

**BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES  
MEETING MINUTES**

**February 15, 2017  
11:00 a.m.  
Atlanta, Georgia**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Robertiena Fletcher, Chair  
Frank Auman, Vice Chair  
Monica Walters, Secretary  
Scott Johnson  
David Barbee

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Randall Smith  
Judy Brownell  
Lisa Alexander  
Jack Williams

Also present, Commissioner Robyn A. Crittenden.

Chair Robertiena Fletcher called the Board of Human Services' meeting to order at 3:09 p.m. on February 15, 2017.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was presented by David Barbee and seconded by Frank Auman that the minutes of the November 16, 2016, Board meeting be approved. There being no further discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

**ACTION ITEMS**

1. A motion was presented by Frank Auman and seconded by David Barbee that the proposed Rules and Regulations Governing the Child Abuse Registry, as presented to the Board on February 15, 2017, be approved for initial release for public comment for the period of March 1, 2017, through March 30, 2017; that a public hearing be held on April 19, 2017, in the board room on the 29<sup>th</sup> floor of 2 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, Georgia; and, that based upon any oral or written comments received, that the Board consider the proposed rules for final adoption at its regularly scheduled meeting on May 17, 2017. There being no further discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

## **COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

Commissioner Crittenden welcomed new board member Mr. David Barbee to Board of Human Services. The Commissioner expressed her appreciation on having Mr. Barbee join the Board.

The Commissioner thanked the presenters who participated in the board member presentations during the meeting. She remarked that the presentations offered a wealth of information to attendees.

Commissioner Crittenden commended Laura Ellis, Venkat Krishnan, Jon Anderson, Jonathon Dutweiler, and Kathy Weiss, who have worked tirelessly on the Integrated Eligibility System, now named the "Georgia Gateway." The pilot phase of the project went live on February 6, 2017, in Henry County and will be implemented statewide through two phases in the spring and fall. Georgia Gateway is the largest technology project ever implemented in the state of Georgia.

Governor Deal's Older Adults Cabinet convened for the first time on January 26, 2017, at the Governor's Mansion. The Cabinet, co-chaired by First Lady Sandra Deal and Commissioner Crittenden, was created to bring partners around the state together to focus more closely on issues affecting the aging population in Georgia.

The Commissioner highlighted the work being done surrounding process improvement in the Department. In the Office of Procurement and Contracts, the processes used in seeking out and managing contracts have been reviewed to increase effectiveness. Additionally, the Office of Human Resources' transformation has continued to better support the thousands of employees at DHS. The Commissioner noted that quarterly regional meetings have been reinstated in all regions, related to transportation. These conversations will assist in streamlining communication around the transportation process as it pertains to seniors and the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities. The Division of Aging Services has also been reviewed by North Highland and will soon evaluate its recommendations regarding structure and how to better support field staff.

The Commissioner remarked that outreach has been a priority to the Department, noting upcoming events like the Fatherhood Celebration, which will take place on March 11, 2017, in Augusta, Georgia. The Division of Aging Services is also in the process of planning the second annual Senior Hunger Summit, which will take place in September 2017. A draft of the state plan on senior hunger will be shared at the summit. Lastly, the Commissioner mentioned that a new guide is being drafted, which will condense the Department's volunteer opportunities into a single resource, which community partners can access to more easily identify how to support vulnerable children and families in the state.

At the next meeting, the Department will bring forward audit results and will share the work being done agency wide as it relates to the Blueprint for Change.

This concluded the Commissioner's report.

## **CLOSING COMMENTS**

Chair Fletcher also welcomed David Barbee to the Board of Human Services. She remarked that she is sure Mr. Barbee will be an asset to the Board.

Chair Fletcher presented several certificates to both internal and external partners for the work being done to further the Department's mission of building stronger families for a stronger Georgia.

The Nu Lambda Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., was presented a commendation from Governor Nathan Deal regarding their altruistic assistance to the Division of Family and Children Services, which included distributing lunches, donating toys during the holidays, and providing assistance and services to many vulnerable Georgians. The chapter's president, Dawn B. Griffin, accepted the commendation.

Ann Williams was presented a certificate of achievement for receiving the 2017 Distinguished Older Georgian. Ms. Williams has been an assiduous champion for long-term care residents for more than 15 years. She has chaired the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Advisory Council for many years and has received state level recognition, including the Martha Eaves Award given by the Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman for her contributions to the ombudsman program and to residents of long-term care facilities. Ms. Williams currently serves on the Georgia Gerontology Society Board and was recently appointed by Gov. Deal to the new Older Adults Cabinet.

The Division of Child Support Services (DCSS) was presented a certificate of achievement in recognition of passing the 2015 Federal Data Reliability Audit with no findings. DCSS, not only met, but exceeded, the required 95 percent standard on each of the audited areas. Isaac L. Williams, II, the senior manager of Regulatory Compliance for DCSS, accepted the certificate on behalf of the Division.

The Stone Mountain Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. was awarded a certificate of achievement in appreciation of a generous donation of more than 100 shoeboxes for children in foster care. The Board commended the chapter for their continuous support in community partnership in helping vulnerable children and families in Georgia.

Lastly, Chairman Fletcher presented a certificate of achievement to Carleton Coleman, who is the 2017 recipient of the Isabella Horton Grant Guardianship Award from the National College of Probate Judges. The Board commended Mr. Coleman on his invaluable contribution and work in safeguarding older and disabled Georgians.

Chair Fletcher noted that Mr. Coleman has been with DHS for 20 years and was recently promoted to the position of Public Guardianship Office Section Manager.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:44 p.m.


### THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Human Services is scheduled for Wednesday, May 17, 2017, at a location to be determined.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Monica Walters, Secretary

APPROVED:

  
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Robertiena Fletcher, Chair