

The regular meeting of the Camden County Board of Social Services was held on Wednesday, October 18, 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, Martin F. McKernan Jr., Esquire, Board Counsel; Sharon Faber, Esquire; Edward Hill, Esquire; Joan Quinton, Confidential Aide to Freeholder Rodriguez; Paulette Konopka, Fiscal Officer; Jaritza Nuñez, Keyboarding Clerk 2

Public Attendance: Precious Diggs, Shop Steward, CWA-Local 1084; Michelle Acevedo, Legislative Chair, CWA-Local 1084; Darnell Hardee, CWA Member; Gerald Baker, CWA President; Allegra Reed, CWA Member; Simone Moore, 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 September Board Meeting.
- The listed expenditures from both Clearing and Administration Accounts.
- The payment of salaries and traveling expenses for October.
- Requisition from the County Treasurer for administration expenses November.
- Approval to move funds, to be requisitioned from the State and County Treasurers less monies on hand for assistance payments for the month of November.

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. Dr. Krivy 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.

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 to approve the Update was unanimously adopted.

**Resolution 225-2017 Authorizing an Agreement Pursuant to Publicly
Advertised Request for Proposals, By and Between the Camden
County Board of Social Services and Wade, Long, Wood & Long,
LLC for Legal Services on an As-Needed Basis, Related to
Departmental Hearings in Discipline Matters..... Sharon Faber, Esquire**

By Resolution 119-2016, adopted May 18, 2016, and pursuant to a publicly advertised Request for Proposals, the Camden County Board of Social Services approved various law firms to be utilized for provision of special counsel, conflicts counsel, and labor counsel services; and the Camden County Board of Social Services requires the services of a law firm for the provision of legal services on an as-needed basis relative to the departmental hearings in discipline matters; and pursuant to the provisions of Resolution 119-2016, the Camden County Board of Social Services issued a Scope of Work and solicited quotations; and four (4) responses were received; and the appointed review committee reviewed the proposals consistent with the evaluation criteria identified in the Scope of Work and determined that the firm of Wade, Long, Wood & Long, LLC is qualified to perform the services requested on an as-needed basis, at the hourly rates listed in its proposal dated September 22, 2017, for the term commencing on or about October 1, 2017 and terminating April 30, 2018.

Mr. Rhodes requested a motion to adopt Resolution 225-2017.

Ms. Betteridge moved to adopt. Dr. Krivy 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 stated the state officially received notice from FNS that we are out of the advanced warning for FS timeliness. Mrs. Hentisz stated we still have to report weekly on our timeliness rates and have to continue the CAP meetings to make sure the agency does not backtrack again, but FNS have lifted all threats of sanctions and is happy with the progress New Jersey has made.

Mrs. Hentisz stated the FNS collaborative is continuing and they met with California and North Carolina for three days in Princeton to go over updates on the collaborative. Mrs. Hentisz stated the collaborative has been extended through January to make up for the learning session missed in North Carolina last year. Mrs. Hentisz stated FNS will be back in December to meet with us to go over some of our process to continue moving on.

Mrs. Hentisz stated the State is looking to do a Medicaid timeliness review through CMS, the Federal agency which oversees Medicaid. The State is concerned regarding the timeliness of Medicaid. Mrs. Hentisz stated we will be working closely with our Medicaid department as well as our Case Bank Department, because they do the family care portion of the Medicaid.

Mrs. Hentisz stated that the Children Health Insurance Program reauthorization fund was not authorized by the Federal Government earlier this month will be funded by the State in order for the children and family care will have health care coverage. The state will fund the program in the hopes that the CHIP program is reauthorized by the Spring prior to the State running out of funds to continue the program.

Mrs. Hentisz stated we have been dealing with hurricane evacuees Texas, Florida, and Puerto Rico and that the State has given us guidance in this regard. There is an ability to give the evacuees cash and food stamps through December without looking at resources or income. The agency only has received evacuees from Puerto Rico, most of whom are staying with family. Mrs. Hentisz stated we are part of a Camden County effort to ensure the families get placed and receive the help they need.

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

Mr. Krivy 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 September 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 September 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

There was none.

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. Mr. 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