

The regular meeting of the Camden County Board of Social Services was held on Wednesday, December 20, 2017 at 12:00 p.m. in the office of the Board at 600 Market Street, Camden, New Jersey, with James H. Rhodes, Chair, presiding. The following members were present:

Ginny Betteridge; Dr. Leonard Krivy, PhD, Secretary/Treasurer (via teleconference); Gwen DeVera

Also present were: Christine Hentisz, Acting Director, Nicolasa Medina, Deputy Director; Edward Hill, Esquire; Paulette Konopka, Fiscal Officer; Christine Colbert, Sr. Personnel Tech.; Jaritza Nuñez, Keyboarding Clerk 2

Public Attendance: Cheryl Behnett-Ali, Educational Leave Committee Chair; Allegra Reed, CWA Member; Darnell Hardee, CWA Member; Audrey Watkins-Kizee, CWA Member

At 12:00 P.M., a quorum being present, Mr. Rhodes called the meeting to order, and announced that, in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the Courier Post Newspaper and the Philadelphia Inquirer were notified of the Board Meeting; notice of the agenda was posted in a prominent location at 600 Market Street and the County Clerk was notified.

Mr. Rhodes requested approval of the following items:

- Minutes of the November Board Meeting.
- The listed expenditures from both Clearing and Administration Accounts.
- The payment of salaries and traveling expenses for December.
- Requisition from the County Treasurer for administration expenses for January.
- Approval to move funds, to be requisitioned from the State and County Treasurers less monies on hand for assistance payments for the month of January.

Ms. Betteridge moved to approve. Ms. DeVera seconded the motion, and there being no discussion on the motion, a vote was taken and the motion was unanimously adopted.

**OPEN SESSION  
Public Participation**

Mr. Rhodes requested a motion to open the meeting for public participation. Ms. Betteridge moved to open the Public Participation portion of the Open Session, seconded by Ms. DeVera and the motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Rhodes asked if there were any additional members of the public wishing to address the Board. Seeing that there was no one, Mr. Rhodes requested a motion to close the Public Participation portion of the Open Session. Ms. Betteridge moved to close the Public Portion of the Open Session of the meeting. Ms. DeVera seconded the motion and there being no discussion on the motion, a vote was taken and the motion was unanimously adopted.

The Open Session of the meeting continued.

**UPDATE STATE AND FEDERAL POLICIES ..... Christine Hentisz, Acting Director**

Mrs. Hentisz stated that all Board members would find a synopsis of informational transmittals, procedural bulletins, general assistance procedural bulletins and Division of Family Development instructions in their packet. If there were any questions on any of the material, Mrs. Hentisz stated that she or her staff would be happy to answer.

Mr. Rhodes requested a motion to approve the Director's Update on the State and Federal Policies.

Dr. Krivy moved to approve. Ms. DeVera seconded the motion and there being no discussion on the motion, a vote was taken and the motion to approve the Update was unanimously adopted.

**Resolution 226-2017 Authorizing the Appointment of Special Legal Counsel to Represent the Camden County Board of Social Services In Child Support Matters..... Edward Hill, Esquire**

In response to publicly advertised Request for Proposals the Camden County Board of Social Services has received and reviewed proposals for Special Legal Counsel to handle Child Support Matters.

The evaluation committee for this Request for Proposals has recommended that and hereby appoints the law firms of Mattleman, Weinroth & Miller, P.C., Zane and Lozuke, and Angelini, Viniar & Freedman L.L.P. be appointed as Special Legal Counsel to handle child support matters on behalf of the Camden County Board of Social Services at an hourly rate of \$97.00 per hour for a one year term commencing January 1, 2018 and ending December 31, 2018.

The annual limitation on each of the law firms of Mattleman, Weinroth & Miller, P.C., Zane and Lozuke, and Angelini, Viniar & Freedman L.L.P. shall be \$30,000.00.

Mr. Rhodes requested a motion to adopt Resolution 226-2017.

Ms. Betteridge moved to adopt. Ms. DeVera seconded the motion and there being no other discussion on the motion a vote was taken and the Resolution was unanimously adopted.

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT ..... Christine Hentisz, Acting Director**

Mrs. Hentisz Introduced our new Deputy Director Nicolasa Medina, who has worked for the board for many years and, Mrs. Hentisz noted, she will be a great asset.

Mrs. Hentisz stated in the Division of Family Development meeting it was informed that the CHIP (Children Health Insurance Program) has not been reauthorized, but the state will cover the program until March, and that after March the board will start closing cases unless the program is reauthorized.

Mrs. Hentisz also stated in the DFD meeting it was brought up that the Aged Blind and Disabled online application went live last week, but the state did not promote it because the concern was technical glitches, but the state announced it will promote it January into February. Another topic that was brought up in the DFD meeting was the Payment Error Rate Measurement (PERM) review for Medicaid to look into the timeliness and quality of handling Medicaid of cases. Mrs. Hentisz stated we have been working with staff to work in cleaning up cases, and taking what we learned from the Food Stamp Collaborative to help streamline procedures.

Mrs. Hentisz stated a big topic at the County Welfare Directors Association meeting was a federal law that came out that requires finger printing and background checks on employees who have access to federal tax information. The State is still working on how the counties will be doing that is being discussed on the State level who will be paying for the fingerprint expenses.

Mrs. Hentisz stated one of the initiatives the board has been working on is the hurricane evacuees from Puerto Rico. CCBSS has helped to process over 300 evacuees in the last 2 months and, although the programs was supposed to end December 31, 2017, it was extended to January 31, 2018. We have been working closely with FEMA and Constituent Services to get the clients the help they need.

The Food and Nutrition Services Collaborative is ending. The last learning session for the food stamp collaborative will be in January in D.C. and four employees will be in attendance. Mrs. Hentisz stated we have learned a lot from the FNS collaborative and is hoping it is extended.

Mr. Rhodes requested a motion to approve the Director’s Report.

Ms. Betteridge moved to approve. Ms. Devera seconded the motion and there being no discussion on the motion, a vote was taken and the motion approving the Report was unanimously adopted.

**FISCAL REPORT..... Paulette Konopka, Fiscal Officer**

Ms. Konopka stated that each Board member had received copies of the Fiscal Report in their packet for November 2017.

Ms. Konopka stated that if anyone had any questions she would be happy to address them.

Mr. Rhodes requested a motion to accept the Fiscal Report for November 2017 as presented in the packet.

Ms. Betteridge moved to accept. Ms. DeVera seconded the motion and there being no discussion on the motion, a vote was taken and the Report was unanimously accepted.

**OLD BUSINESS**

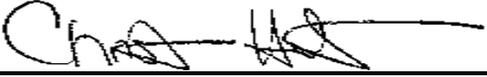
Ms. Devera asked about the sexual harassment trainings for staff, which was brought up in the last board meeting. Mrs. Hentisz stated the Training Department has been working on updating our annual training modules to do the training yearly. In the past 6 to 7 months there has been a list of sexual harassment trainings.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was none.

**OPEN SESSION  
Public Participation**

Mr. Rhodes requested a motion to close the Open Session of the meeting and move to the Closed Executive Session to discuss personnel and legal matters. Dr. Krivy moved to discuss such matters in closed session. Ms. DeVera seconded the motion, and there being no discussion on the motion a vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

  
Clerk