BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES MEETING MINUTES

February 10, 2021 11:37 a.m. – 11:48 a.m. Microsoft Teams

MEMBERS PRESENT

Robertiena Fletcher, Chair Randall Smith, Vice Chair Monica Walters, Secretary Jack Williams Lisa Hamilton Scott Johnson David Barbee Wes Lewis MEMBERS ABSENT

Also present, Commissioner Robyn A. Crittenden.

Chair Robertiena Fletcher called the Board of Human Services' meeting to order at 11:37 a.m. on February 10, 2021.

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 18, 2020, BOARD MEETING MINUTES

A motion was presented by David Barbee and seconded by Randall Smith that the minutes of the November 18, 2020, board meeting be approved. There being no further discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

ACTION ITEMS

1. A motion was presented by Mr. Barbee and seconded by Mr. Smith that the proposed amendment to Rule 290-7-1-20 of the Rules of the Department of Human Services, Office of Child Support Recovery, Recovery and Administration of Child Support, entitled "Waiver of Payment of Unreimbursed Public Assistance Administrative Orders Only," as presented to the Board on February 10, 2021, be approved for initial release for public comment for the period of February 15, 2021, through March 17, 2021; that a public hearing be held on March 17, 2021, via teleconference; and, based upon any oral or written comments received, that the Board consider the proposed rule amendments for final approval at its next meeting on May 12, 2021. There being no further discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

2. A motion was presented by Scott Johnson and seconded by Mr. Barbee that the resolution recognizing Franklin "Frank" Auman for his work as a member of the Board of Human Services entitled, "February 10, 2021, Resolution of the Board of Human Services in Recognition of Franklin 'Frank' Auman," be approved. The motion unanimously passed.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Crittenden began her report by thanking the members of the Board for joining today and hoped they found the reports informative. The Commissioner presented a portion of her report; however, teleconference connectivity issues necessitated the conclusion of the Commissioner's report by Chief of Staff, Gerlda B. Hines. Chief of Staff Hines provided the Board with an update on the legislative session as it pertained to DHS, and indicated that DHS would continue to monitor new legislation as it comes up. Chief of Staff Hines then informed the Board that the budget process is moving along and that the Commissioner is set to present again to the House Appropriations Human Resources Subcommittee on the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget on the afternoon of Monday, February 15. The Board was informed of the current status of COVID-19 cases and that, while there was a spike in the number of employee COVID-19 cases in the previous month, those cases were primarily attributable to community spread as opposed to employee-to-employee spread, which is a positive sign. Chief of Staff Hines explained that the agency continues to conduct many Fatherhood program events and community outreach events virtually, and the Chief of Staff commended Assistant Deputy Commissioner for Aging Services Abby Cox and Division of Aging Services for their work around technical assistance to the AAA offices and moving federal CARES Act and FFCRA funding around the community. Chief of Staff Hines further commended the Adult Protective Services, the Public Guardianship Office, and the Residential Child Care Licensing Unit on their resumption of in-person external client visits where they can. The Chief of Staff then then informed the Board that Assistant Deputy Commissioner Ann Burris has taken the lead on the agency's return-to-normalcy project, indicating that the information would be presented to the Board once the plan has been completed.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Chair Fletcher concluded the meeting by stating the Board sees the needed work the agency and its employees are doing for the people of the State of Georgia, adhering to the vision of the agency.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

THE NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Board of Human Services is scheduled for Wednesday, May 12, 2021, via Microsoft Teams Live Event Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Monica Walters, Secretary

APPROVED:

Robertiena Fletcher, Chair