

**BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES
MEETING MINUTES**

**November 18, 2020
10:54 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
Microsoft Teams**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Robertlena Fletcher, Chair
Randall Smith, Vice Chair
Monica Walters, Secretary
Jack Williams
Lisa Hamilton
Scott Johnson
David Barbee

MEMBERS ABSENT

Wes Lewis

Also present, Commissioner Robyn A. Crittenden.

Chair Robertlena Fletcher called the Board of Human Services' meeting to order at 10:54 a.m. on November 18, 2020.

APPROVAL OF AUGUST 26, 2020, BOARD MEETING MINUTES

A motion was presented by Randy Smith and seconded by Scott Johnson that the minutes of the August 26, 2020, board meeting be approved. There being no further discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

2021 BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES MEETING SCHEDULE

Chair Fletcher asked for discussion of the 2021 Board of Human Services meeting schedule. Chair Fletcher set the 2021 meetings to occur quarterly as follows:

- February 10, 2021
- May 12, 2021
- August 25, 2021, and
- November 10, 2021.

ACTION ITEMS

1. A motion was presented by Mr. David Barbee and seconded by Ms. Lisa Hamilton that the proposed amendment to Rule 290-1-9-.01 of the Rules of the Georgia Department of Human Services related to Safe Place for Newborns Act

Signage, as presented to the public by notice dated October 6, 2020, be approved and adopted, 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 Ms. Hamilton and seconded by Mr. Barbee that the proposed repeal of Rule Chapters 290-1-3, 290-1-7, 290-4-1, 290-4-2, 290-4-3, 290-4-5, 290-4-6, 290-4-7, 290-4-8, 290-4-9, 290-4-10, 290-4-12, 290-4-13, 290-5-12, 290-5-44, and 290-5-46 of the Rules of the Georgia Department of Human Services, as presented to the public by notice dated October 6, 2020, be approved, certified by the Commissioner, and filed with the Secretary of State as provided by law; that the repeal of Rule Chapters 290-5-5, 290-5-22, 290-5-27, 290-5-37, and 290-5-41 by the Board of Community Health and the Department of Community Health be acknowledged; and that action on Rule Chapters 290-9-37 and 290-5-32 be tabled indefinitely pending action by the Board of Community Health and the Department of Community Health. There being no further discussion, the motion unanimously passed.
3. A motion was presented by Ms. Hamilton and seconded by Mr. Barbee that the proposed amendments to Rule Chapter 290-2-5 of the Rules of the Department of Human Services entitled "Rules and Regulations for Child Caring Institutions," as presented to the public by notice dated October 6, 2020, be approved and adopted, certified by the Commissioner, and filed with the Secretary of State as provided by law with an effective date of January 1, 2021. There being no further discussion, the motion unanimously passed.
4. A motion was presented by Mr. Barbee and seconded by Vice Chair Randall Smith that the proposed repeal of Rule Chapter 290-2-30 of the Rules of the Georgia Department of Human Services entitled "Rules and Regulations Governing the Child Protective Services Information System" as presented to the public by notice dated October 6, 2020, be approved, certified by the Commissioner, and filed with the Secretary of State as provided by law. There being no further discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Crittenden began her report by thanking the board members for approving the rule changes, as they were changes consistent with Governor Kemp's regulatory burden reduction effort. The Commissioner also told the Board that the Commissioner Awards were held virtually this year. The Commissioner talked about DHS's virtual Listen and Learn Tour, where she meets with DHS Staff across Georgia to listen to their needs, questions, and concerns. Commissioner Crittenden then talked about the State Charitable Contributions Program, which allows employees to donate money to charities of their choice. DHS's goal this year was \$6,000 and DHS raised over \$8,000. The Commissioner stated that employees were creative with their virtual contests/events this year and thanked Amoree Brackins for leading. The Commissioner then talked about the Senior Hunger Series, which was a two-day virtual event. Commissioner recognized Abby Cox and Temitope Walker for their phenomenal job

with their series. The Senior Hunger Series had people who were never able to participate before. The Commissioner talked about the Secret Santa Program, where DHS has 30 kids total to sponsor, 26 kids have been sponsored so far. The Commissioner stated that she, unfortunately, will not be able to hold her annual cookie party this year. The Commissioner then told the Board that Deputy Commissioner and Chief External Affairs Officer, Ashley Fielding, will be leaving DHS for the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities. Ms. Fielding will start her new position on December 1st and will be deeply missed. The Commissioner then wished everyone a Happy Holidays and Thanksgiving.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Chair Fletcher concluded the meeting by stating that the Board will miss Ms. Fielding and that she was a great asset to DHS. Chair Fletcher then reminded those in attendance to heed CDC and public health guidelines regarding COVID-19 and wished everyone Happy Holidays.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

THE NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Board of Human Services is scheduled for Wednesday, February 10, 2021, via Microsoft Teams Live Event Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,


Monica Walters, Secretary

APPROVED:


Robertiana Fletcher, Chair