IV E funds for congregate care beyond 15 days will be absorbed by the State this fiscal year. McGee informed the Board that an escalating schedule of counties assuming the loss will occur over the next three years. The State has not put in place any of the needed prevention services as designed and authorized by the FFPSA legislation and this failure is hurting counties, particularly, rural counties. McGee also stated that preparation for FFPSA was the reason for launching the CCDSS Together Facing The challenge / One Home initiative and that we have achieved 100% success to-date.

D. State Plans for a state-wide CPS Hotline

Director McGee informed the Board regarding the possibility of an upcoming study.

IX. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P.M. with Mr. Phillips making a motion to adjourn, Mrs. Griggs seconding the motion, and all in favor.