

June 19, 2019

The regular meeting of the Camden County Board of Social Services was held on Wednesday, June 19, 2019 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:

Virginia Betteridge, Vice Chair; Dr. Leonard Krivy, PhD, Secretary/Treasurer (via teleconference) Gwen DeVera; Sharrae Morman, Vice Secretary/Treasurer

Also present were: Christine Hentisz, Director; Edward Hill, Esquire; Paulette Konopka, Fiscal Officer; Christine Colbert, Principal Personnel Technician; Donnette (Molly) Brown, Human Resource Manager; Joan Quinton, Confidential Aide to Freeholder Carmen G. Rodriguez; Nicole Jefferson, Administrative Clerk

Public Attendance: CWA Local 1084 members: Joshua Nix, Allegra Reed

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 May Board Meeting.
- The listed expenditures from both Clearing and Administration Accounts.
- The payment of salaries and traveling expenses for June.
- Requisition from the County Treasurer for administration expenses for July.
- Movement of funds to be requisitioned from the State and County Treasurers less monies on hand for assistance payments for the month of July.

Mr. Rhodes requested a motion to approve.

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 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. 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, Director**

Ms. 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, Ms. 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.

**OPEN SESSION**

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT. .... Christine Hentisz, Director**

Ms. Hentisz stated that Ms. Connie Medina will be retiring from her position as Deputy Director at the end of the month. Effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, Ms. Lauwana Martin, will take on the role of Deputy Director.

Ms. Hentisz provided updates to the Board from the Division of Family Development (DFD) and Division of Medical and Health Services (DMAHS) meeting. Megan Daveey, Director of DMAHS, will be resigning. Carol Grant will assume the role as acting Director.

Ms. Hentisz went on to report, DFD will be reorganizing their staffing to a generic workforce, similarly to the generic workforce that are at most counties throughout the State. Soon, there will only be one DFD representative assigned to each welfare agency and that generic representative will oversee both WFNJ and Food Stamp programs.

Ms. Hentisz stated there has been some confusion with the Emergency Assistance 7-year reset, as well as the Immediate Need eligibility guidelines. However, DFD will be releasing clarified instructions soon.

There is currently a PERM (Payment Error Rate Management) Review with the Federal auditors reviewing several of the Agency's Medicaid cases. Ms. Hentisz stated that state-wide there are issues with medical redeterminations being completed timely. The quality control workers in the Agency are pulling cases off of the State program, to prepare for the next review in July.

Ms. Hentisz informed the Board, that there has been no final determination from the Agency's TOP (Treasury Offset Program) review that was held in February- March 2019.

Ms. Hentisz stated that DIMS (Document Imaging Scanning System) is showing more improvement with its performance, as the state continues to work closely with IBM.

The One-Stop building will be moving from Mt. Ephraim Ave in Camden to Woodcrest in July 2019. 20 staff members from the agency will be transitioning to the offices in Woodcrest. Ms. Hentisz also stated the County is looking to provide shuttle services from the train station to the office building.

Lastly, Ms. Hentisz stated that she and a few administrators have scheduled meetings with both DFD and DMAHS in regards to the contingencies that have been placed on the 2019 Budget. These meetings will help Ms. Hentisz and her staff get a better understanding of what DFD and DMAHS are reviewing and what the agency needs to work on to meet these required conditions. Ms. Hentisz feels confident that she and her staff will be able to meet and exceed these conditions. Ms. Hentisz went on to say, she has instituted weekly meetings regarding each contingency, and have found these meetings to be beneficial and is seeing vast improvement.

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.

**OPEN SESSION**

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

Ms. Konopka stated that each Board member had received copies of Fiscal Report in their packet for May 2019.

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 May 2019 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.

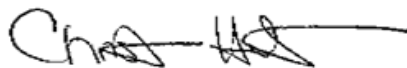
**OLD BUSINESS**

There was none.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was none.

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. Ms. Betteridge 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.



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Clerk