

October 16, 2013

The regular meeting of the Camden County Board of Social Services was held on Wednesday, October 16, 2013 at 1:00 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:

Dr. Leonard Krivy, PhD, Secretary/Treasurer; Gwen DeVera; Ginny Betteridge

Also present were: Shawn Sheekey, Director; Sharon Faber, Esquire; Mary Ann Pagano, Fiscal Officer; Greg Smith, Sr. Management Assistant; Joan Quinton, Confidential Aide to Freeholder Carmen G. Rodriguez; Sharon Hall, Administrative Clerk

Public Attendance: None

At 1:00 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 for November.
- To move funds, to be requisitioned from the State and County Treasurers less monies on hand for assistance payments for the month of November.

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. Ms. Betteridge moved to open the Public Participation portion of the Open Session, seconded by Dr. Krivy.

There were no members of the public wishing to address the Board.

The Open Session of the meeting continued.

**UPDATE STATE AND FEDERAL POLICIES ..... Shawn Sheekey, Director**

Mr. Sheekey 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, Mr. Sheekey stated that he or his staff would be happy to comment on them.

Mr. Rhodes requested a motion to approve the Director’s Update on 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 was unanimously adopted.

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT ..... Shawn Sheekey, Director**

Mr. Sheekey stated that the agency started the Affordable Care Act rollout on October 1, 2013 and that it went well. A table has been set up in the lobby staffed with Medicaid workers who are providing information to customers and advising them that they can apply on line at [www.heathcare.gov](http://www.heathcare.gov) or apply in-person. The site, however, is currently experiencing technical difficulties. “Navigators” and “facilitators” entities have received grant funding to advertise and assist with ACA enrollments. The agency has not experienced a huge influx of customers for the ACA at this time but it is anticipated that closer to the March 31, 2013 enrollment deadline this may occur. Open enrollment runs from October 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31, 2013 and coverage begins in January 2014 if enrolled early. Mr. Sheekey provided the Board members with copies of an Affordable Care Act introduction prepared by the agency.

Mr. Sheekey stated that the agency’s biggest focus continues to be Case Banking. The agency is struggling with the new case banking procedure and there are a lot of issues that need to be corrected. Key staff continues to meet on a weekly basis to pin point and address problems such as staff, phone calls and mail. Mail being sorted, logged and matched up to the appropriate case files so that cases can be processed is a primary concern at this time. Another concern is that some workers are reverting back to the old way of processing cases by keeping unfinished work at their desks. Mr. Sheekey stated that Camden County, along with 10 other counties, continues to focus on the benefit timeliness issue in an effort to improve SNAP benefits issuance. All of the counties report the same timeliness issues: volume, mail, phone calls, staff, etc. As a state, the CWA’s have until the end of November 2013 to reach 80% timeliness or be subjected to federal sanctions. At the last timeliness sampling, Camden County was at 27% timeliness. Mr. Sheekey is meeting with the state representative next week to discuss what cases are being used for samples as the cases being pulled may already be beyond timeliness and not being pulled from the case bank which is focus moving forward. Mr. Sheekey stated that a multi-pronged approach is being used to address all case banking issues and he will be meeting with all levels of staff to discuss what problems they are facing with the new process.

Mr. Sheekey stated that the Camden County Job Fair will be held on Thursday, October 22, 2013 at the Collingswood Ballroom and that the Women’s Health Conference will be held on October 19, 2013 at the Eastern Regional High School in Voorhees.

**OPEN SESSION  
Public Participation**

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 was unanimously adopted.

**FISCAL REPORT ..... Mary Ann Pagano, Fiscal Officer**

Ms. Pagano stated that each Board member has received in his or her packet copies of Fiscal Reports. Ms. Pagano mentioned that the expenditures are in line with the pro-rated budget. If there were any questions, she commented that he would be happy to address them.

Mr. Rhodes requested a motion to accept the Fiscal Reports for September as presented.

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

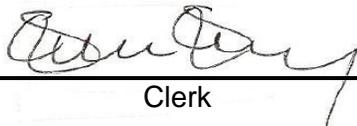
**OLD BUSINESS PUBLIC SESSION**

There was none.

**NEW BUSINESS PUBLIC SESSION**

There was none.

Mr. Rhodes requested a motion to close the Open Session 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 adopted.

  
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Clerk