

**BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES
MEETING MINUTES**

**March 19, 2014
1:00 p.m.
Atlanta, Georgia**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tiena Fletcher, Chair
Monica Walter, Secretary
Frank Auman
Judy Brownell
Scott Johnson
Jack Williams

MEMBERS ABSENT

Lisa Alexander
Randy Smith

Chair Tiena Fletcher called the Department of Human Services' (DHS) Board meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. on March 19, 2014.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded that the minutes from the January 15, 2014 Board meeting be approved. There being no further discussion, the motion passed.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Keith Horton stated our budget fared well this year with the infusion of monies for child welfare, and in Aging, monies for meals for the elderly population. He asked Deputy Commissioner, Lynn Vellinga, to give a brief overview of the FY14 Amended Budget.

Highlights from Mr. Vellinga's presentation:

1. In the Division of Child Support Services, money was provided to replace the incentive funds.
2. In Child Welfare Services the Legislature replaced \$5,250,000 of Social Services Block Grant funds with TANF funds, using a provision in TANF regulations that allow TANF funds to be transferred to SSBG funds. Seven-hundred, fifty-thousand dollars of the SSBG funds were transferred to Elder

Support Services for meals/programs. The Legislature also added \$750,000 in state funds for a total increase of \$1.5 million for meals. Elder Abuse investigation and Prevention received \$226,800 for emergency respite placement.

3. Functions related to child abuse and neglect prevention were transferred from the Governor's Office for Children and Families with \$1,179,684 in state funds to DFCS.
4. Departmental administration received \$2,000,000 to replace one-time funding for GETS funding.
5. Foster Care received \$460,816 to increase the clothing allowance for foster children by \$100.
6. Council on Aging received \$10,000 increased funding.
7. Child Welfare Services received funding for sixteen Child Support Intake workers.
8. A one percent merit increase for employees was approved, effective July 1, 2014. There were also increases in the Employee Retirement rates.

Commissioner Horton reported that we are making great progress in getting rid of the recent food stamp backlog. A consulting firm, Cambria Solutions, was brought in to help identify those areas needing resolution.

Thus concluded the Commissioner's report.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Fletcher thanked staff for a very informative meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Human Services is scheduled for Wednesday, July 16, 2014 at 2 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, Georgia.

Monica Walters, Secretary

APPROVED:

Tiena Fletcher, Chairperson

