# BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES MEETING MINUTES May 17, 2017 11:00 a.m. Albany, Georgia

## **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Robertiena Fletcher, Chair Monica Walters, Secretary Scott Johnson David Barbee Randall Smith Jack Williams

# **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Frank Auman, Vice Chair Judy Brownell Lisa Alexander

Also present, Commissioner Robyn A. Crittenden.

Chair Robertiena Fletcher called the Board of Human Services' meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. on May 17, 2017.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was presented by Monica Walters and seconded by David Barbee that the minutes of the February 15, 2017, Board meeting be approved. There being no further discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

- 1. A motion was presented by Jack Williams and seconded by Randall Smith that the proposed "Rules and Regulations Governing the Child Abuse Registry," as presented to the public by notice dated March 1, 2017, be adopted by the Board of Human Services, certified by the Commissioner, and filed with the Secretary of State as provided by law. There being no further discussion, the motion unanimously passed.
- 2. A motion was presented by Scott Johnson and seconded by Jack Williams that the Bond Resolution of the Board of Human Services, as presented on May 17, 2017, be approved. There being no further discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

3. A motion was presented by David Barbee and seconded by Scott Johnson that the Department of Human Services, Division of Child Support Services', BB&T Resolution and Agreement for Deposit Account, as presented to the Board of Human Services on May 17, 2017, be approved. There being no further discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

#### **COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

Commissioner Crittenden expressed her appreciation regarding the impressive organization of the Board Meeting. She commended those individuals who offered presentations to the Board. She remarked that the presentations offered a wealth of information to attendees.

The Commissioner reported that Governor Deal's 2018 Budget was quite generous to the Department of Human Services and displayed the Governor's commitment to strengthening Georgia's families. The Commissioner noted that the Governor selected the Fulton County Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS) office as the first location to sign the 2018 state budget into law, further showing his commitment to Georgia's families.

The Commissioner applauded the great work being done throughout the Department. She commended the Office of Legislative Affairs and Communications' (OLAC) staff, including Dr. Willie Miles and Janice Alexander, for spearheading the effort to collect bags for the Grab-a-Bag campaign aimed at provided relief to families in Albany, Georgia who were affected by tornados that ripped through parts of South Georgia earlier this year. 200 bags were presented to United Way of Southwest Georgia to aid the affected families. The Commissioner touted the impressive audit results achieved under the leadership of Bill Zisek, Director of the Office of Financial Services (OFS), and remarked that the OFS team has worked extremely hard. The Commissioner further acknowledged the positive progress being accomplished with the Georgia Gateway (formerly the "Integrated Eligibility System"). Finally, the Commissioner reminded everyone of the upcoming Division of Child Support Services' (DCSS) Fatherhood Celebration events happening around the state that have been embraced by the communities. The Commissioner congratulated DCSS Director. Tanguler Gray, as she was recently elected to serve as Secretary on the Board of the National Child Support Enforcement Association (NCSEA) Board of Directors and Executive Committee.

The Commissioner reminded everyone that the month of May is designated as National Foster Care Month and Older Americans Month. She shared the story of a local foster family who were recently recognized for having fostered more than 200 children and adopted 7 children. In celebration of Older Americans Month, the Commissioner proudly reported that the legislature appropriated 4.2 million dollars to fund the Georgia Alzheimer's Project (GAP), which will result in five early detection and

diagnosis centers for Alzheimer's in the state of Georgia in the next year. She stated that the First Lady's Older Adults Cabinet (OAC) continues to convene to find ways to better support Georgia's elders. She further stated that there is an upcoming Law Enforcement Training on Alzheimer's which resulted from OAC's collaborative conversations between Georgia Alzheimer's Association and Georgia Bureau of Investigation. She remarked that there is also great work being done around workforce development with the Technical College System of Georgia, as well as innovation grants for Georgia's senior centers.

Commissioner Crittenden announced new leadership additions to the Department of Human Services. Frances Richards recently joined the Department as the Director of the Office of Facilities and Support Services. David Lenoir has been appointed Interim Director of Office of Inspector General. Gerlda Hines is serving as Chief of Staff and Chief Financial Officer and Demetrius Taylor has been named Deputy Chief Financial Officer and Budget Director. Additionally, Tonya Curry will serve as Deputy Commissioner and General Counsel.

Lastly, the Commissioner highlighted the Department's efforts to support the Blueprint for Change. She noted that throughout the Department, Erica Atkins, Director of the Office of Enterprise Development, and her staff are working with each Division and Enterprise function to offer retreats and trainings to develop employees. The Commissioner introduced the FiSH Philosophy, a creative way to further engage employees. The Commissioner remarked that the FiSH Philosophy will additionally aid in the upcoming Listen and Learn Tours aimed at engaging community partners and the public in helping build stronger families for a stronger Georgia.

This concluded the Commissioner's report.

#### CLOSING COMMENTS

Chair Fletcher expressed her appreciation to the Albany Office and the SOWEGA Council on Aging for hosting today's Board Meeting. She presented a certificate of appreciation to the SOWEGA Council on Aging for being named the 2017 Nonprofit of the Year by Albany Area Chamber. The award was accepted by Izzie Sadler, Debbie Blanton, and Amanda Morris. They were thanked for their efforts in building stronger families for a stronger Georgia.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

## THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Human Services is scheduled for Wednesday, August 23, 2017, in Atlanta, Georgia.

Respectfully submitted,

Monica Walters, Secretary

**APPROVED:** 

Robertiena Fletcher, Chair