

**PITT COUNTY BOARD OF SOCIAL SERVICES
REGULAR SESSION**

July 9, 2019

The Pitt County Board of Social Services met in Regular Session at 4:00 p.m. on this date in the Eugene James Auditorium located on the second floor of the Pitt County Office Building, 1717 W. 5th Street, Greenville, N.C. The purpose of this meeting was to conduct the official business of the Pitt County Board of Social Services. Board members and Management Team staff present:

Board Members

Members Present
James Cox, Chair
Shelia Bunch, Vice Chair
Catherine Nelson
Darone Dancy

Agency Staff

Members Present
Jan Y. Elliott, Director
Gwen Burns, Deputy Director
Bryan Averette, ESS Prog. Admin
Michele McCorkle, FSS Prog. Administrator
Angela Hart, Business Officer

County Manager Rep.

Members Present
Brian Barnett, Dep. Co. Manager

Call to Order

Vice Chair Cox called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Moment of Silent Prayer

Vice Chair Cox offered a moment of silent prayer or meditation before the meeting began.

Public Comments

Vice Chair Cox opened the floor for public comments. No one had submitted a form or signed in to speak.

Adopt or Revise the Agenda

Item presented by: Vice Chair Cox
Discussion: The agenda for today's meeting was reviewed by the Board.
Motion Made: To adopt the agenda as presented.
Motion Made by: Shelia Bunch
Motion seconded by: Catherine Nelson
Motion passed: The motion was passed unanimously.

Action on minutes of previous meeting

Item presented by: Vice Chair Cox
Item Description: Minutes of June meeting
Discussion: Chair Bryan asked if there were any revisions to be made to the minutes of the June meeting.
Motion Made: To accept the minutes as presented.
Motion Made by: Catherine Nelson
Motion seconded by: Shelia Bunch
Motion passed: Unanimous

Swear In of New Board Member

Darone Dancy was sworn in as a Board Member by Susan May, Clerk to the Social Services Board. Chair Cox welcomed him to the Board.

Selection of Board Chair and Vice Chair

The floor was opened for nominations for the Chair and Vice Chair positions.

Motion Made: To nominate Jim Cox as Chair.
Motion Made By: Shelia Bunch
Motion seconded by: Catherine Nelson
Motion passed: Motion passed unanimously

Motion Made: To nominate Shelia Bunch as Vice Chair.
Motion Made By: Jim Cox
Motion seconded by: Catherine Nelson
Motion passed: Motion passed unanimously

Items for Consent

Item Presented: Energy Outreach Plan
Item Presented by: Bryan Averette, ESS Administrator

Mr. Averette went over the 2019-2020 proposed Energy Outreach Plan, which includes CIP and LIEAP. CIP is an ongoing program in the Family Support Services Division and is administered by Michele McCorkle. LIEAP is a seasonal program that is in the Economic Support Services Division and is administrated by him.

Motion Made: To approve the plan as presented.
Motion Made by: Catherine Nelson
Motion seconded by: Shelia Bunch
Motion passed: Unanimous

Items for Report

Item Presented: Bready Bear Fundraiser Update
Item Presented by: Chandra Mewborn, SW Supervisor & Gregg Green, Harvest Bread

Ms. Mewborn went over a slide show presentation of the previous week's events. DSS partnered with Greenville Police Department, Pitt County Sheriff's Office, several churches and banks, TediBear and Great Harvest Bread for the fundraiser. Received a number of donations with 2 that were \$5,000 each for a total of \$10,406 along with \$281.50 in tips and \$168.83 from the 15% of the lemon bar. Sold 156 bready bears which raised \$624. The total amount raised all together was \$11,481. Will use the money to support Child Welfare needs as they come up throughout the year. Kia Glossin, TediBear, thanked Mr. Green for the fundraiser and support. Over 100 stuffed animals were donated as well to the agency to give to children.

Item Presented: Updates on Trauma Focused Projects
Item Presented by: Gwen Burns, Deputy Director & Stephanie Brooks, Clinical Social Worker

Ms. Burns and Ms. Brooks went over a Power Point presentation. Ms. Burns has been the lead for DSS with trauma focused initiatives. About 98% of the parents involved with DSS have unresolved trauma. There is five times the rate of PTSD in foster children then other children. Pitt County has been a part of Project Broadcast since 2012 as one of the pilot counties, which introduced the trauma screening tool to see what trauma a child has been exposed to. Now using it in all areas of Child Welfare. Developed protocol for the implementation of the screening tool. Thirty-two counties are now involved in Project Broadcast. Currently, working on pulling together resources and strengthening relationships with community partners. Looking to expand trauma training to foster parents taking the MAPP training. This training should stabilize placements. Will be bringing in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy to use with families in Child Welfare. Looking to increase the public's access to Clinicians. The NC Treatment Program Roster List of credentialed Clinicians is only for clients with Medicaid. Been working with the Casey Foundation since 2009. Gives funding to use for different initiatives such as the Permanency Round Table. GAL and Court personnel are included in some of the trainings. We were selected to participate in the Partnership for

Excellence program funded by a Duke grant and led by Benchmarks. This will be a partnership with Trillium and various providers to help clients with mental health issues. Will have co-location, co-training and collaboration. Hope it will help decrease the entries into Foster Care and CPS assessments. Chair Cox asked what is done for the uninsured parents. Ms. Burns stated the Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) will see the uninsured parents. Dr. Bunch asked if Trillium will place Clinicians onsite at DSS. Ms. Burns stated they would, it was part of the grant requirement. Now that the grant had been awarded, they will be meeting to plan on implementing it.

Item Presented: 2019-2020 Budget Report
Item Presented by: Jan Elliott, Director

Ms. Elliott thanked the Board, County Manager and County Commissioners for the budget approval and the 8 new positions. She then listed the approved positions. Had several budget line items increased as requested. Given additional space over by the HSC. Will start working on moving Day Care and Employment Services to the new space, which will free up some offices at the COB. Was also able to get some additional cars.

Director's Report

Ms. Elliott stated Medicaid Transformation is tied up in the State budget battle. Per Senate Bill 212, if the budget is not adopted by July 15 Transformation would be delayed. Unsure what will happen with that bill. This has slowed the mailing of packets for right now as it could be postponed until March depending upon the vote. Ms. Elliott is going to have a PHP fair on October 4th at the Ag Center, so that clients can meet and get info on the PHP's, enrollment broker and the transportation brokers. Will have to do lots of advertisements to get the information out. The County Commissioners did approve re-signing the MOU for 2019-2020. The application processing report shows that we are still meeting our goals. We have had twelve months with no problems now. The vacancy report shows that we are currently down to 11 vacancies, which does not include the new positions. Three of the new ones have already been submitted to the State for approval and still working on the job descriptions for the five remaining ones. Down to 47 days from advertising to filling a position.

Board Member Comments

Dr. Bunch welcomed Mr. Dancy to the Board and stated how excited she is about the positive press and positive community awareness. Chair Cox noted all the good hard work in the Child Welfare area. Ms. Nelson stated she was excited about the community engagement.

Motion: Motion made to adjourn
Motion Presented by: Catherine Nelson
Motion Seconded by: Shelia Bunch
Motion passed: Motion passed unanimously

Respectfully Submitted,

Jan Y. Elliott
Director

Jim Cox
Chair

Susan May
Clerk to the Board