

The Accomack County Board of Social Services met at its facility on Tuesday, January 16, 2018, at 9:30 A.M. Present were Ms. Reneta Major, Chairman; Mrs. Elsie B. Mackie; Mrs. Nicolette Hickman; Mr. John Sparkman; and Mrs. Vicki J. Weakley, Secretary.

Ms. Major called the meeting to order and gave the Invocation. At this time she announced Ms. Laura B. Gordy and Mr. Robert Crockett were not in attendance.

Ms. Major proceeded to **Item 3 – Approve Minutes of December 19, 2017**. On motion by Mrs. Elsie Mackie, seconded by Mrs. Nicolette Hickman, the Minutes were approved as written.

Ms. Major continued to **Item 4 – Introduction of Horace Hall, III and Vaughn Johnson, III – Family Service Specialist II's; Promotions for Kerrie Jensen, Dawn Weston, Kathy Mason and Christine Santos from Benefit Program Specialist II's to Benefit Program Specialist III's; Promotion for Cielo Crianza from Office Associate II to Benefit Program Specialist II; Jamesha Ames, Keisha Elmandorf and Tyler Major – Benefit Program Specialist II's**. At this time Horace Hall, III and Vaughn Johnson, III were introduced by Mrs. Weakley to the Board. She stated Vaughn Johnson had come to us from the corrections arena in Maryland and Trey Hall had come to us from Radford University where he just received his Master's Degree in Social Work. They were welcomed to ACDSS by the Board.

At this time Cielo Crianza introduced herself and stated she had been promoted from Office Associate II to Benefit Program II. Mrs. Weakley asked the others in attendance to introduce themselves. Keisha Elmandorf stated that was her first day as a Benefit Program Specialist II and she was happy to be with us. She had come to us from the Virginia Cooperative Extension; Jamesha Ames stated she had started with us as an Emergency Energy Assistance worker and had now been employed as a Benefit Program Specialist, II. On behalf of the Board Ms. Major welcomed everyone to our agency.

At this time Tyler Major entered the Boardroom and Mrs. Weakley stated he had been assisting us as an Emergency Benefit Program Specialist; however, he was recently hired to fill a Benefit Program Specialist II position in the Family and Children Unit. On behalf of the Board Ms. Major welcomed him to the agency.

The four promotional workers entered the Boardroom. Mrs. Weakley welcomed Christine Santos and Kathy Mason who were promoted from Benefit Program Specialist, II's to Benefit Program Specialist III's and will be in the Intake Unit. She further introduced Dawn Weston who was promoted from Benefit Program Specialist II to Benefit Program Specialist III and will be in the Family and Children's Unit and Kerrie Jensen who was promoted from Benefit Program Specialist II to Benefit Program Specialist III and will be in the Adult Unit. On behalf of the Board Ms. Major congratulated everyone in their new positions.

Mrs. Weakley then introduced Sylvia Stanley who has been promoted to the Family Services Supervisor for the Child Welfare Unit. She has taken the position recently vacated by Libby Beasley due to her retirement. On behalf of the Board Ms. Major welcomed Ms. Stanley in her promotion. Mr. Sparkman inquired whether Ms. Stanley had previously been with the agency. It was stated she had been with ACDSS for approximately thirty years.

Ms. Major proceeded to **Item 5 – Fraud Report – December 2017**. Mrs. Weakley reported that Frances Bailey, our new Fraud Investigator, is in the process of learning all of our new systems and processes. Mrs. Mackie stated she had noticed the past few months they were not getting referrals and without them

they cannot do the claims. She asked Mrs. Weakley what was happening with this. Mrs. Weakley stated we have hired a number of new workers who are not yet proficient at recognizing fraud. There has also been a lot of case shuffling and shifting to even out caseloads and the State recently asked the agency to focus on overdue Medicaid renewals, so workers were totally focused on that and other things, like fraud, fell by the wayside. Our Emergency Fraud Investigator also had his own caseload to work on, so he was unable to focus solely on Fraud the way our previous Fraud Investigator, Jack Thomas, was able to do. Mrs. Mackie further inquired whether Mrs. Weakley planned to do a staff training after the new fraud employee got more experience so the workers would know exactly how to search for a fraud claim. Ms. Major stated it takes time for new workers to get acclimated to a new position. She further stated it was her hope when the worker gets familiar with the position and everyone is settled in his/her position, the number of referrals will rise again.

Ms. Major continued to **Item 6 – Director’s Report**. Mrs. Weakley stated between the Holidays and the snow days, she only had two meetings – CPMT and we started relocation meetings for the Arcadia/Quail Run shutdown. We are having the same issues we had when we thought Riverside was closing; i.e., people do not want to leave the Shore. They are refusing to allow their information to be sent to other facilities. There are no other assisted living facilities on the shore that will accept the AG grant. We did have GF Horne but that is now defunct. Most of the folks at Quail Run are not interested in leaving the shore and it is creating some difficulties.

Ms. Major inquired about a timeline. Mrs. Weakley stated they gave us 60 days. Mrs. Mackie stated she believed it was somewhere around March 5, 2018. She inquired whether we have anyone we are responsible for currently located at the facility. Mrs., Weakley stated the answer would be yes and no. We are the legal guardian for one person at Quail Run, but there are others who will become our responsibility if they do not have a place to go or they have family members who are refusing to allow the facility to pass on information to other facilities. In that situation it will become an APS complaint, because the person would become homeless. The meeting went well and a number of other agencies, are working to see if they can get the residents relocated to other facilities. Those individuals who were originally not from the Shore are more willing to move; however, the folks who were originally from the Shore are not. The only facilities available for them would be in Maryland and their rule is you have to be there six months to obtain residency, and therefore Maryland Medicaid. Mrs. Weakley stated she had hoped someone would want to purchase the facility, however, she has been informed the nursing home license has been sold. By purchasing the license, the nursing home beds could be spread over the entire State which the company intends to do.

Ms. Major proceeded to **Item 7 – Purge of CPS cases**. Mrs. Weakley stated we have 119 CPS cases that have met their appropriate time frames and are ready to be purged. The Board has to give its approval prior to us purging the cases. On motion by Mrs. Mackie, seconded by Mr. Sparkman, Mrs. Weakley was instructed to purge the 119 CPS cases. The motion carried.

Ms. Major continued to **Item 8 – Progress on Medicaid Renewals**. Mrs. Weakley said the State has been focused on overdue Medicaid renewals. One of the difficulties is that at the end of each month more cases are added to the overdue list. When she started tracking it we had 818 overdue renewals and this last report stated we are now down to 18. We are very excited and she wanted to share it with the Board.

Ms. Major proceeded to **Item 9 – Financial Statement – Administrative Office Manager Shirley Harmon**. For the month of December our Total Expenditures were \$292,038.59. Our Year-To-Date Total Local Adjustment was \$303,192.16 and our Total Local Balance is \$476,306.84. Ms. Major inquired if we were on track. Mrs. Harmon stated we were; however, there was one category where we had requested more money and she was waiting to hear from it. This was the Title IV-E Subsidized Adoption Assistance Program. Ms. Major inquired whether it appeared we would be refunding any money. Mrs. Harmon stated she did not know yet. We sent some VIEW money back when we did the mid-year in December.

On motion by Mrs. Hickman, seconded by Mr. Sparkman, the Board went into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing Personnel (Retirement – Elizabeth Beasley – Effective 12/31/2017; G. F. Horne/OTP Update; Director’s Evaluation and Director Consult, as permitted by the Code of Virginia, Section 2.2-3712.

On motion by Mrs. Mackie, seconded by Mrs. Hickman, the Board returned to Open Session. On motion by Mrs. Hickman, seconded by Mr. Sparkman, the Board confirmed the matters discussed in Closed Session (Mrs, Hickman – yes; Mrs. Mackie – yes; Mr. Sparkman – yes).

On motion by Mrs. Hickman, seconded by Mr. Sparkman, the Board approved the following:

- I. Personnel:
 - A. Retirement: Elizabeth Beasley – Effective 12/31/2017

Mrs. Mackie inquired how the Energy Assistance Program was doing with the number of applicants. Mrs. Weakley stated everything is going well. The State threatened to do things differently this year and then changed their plans, so things have gone similar to previous years. Now there has been some talk they might do away with the fuel program, which would negatively impact the community. Ms. Major stated it is a Federal program.

The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at 9:30 A.M.

On motion by Mrs. Mackie, seconded by Mrs. Hickman, the meeting adjourned at 10:45 A.M.

APPROVED: C. Reneta Major

ATTEST: Vicki J. Weakley