

Cherokee County Department of Social Services

Board of Directors

MEETING MINUTES

August 20, 2019

I. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Cherokee County Department of Social Services was duly called and held on August 20, 2019, at 6:30 P.M., at 4800 West Highway 64, Murphy, N.C. 28906.

Present were:

Gary Westmoreland, Chair

Cal Stiles, Member

Dr. Dan Eichenbaum, Member

C.B. McKinnon, Member

Roy Dickey. Member

Staff present were:

Amanda Tanner-McGee, DSS Director

Andria Duncan, DSS Attorney

Amanda Rhodes, Clerk

Chairman Westmoreland called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. Clerk to the Board, Amanda Rhodes, recorded the minutes.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Modification of Agenda

There were no modifications made to the agenda.

IV. Agenda Adoption

Commissioner Westmoreland made a motion to accept the Agenda, Commissioner Dan Eichenbaum 2nd the motion, with a unanimous vote, the Board approved the agenda.

V. Public Forum

There were no Board or public comments or questions.

VI. Minutes July 18, 2019

The July 16, 2019 DSS Board meeting minutes were approved, Commissioner McKinnon made a motion to accept, Commissioner Cal Stiles 2nd the motion, with a unanimous vote the Board approved the July 16, 2019 DSS Board meeting minutes.

VII. New Business

A. Notice of Objection

Director McGee and Attorney Duncan provided the Board with the Notice of Objection that the Department filed in reference to the District Attorney's Motion to Compel DSS Records. Attorney Duncan provided the Board with a receipt confirming the delivery of DSS records to the Judges' office.

B. DSS Safety Plan (addressing unexpected violence in the work place)

Director McGee discussed the upcoming Safety Training that the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office will be providing to the Department. The Department will create a safety committee to create a program/policy to address workplace violence, fire drills, tornadoes, etc.

VIII. Directors Report

Director McGee provided the Board with the Director's Report.

1. REAL Training

Director McGee discussed the August 14, 2019 meeting at WCU with the Department of Health and Human Services, WCU faculty, Henderson, Macon and Cherokee Counties. The Department is continuing to work with Tri-County and Blue Ridge Community Colleges regarding training sites.

2. Medicaid Managed Care

- a. Director McGee reported on the number of Medicaid staff who participated in Medicaid Transformation Training in Asheville during August 12-16, 2019.

3. Legal Update

DSS Court July 25-26, 2019 with 34 calendared items:

Attorney Duncan discussed the DSS Court date July 25-26, 2019. There were 9 Adjudications; 1 Disposition; 9 Permanency Planning; 3 Termination of Parental Rights hearings; 4 continuances due to Attorneys on secured leave; and 6 continuances. On this date, 1 case closed for permanence; 3 trial home placement and 1 new child in custody.

DSS Court August 13, 2019 with 42 calendared items:

Attorney Duncan discussed the DSS Court date on August 13, 2019. There were 1 Adjudication; 10 Dispositions; 7 Non-Secure custody retention hearings; 6 Permanency Planning; 2 Post Termination of Parental Rights Reviews; 3 Motion to Quash Subpoenas by hearing which was successful; 1 Clay County conflict case; 1 Non-Secure custody dismissal; 11 continuances for various reasons including sickness, Parent surgery, Attorney being in a different Court, and case monitoring. On this date, 7 cases closed for permanence, 1 new child in custody, and 1 case dismissed.

4. Child Support Court July 24, 2019 with 40 calendared items

Attorney discussed the Child Support Court date on July 24, 2019. There were 2 Orders to establish support; 3 jail hearings; 4 Orders for arrest for non-compliance; 3 Orders by

memorandum; 22 continuances for various reasons; 5 dismissals for compliance; and 1 dismissed due to lack of service.

5. Child Support Court August 8, 2019 with 32 calendared items

Attorney discussed the Child Support Court date on August 8, 2019. There were 2 Orders to establish support; 1 jail hearings; 2 Orders for arrest for non-compliance; 3 Orders by memorandum; 14 continuances for various reasons; 8 dismissals for compliance; and 1 dismissed due to lack of service.

6. Adult Protective Services

Attorney Duncan gave an update on Adult Protective Services. There were 4 hearings accomplished since the last report; no new clients; 1 restoration or competence; and other guardians were appointed in the remainder.

7. Audits and Reviews

Upcoming Audit and Reviews

1. The Single County Audit will include an audit 200 Adult and Children's Medicaid case records. The audit was slated to take place during July and August but has not yet been scheduled. There were no error cases for the internal Title IVE Foster Care Audit.

8. Seven County Recovery Summit

Director McGee discussed the August 16, 2019 Substance Abuse summit. Cherokee County DSS was represented by Lisa Wells and included providers, consumers, and leaders from the 7 western counties.

IX. Statistical Report

Director McGee provided the statistical report for July 2019.

X. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 7:25 P.M. with Commissioner Dan Eichenbaum making a motion to adjourn, Commissioner Dickey 2nd the motion and all in favor. The next DSS

Board Meeting is scheduled for 6:30 P.M. on September 17, 2019 at the Department of Social Services.

These minutes were approved at the September 17, 2019 DSS Board Meeting