

Cherokee County Department of Social Services

Board of Directors

MEETING MINUTES

September 17, 2019

I. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Cherokee County Department of Social Services was duly called and held on September 17, 2019, at 6:32 P.M., at 4800 West Highway 64, Murphy, N.C. 28906.

Present were:

Gary Westmoreland, Chair

Cal Stiles, Member

Dr. Dan Eichenbaum, Member

C.B. McKinnon, Member

Roy Dickey, Member

Staff present were:

Amanda Tanner-McGee, DSS Director

Andria Duncan, DSS Attorney

Amanda Rhodes, Clerk

Candy Anderson, Finance Director

Chairman Westmoreland called the meeting to order at 6:32 P.M. Clerk to the Board, Amanda Rhodes, recorded the minutes.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Modification of Agenda

The New Business is referenced under the Director's Report.

IV. Adoption of the Agenda

Commissioner Eichenbaum made a motion to accept the Agenda, Commissioner Roy Dickey 2nd the motion, with a unanimous vote, the Board approved the agenda.

V. Public Forum

There were no Board or public comments or questions.

VI. Minutes August 20, 2019

The August 20, 2019 DSS Board meeting minutes were approved, Commissioner Stiles made a motion to accept, Commissioner Westmoreland 2nd the motion, with a unanimous vote the Board approved the August 20, 2019 DSS Board meeting minutes.

VII. New Business

a. Budget transfer

DSS requested a line item budget transfer of \$1,295 from miscellaneous revenue into the trust account fund due to a transposition error on October 26, 2017 and a posting error on January 9, 2018. Candy Anderson discussed how the money in the trust account was covered by the excess money from transportation and those funds would cover the errors.

VIII. Directors Report

Director McGee provided the Board with the Director's Report.

1. REAL Training

Director McGee discussed the September 10, 2019 meeting with Dr. Tipton-Rogers, Vice President Bo Gray and Ms. Dotie Stafford-Ortega at Tri County Community to discuss: (1)

a partnership to deliver NCFAST Certification training (2) REAL/SIM training being piloted at Western Carolina University. Cherokee County DSS is submitting a grant to the Nantahala Health Grant Foundation for funds to build a Safety Organized Practice- Master Training capacity at WCU, Tri County Community College, and Blue Ridge Community College.

2. Medicaid Managed Care

a. Phase I was delayed and is now scheduled to be launched at the same time as Phase II on February 2, 2020. Open enrollment will take place from October 14, 2019 until December 13, 2019. Beneficiaries that do not respond will be “auto assigned” a plan beginning on December 13, 2019. The Health Plan coverage will begin February 2, 2020. The companies covering Region 1 are Well Care, United Health Care, Healthy Blue, and AmeriHealth/Caritas. Cherokee County DSS has completed a comprehensive Readiness Assessment and is prepared. On February 2, 2019, DSS will no longer have any responsibility for Non-Emergency Medicaid Transportation. Cherokee County DSS will only manage NC Direct which consist of approximately 120 beneficiaries and DSS will maintain its contract with Transit for these riders. Transit will be responsible for establishing its own contract with Health Care Providers.

3. Legal Update

DSS Court September 3, 2019:

Attorney Duncan discussed the DSS Court date September 3, 2019. There 1 hearing on for review; non secure hearings on 7 children to continue custody; 1 disposition by memo; 3 Post TPR reviews by memo; 5 permanency planning reviews by memo; 10 continuances (some duplicated with the non-secure hearings) for various reasons such as DNA results, service of the parents, or parents nearing completion of their in home terms.

Child Support Court September 6, 2019

Attorney discussed the Child Support Court date on September 6, 2019. There was 1 case calendared in error; 1 establishment hearing; 1 memo for show cause; 6 orders for arrest issued for non-compliance; 2 jail hearings which were denied; 1 dismissal for interstate

purposes; 11 continuances for various reasons such as the parties to obtain court appointed attorneys, work verifications, and other valid reasons.

Other Court Action

Attorney Duncan gave an update on other court actions. There were 2 regular Adult Protective Service hearings scheduled for September 16, 2019; 1 Superior Court hearing responding to a motion to release sealed adoption records; 2 appearances provided in Graham County Child Support Court to provide backup services; significant progress clearing up old orders.

4. Audits and Reviews

Upcoming Audit and Reviews

- a. The Medicaid Single Audit Testing is scheduled for October 7-11, 2019.

5. Court Order Tracking

Court Orders reflected on the J Wise Report are up to date and withstanding a small number which are in the process of being drafted.

6. Safety Training

Sheriff Derrick Palmer is scheduled to provide Safety Training for the DSS on September 24, 2019. A revised Safety Policy and Manual are under revision and development to include several emergency situations such as medical emergencies, extreme weather situations, hostile and aggressive persons in the building, and other situations up to an including the need for building evacuations.

7. TVA Space

The TVA space is available and the DSS staff's transition will be complete by September 16, 2019.

IX. Statistical Report

Director McGee provided the statistical report for August 2019.

X. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 P.M. with Commissioner Cal Stiles making a motion to adjourn, Commissioner Westmoreland 2nd the motion and all in favor. The next DSS Board Meeting was rescheduled for 6:30 P.M. on October 22, 2019 at the Department of Social Services.

These minutes were approved at the October 22, 2019 DSS Board Meeting