

**BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES
MEETING MINUTES**

**February 12, 2020
2:38 p.m. – 3:05 p.m.
Atlanta, GA**

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

Wes Lewis

Also present, Commissioner Robyn A. Crittenden.

Chair Robertiena Fletcher called the Board of Human Services' meeting to order at 2:38 p.m. on February 12, 2020.

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 13, 2019, BOARD MEETING MINUTES

A motion was presented by David Barbee and seconded by Randall Smith that the minutes of the November 13, 2019, board meeting be approved. There being no further discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

APPROVAL OF AMENDED SEPTEMBER 4, 2019, BOARD MEETING MINUTES

A motion was presented by Mr. Smith and seconded by Jack Williams that the minutes of the September 4, 2019, board meeting, as amended, be approved. There being no further discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

NOVEMBER 2020 BOARD MEETING

Chair Fletcher proposed that the November 2020 board meeting be scheduled for November 18, 2020 and requested discussion. Upon conclusion of the discussion, Chair Fletcher scheduled the November 2020 board meeting date for November 18, 2020.

ACTION ITEMS

1. A motion was presented by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Barbee that the 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 Board on February 12, 2020, be approved for initial release for public comment for the period of February 17, 2020, through March 18, 2020; that a public hearing be held on March 17, 2020, in the Board Room on the 29th floor of 2 Peachtree Street NW, Atlanta, Georgia; and, based upon any oral or written comments received, that the Board consider the proposed rule amendment for final approval at its next meeting on May 13, 2020. There being no further discussion, the motion unanimously passed.
2. A motion was presented by Mr. Barbee and seconded by Lisa Hamilton that the resolution of the Board respecting the transfer of the custody of property located in Alma, Bacon County, Georgia from the Georgia Department of Community Health to DHS, as presented to the Board on February 12, 2020, be approved. There being no further discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Crittenden began her report by stating that this was a long board meeting with good information.

She then stated that the General Assembly Legislative Session was busy but going well so far. She thanked all areas of DHS as they continue to provide excellent work during this busy time.

Commissioner then called attention to the new DHS website as it was updated to the new format. She then stated that the website has link for the 2019 DHS Annual Report and the Division of Aging Services' Just the Facts. She commended the entire team for their effort on producing the Annual Report, with special thanks to Tahni Seagars, Director of the Office of Communications and Tonya Kilpatrick, Director of the Office of Strategic Planning and Initiatives. The Commissioner stated that the Annual report showcases the agency's achievements throughout the year and thanked everyone again for their effort. She also thanked Abby Cox, Director of the Division of Aging Services, and Jean O'Callaghan, Deputy Director for the Division of Aging Services, for their effort in overseeing the publication of Just the Facts. She ended her comments with stating they should be proud to oversee the work.

The Commissioner also discussed the new Human Trafficking Training Video that was produced by the GRACE Commission alongside the Department of Administrative Services. This training will be rolled out to all DHS employees, and she encouraged the board members to take the training as well.

The Commissioner then thanked the board members for their participation in the first ever DHS Community Conversations at the November board meeting. She stated that some of their suggestions have started to be implemented around the agency, and they will begin to see the changes. She also stated that she hoped Family Connections could come and speak at a later board meeting.

The Commissioner stated that some employees were coming and going throughout the meeting and gave their reasons why. Tanguler Gray, Director of the Division of Child Support Services, is the President of the National Child Support Enforcement Association. Gerda Hines, Chief of Staff, was unable to be at the meeting because she was at Leadership Cobb. Ashley Fielding, Deputy Commissioner and Chief External Affairs Officer, and Tom Rawlings, Director of the Division of Family and Children Services, left early to attend a meeting that discussed engaging the disengaged, which the Commissioner is a part of as well.

The Commissioner then took the time to introduce some new people to the agency, Shawnzia Thomas, Assistant Deputy Commissioner, who is running Georgia Gateway and moving the system to the next level. The Commissioner also announced the new Communications Director, Tahni Segars, who was not present for the meeting. The Commissioner then reiterated Ms. Thomas's customer service point by mentioning that it was one of the Governor's priorities and that she looked forward to sharing what DHS is doing with improving customer service at the next meeting.

Lastly, the Commissioner reminded the board members to refer any media inquiries to DHS. She then announced that Stephen Harris, General Counsel for DHS, was taking part in the Zell Miller Leadership Institute and congratulated him.

The Commissioner then presented the Commissioner's Spotlight Awards.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Chair Fletcher concluded the meeting by thanking the awardees for doing their part to create Stronger Families for a Stronger Georgia. She then thanked DHS leadership and the Commissioner on behalf of the Board.

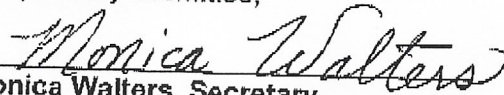
Vice Chair, Frank Auman then announced that he will be vacating his seat on the Board and will notify the Governor that he will need to be replaced.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.


THE NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Board of Human Services is scheduled for Wednesday, May 13, 2020, in the Board Room at 2 Peachtree Street NW, Atlanta, GA 30303.

Respectfully submitted,


Monica Walters, Secretary

APPROVED:


Robertiena Fletcher, Chair