

December 18, 2019

The regular meeting of the Camden County Board of Social Services was held on Wednesday, December 18, 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; Sharrae Morman, Vice Secretary/Treasurer; Freeholder Carmen G. Rodriguez, (via teleconference)

Not present: Dr. Leonard Krivy, PhD, Secretary/Treasurer; Gwen DeVera

Also present were: Christine Hentisz, Director; Lauwana Martin, Deputy 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: None

CWA Local 1084 Members: Kelly Quinton, Jeanette Norcross, Simone Moore

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.
- Movement of funds to be requisitioned from the State and County Treasurers less monies on hand for assistance payments for the month of January.

Mr. Rhodes requested a motion to approve.

Ms. Betteridge moved to approve. Ms. Morman 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. Morman 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. Morman 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. Morman 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 221-2019 – Ratifying a Shared Services Agreement (Five Year Option By and Between the County of Camden and the Camden County Board of Social Services for the Provision of Human Resources Management Services.....Edward Hill, Esquire

By Resolution 208-2018 adopted February 21, 2018, the Camden County Board of Social Services ratified the option to renew the Shared Services Agreement with the County of Camden to provide Human Resources Management services for a period of five (5) years effective September 1, 2017. The Shared Services Agreement, 5-year option, needs to be corrected to reflect the term: “Director of Human Resources or her designee”.

Mr. Rhodes requested a motion to adopt 221-2019. Ms. Betteridge seconded the motion and there being no other discussion on the motion a vote was taken and the Resolution was unanimously adopted.

Resolution 222-2019 – 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 Camden County Board of Social Services appoints the law firms of Mattleman, Weinroth & Miller, P.C., Law Firm of Raymond J. Zane and Associates and Angelini, Viniar & Freedman, L.L.P. as special legal counsel to the Camden County Board of Social Services at an hourly rate of \$97.00 for a one year term commencing January 1, 2020 and ending December 31, 2020.

The annual limitation on each of the law firms of Mattleman, Weinroth & Miller, P.C., Law Firm of Raymond J. Zane and Associates and Angelini, Viniar & Freedman, L.L.P. shall be \$30,000.

Mr. Rhodes requested a motion to approve 222-2019.

Ms. Betteridge moved to approve. Ms. Morman 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, Director

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

Effective January 1st, 2020, the Homelessness Hotline (NJ211) will be overseen by the State. It is mandatory that all counties throughout the state of New Jersey provide a 24-hour homeless hotline. The Agency will be the main contact for homeless inquiries for Camden County. NJ211 will place the client in a motel should the individual contact after hours. The individual will then be referred to the Agency the next business day. This new process will be better streamlined and a much simpler process for the homeless population.

Ms. Hentisz went on to report, there was a lot of discussion regarding the Senate Bill S499. The bill was created to require the State to implement incentives and penalties on Medicaid application processing. A memorandum of understanding was sent to all counties within the State explaining each incentive and

OPEN SESSION

DIRECTOR’S REPORT (continued)..... Christine Hentisz, Director

penalty. Ms. Hentisz, along with Deputy Director, Lauwana Martin, and the Medicaid Administrator, will be diligently working in the first quarter to clean up the backlogged Medicaid cases.

Next, Ms. Hentisz stated there have been federal changes to the SNAP ABAWD (Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents) program. The changes affect how the State requests waivers of not having to comply with the ABAWD program. It is possible that the waiver may not be granted, however the State is looking to apply for a waiver next year, due to Camden County’s unemployment rate.

Ms. Hentisz reported that the next Strategic Planning Session will be rescheduled for some time in January. Ms. Hentisz and her management staff are working together to plan their two-year, five-year, and ten-year vision plans for the agency.

Ms. Hentisz stated the Agency is continuing in the planning process of implementing DIMS (Document Imaging Management System). The Deputy Director and a few other administrators will be visiting the State for a DIMS training. The goal is to ensure the Agency is scanning documents properly and accurately, and ultimately to go paperless.

Lastly, Ms. Hentisz was happy to report that she recently met with Wellness Coaches, USA. The wellness coach has received an amazing response from our employees. It has become necessary to increase the wellness coach’s days from three days a week to five days a week. She meets with employees for nutrition counseling and wellness coaching. Ms. Hentisz is very pleased with the positive response the wellness coach has received from the employees.

Mr. Rhodes thanked Ms. Hentisz for her Director’s Report and asked if there were any questions or comments.

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

Ms. Betteridge moved to approve. Ms. Morman 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 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 November 2019 as presented in the packet.

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

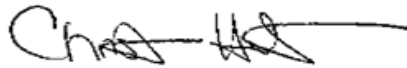
OLD BUSINESS

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. Morman seconded the motion, and there being no discussion on the motion a vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.



Clerk