

**BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES
MEETING MINUTES**

**August 15, 2012
1:00 p.m.**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tiena Fletcher, Chair
Monica Walters, Secretary
Frank Auman
Scott Johnson
Randy Smith
Ann White
Jack Williams

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Lisa Alexander
Sandra Smith

Ms. Tiena Fletcher, Chair, called the Department of Human Services' (DHS) Board meeting to order at 1:30p.m., August 15, 2012.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded that the minutes of the June 20, 2012 meeting be approved. There were no objections and the minutes were approved as presented.

Lynn Vellinga, DHS Chief Financial Officer, presented the FY 2013 Amended and FY 2014 DHS Budget Recommendations to the Board. (The PowerPoint presentation available by request.)

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Clyde L. Reese, III reported the following to the Board:

The Board will hold a phone conference meeting on August 22, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. to vote on the FY 2013 Amended and FY 2014 DHS Budget Recommendations.

Commissioner Reese congratulated the Division of Child Support Services-- Keith Horton, Renorta Heard, and their staff for the award (*2012 Most Outstanding Child Support Program*) they received at the National Child Support Enforcement Association Conference held in Denver, Colorado on August 6-8, 2012. The NCSEA recognizes the best in the child support programs across the country. Congratulations to all.

Commissioner Reese thanked Todd Giddens and Cindy Vickers of Nichols Cauley and Associates and their team for their expertise in conducting the Fund Source Cleanup Project. DHS will carry forward what it has learned to keep the financial house in order and promote the overall fiscal health of the agency.

The Commissioner also thanked Lynn Vellinga, CFO, Demetrius Taylor, Budget Director, Cliff O'Connor, Deputy CFO for DFCS, Blake Lanier, Deputy CFO for Aging, Kelly Richards, Deputy CFO for Child Support and Tammy Hunt, Residential Child Care. Thanks for all their work in preparing the budget.

The Commissioner then listed steps involved in the budget cycle.

1. The budget is presented to the Board for approval.
2. It then goes to the Governor and the Office of Planning and Budget.
3. In the fall the Governor will have all agencies present the budget to him after consultation with OPB.
4. The Governor will then finalize his global budget; 2013 amended and 2014 Budget, that will be presented to the General Assembly when it convenes in January for the 2013 session.
5. Deliberations will begin in the General Assembly and then go before the Appropriations Committee. The amended 2013 Budget will be voted on,

usually in March, and then by the end of the session the 2014 Budget will be issued.

Next, the Commissioner briefed the Board on an organizational decision that was made. He has decided to merge The Office of Residential Child Care which is essentially the only regulatory portion that remained in Human Services after the Office of Regulatory Services went to the Department of Community Health. The Office of Residential Child Care consists of approximately 35 staff who work on child care licensing. On September 1, 2012 they will merge with the Office of Inspector General. There are a few basic reasons this was done. First, to elevate the role and position of the Office of Inspector General within the agency. The Office of Inspector General includes the Benefits Recovery Unit which is the function that combats fraud primarily in the food stamp area, and potential fraud and abuse. They are comprised of the Investigations Criminal Background Unit which conducts the background investigations for people who will come into contact with children, as well as criminal checks on prospective employees. It also includes an audit section. The Inspector General's Office will be the overall internal and external arbiter for the entire agency. They will also be the external enforcement arm against fraud and abuse. The ORCC will continue to do the same functions, but organizationally they will be within the Office of Inspector General. Terry Hamrick is Inspector General and LaMarva Ivory has been promoted to Deputy Inspector General. Carol Winstead is Director of the ORCC. So the merger will enable the Office of Inspector General to take on a larger role within the agency across the entire spectrum.

Commissioner Reese introduced Greg Schmiege, the new Executive Director of the new Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency, to address the Board. In the past few months many of our staff has worked to stand up the new GVRA to a stand-alone executive branch. Mr. Schmiege has been extremely helpful in making that happen. There is no question that he will elevate that program in a most positive way.

Mr. Schmiege thanked the Commissioner for the opportunity to address the Board. He stated that the GVRA is the result of House Bill 1146 which basically moved 5 rehabilitation programs from the Department of Labor into a new stand alone agency now administratively attached to DHS. The 5 programs are Roosevelt Warm Springs Institute, where he was director for the last 6 years, Georgia Industries for the Blind Business Enterprise Program, Disability Adjudication Services Program, and probably the largest is the State Vocational Rehabilitation Program. GVRA in total consists of approximately 2,000 employees. GVRA has a 9-person governing board that was appointed by the Governor. The first meeting was held July 24th, and the second meeting August 8th. Mr. Schmiege's goal and mission for the GVRA is the independence and employment of Georgians with disabilities. He concluded by again thanking Commissioner Reese and his Directors and staff for their positive support.

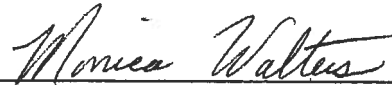
CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Ms. Fletcher wished Mr. Schmieg the best on the new agency. She also congratulated the Division of Child Support Services on their recent award.

There being no comments or questions, the meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Human Services will be Wednesday, September 19, 2012, Two Peachtree Street, N.W., Suite 29.250, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.



Monica Walters, Secretary

APPROVED:



Tiena Fletcher, Chair