

May 15, 2019

The regular meeting of the Camden County Board of Social Services was held on Wednesday, May 15, 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; Martin F. McKernan Jr., Esquire, Board Counsel; Edward Hill, Esquire; Donnette (Molly) Brown, Human Resource Manager; Joan Quinton, Confidential Aide to Freeholder Carmen G. Rodriguez; Gregory Smith, Senior Management Assistant; Cheryl Behnett-Ali, Training Supervisor; Nicole Jefferson, Administrative Clerk

Public Attendance: Members of CWA Local 1084, Jonathan Worley, CWA Local 1084 President; Jim McAsey, CWA National Staff Representative; Rob Pallante and Caroline Taylor, CWA Local 1014

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

Mr. Rhodes requested a motion to approve.

Dr. Krivy moved to approve. Ms. Betteridge 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. Dr. Krivy moved to open the Public Participation portion of the Open Session, seconded by Ms. Morman and the motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Rhodes asked if there were any members of the public wishing to address the Board.

Mr. Jonathan Worley, President of CWA Local 1084, expressed his concerns to the Board regarding the scheduling of contract negotiation meetings with Board counsel. Mr. Rhodes thanked Mr. Worley for presenting this matter to the Board and stated that he will discuss further with the negotiating team.

Mr. Rhodes asked if there was anyone else that wished to address the Board.

Jacqueline Morton, a current CCBSS employee, presented to the Board a personal matter involving her daughter. Ms. Morton stated her daughter is currently in the CWEP (Community Worker Employment Program) at CCBSS for three years. Ms. Morton stated her daughter has applied for a full-time position at CCBSS, and her applications appear to have been overlooked. Mr. Rhodes thanked Ms. Morton for presenting this matter to the Board and stated he will discuss further with Administration.

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 POLICIESChristine 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

Resolution 216-2019 – Authorizing the Appointment of Solicitor to the Camden County Board of Social Services Edward Hill, Esquire

In response to publicly advertised Request for Proposals the Board has received and reviewed the proposal submitted. The evaluation committee for the Request for Proposals has recommended that Martin F. McKernan, Jr., Esquire be appointed as Solicitor to the Board.

The Camden County Board of Social Services hereby appoints Martin F. McKernan, Jr., as Solicitor to the Camden County Board of Social Services at an hourly rate of \$230.00 with an annual limitation of \$14,520.00 for a one (1) term commencing May 1, 2019.

Mr. Rhodes requested a motion to approve Resolution 216-2019.

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

Resolution 217-2019 – (walk on) Authorizing Budget for the Year 2019 Edward Hill, Esquire

Mr. Rhodes explained that the Resolution sets forth the total budget for 2019.

Ms. Betteridge motioned to walk on Resolution 217-2019. Ms. Morman seconded the motion and there being no discussion on the motion, a vote was taken and the motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Rhodes requested a motion to adopt Resolution 217-2019. 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.

OPEN SESSION

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

Ms. Hentisz provided updates to the Board from the Division of Family Development (DFD) and Division of Medical and Health Services (DMAHS) meeting.

Ms. Hentisz stated that there will soon be a release of a new program, called Family Planning. This new program is not to be confused with the current Family Planning program. This new program will cover contraception only for the higher income population (205% Federal Poverty Income Level).

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 the State updated her on the review, and it appears that there may be some issues with medical redeterminations being completed timely; however other details of the review are still to come. Ms. Hentisz went on say that the next list of cases will be coming in about a week or two, and those cases will be reviewed sometime in July.

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

DFD is looking at ways to improve the process between the TANF population and the Case Management Department. One way is incorporate a coaching program, for those that are on TANF and are trying to secure employment.

Ms. Hentisz went on to report that Labor Workforce and Development (LWD) are looking to streamline the process between the state’s welfare agencies and the One-Stops. LWD will be meeting with Hudson, Cape May, Ocean, Mercer, Somerset, and Union counties to review and data map what their processes are, and then to ultimately have all 21 counties in the State to implement one process.

Ms. Hentisz reported that the minimum wage increase bill passed. Beginning on July 1, 2019, the minimum wage will increase to \$10.00. On January 1, 2020, the minimum wage will increase to \$11.00, and thereafter, every January 1st will be a \$1.00 increase of minimum wage, until it reaches \$15.00. At this time, the State is not doing anything systemically to change the welfare allotments and clients are still required to report any changes of income.

Lastly, Ms. Hentisz stated that DFD and DMAHS issued corrective action plans (CAP) that are contingent on the Agency’s budget. Ms. Hentisz went on to say that she and her management staff have been aware of these items and were already addressing and correcting the items stated in the CAPs. Ms. Hentisz stated that she will be reaching out to both DFD and DMAHS to request to schedule monthly meetings with their directors to receive updates and statuses on how the Agency is meeting the CAPs.

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 Christine Hentisz, Director

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

Ms. Hentisz 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 April 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.

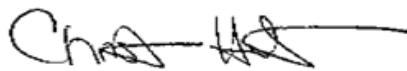
OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no motion to grant the educational leave that was presented and discussed.

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.



Clerk