

The Northampton County Board of Social Services met via Zoom on August 18, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am. Present were Edith Johnson, Chairwoman, John Williams, Vice Chair, Spencer Murray, Board and Mozella Francis, Director.

On a motion by Mr. Williams, the minutes of the July 21, 2020 meeting were approved with no noted changes. There was no public comment or correspondence presented during this meeting.

The Board was provided a copy of the FY 2020 and 2021 FY budget. Ms. Francis presented the Board with the final expenses of FY 2020 and the amount given back to the County due to being under staffed. FY 2021 administrative expenditures were low as they reflected a staffing shortage of five positions for the first month of the new fiscal year. The program expenditures were on target at this time. There were no concerns identified about the budget.

As the fall season approaches, Ms. Francis proposed the plan to keep the Agency doors closed to the public and continue to provide services as they are available online and over the phone. Ms. Francis informed the Board that when necessary, clients are being seen face to face at the agency and family service workers continue conduct both face to face and virtual home visits. The growing concern continues to be if an outbreak were to occur the impact on both staff and the ability to do business. As long as this works - keeping the doors closed lessens the likelihood of a coronavirus outbreak. The Board agreed to assess on a month-by-

month basis. Mr. Murray wanted to know if the State was providing guidance to local agencies at this time. Ms. Francis informed the Board that the State is leaving the decision to open or keep the doors closed to the locality.

The Board discussed the CARES Act Funding and the services that could be provided to vulnerable members of the community impacted by COVID if social services were able to access some of the funding. The Board encouraged Ms. Francis to write a proposal to the County Administrator and Board of Supervisors with requests for funds for identified program areas impacted by COVID-19. Ms. Francis agreed to have proposal completed and submitted prior to next board meeting. All agreed that funds could be well spent at social services and that it would reach some of the hardest hit due to COVID in the community.

On a motion by Vice Chair John Williams, the Board went into Closed Session in accordance with Section 2.1-344 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, for the purpose of discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining appointees or employees of any public body.

The Board returned to Open Session.

On a roll call vote certifying to the best of each member's knowledge, only public matters exempted from the public meeting and in the original motion were discussed. The vote was Chairwoman Johnson:

yes, Vice Chair Williams: yes and Director Murray:
yes.

The next Board of Director's meeting is
scheduled for Tuesday, September 15 at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 09:49 a.m.

Edith Johnson, Chairman
August 18, 2020

Attested by _____
Mozella F. Francis
Director