

The Northampton County Board of Social Services met in the Board Room of the Social Services Building on June 21, 2022. The meeting was called to order under code §2.2-3708.2 at 9:00 am. Present were Edith Johnson, Chairwoman, Spencer Murray, Board Member, Janice Langley, Board Member, and Mozella Francis, Director.

On a motion by Mr. Murray, the minutes of the May 17, 2022 meeting were approved with one noted correction to change Mr. Francis to Ms. Francis. Ms. Langley seconded the motion. There was no public comment or correspondence.

The Board was provided a copy of the FY 2023 budget. Ms. Francis advised the Board that although we have started a new State fiscal year, we are still using FY 2022 local funding and that she would be able to provide a complete local-only spending report at the next meeting.

Ms. Francis provided an overview of the FY 2023 budget as approved by the Governor. It was noted that the budget lines for Adult Services and Adult Protective Services continue to be underfunded. Ms. Francis informed the Board that Commissioner Hayfield of the Department of Rehab Services, DARS, is aware of the need for increased funding and has placed this as one of her top agenda items to address with the General Assembly. Ms. Francis did point out that we still have access to COVID APS funding that carried over from FY 2022 as it does not have to be spent until September 2022.

Ms. Langley motioned that the Board accept the financial report as presented. Mr. Murray seconded the motion.

Ms. Francis provided an update on Benefit Programs and Services. Ms. Francis noted that pre-Medicaid unwinding strategies at both the local and State level are continuing to take place anticipating the lifting of the Pandemic Health Emergency. Ms. Francis indicated that once the PHE has lifted, agencies will receive a 60-day notice before Medicaid unwinding would start. Right now, the agency is strategizing to ensure that there is a workable plan to process the almost 2,000 Medicaid renewals that the agency currently has. This number will only increase as the PHE continues to be delayed.

The agency is also using this time to educate the community receiving SNAP on what this will mean for them when the PHE is lifted in regards to the additional emergency SNAP supplemental benefit that they are receiving

On the Family Service's side, There are currently no significant changes in regards to CPS or APS numbers at this time. The numbers are consistent with this time of year and the overall ebb and flow. Prevention/ In-home appears to have a positive impact on agency CPS numbers. With a stronger focus on prevention, needed services are provided, on the front end, to assist the family before a child is abused or neglected. In addition, the agency can continue to provide support to families to prevent a reoccurrence of abuse and/or neglect post-CPS Family Assessment or Investigation.

Childcare numbers continue to increase, as anticipated, due to the changes in the income threshold increasing. VIEW numbers continue to increase with most of the agency caseload enrolled in an activity, which means they are working, in school, or conducting job search activities.

Ms. Francis handed out the County Audit Questionnaire to the Board for completion. There were no identified concerns regarding answering the questions. The documents were collected to be given to the County Finance Director as part of the documents requested for the annual audit.

On a motion by Mr. Spencer Murray and seconded by Ms. Langley, 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.

There were no motions that come out of closed sessions.

Ms. Francis updated the Board of Directors as to her schedule for the upcoming month. Ms. Francis is scheduled to attend the VLSSE Board Conference in Richmond on July 13 and 14.

The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 19, 2022, at 11:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

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Edith Johnson, Chairman  
June 21, 2022

Attested by

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Mozella F. Francis  
Director