

**BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES
MEETING MINUTES**

**November 16, 2016
11:00 a.m.
Atlanta, Georgia**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Robertiena Fletcher, Chair
Monica Walters, Secretary
Scott Johnson
Randall Smith
Jack Williams
Judy Brownell

MEMBERS ABSENT

Frank Auman, Vice Chair
Lisa Alexander

Also present, Commissioner Robyn A. Crittenden.

Chair Robertiena Fletcher called the Board of Human Services' meeting to order at 2:25 p.m. on November 16, 2016.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was presented by Jack Williams and seconded by Randall Smith that the minutes of the August 24, 2016, Board meeting be approved. There being no further discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

ACTION ITEMS

1. A motion was presented by Randall Smith and seconded by Jack Williams to approve the proposed Amendments to the Rules and Regulations related to Recovery and Administration of Child Support, as presented to the public by notice dated September 1, 2016. There being no further discussion, the motion unanimously passed.
2. A motion was presented by Monica Walters and seconded by Scott Johnson to approve the recommended statement setting the 2017 schedule of meetings. There being no further discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

3. A motion was presented by Jack Williams and seconded by Randall Smith to approve the Department of Human Services, Division of Child Support Services' BB&T Resolution and Agreement for Deposit Account. There being no further discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Crittenden shared the Department's commitment to building, "Stronger Families for a Stronger Georgia." She noted the Department's pledge to embody this vision statement in serving Georgia's families.

Recently, the Department discovered an interruption in mail service that could have prevented parents ordered to pay child support from receiving proper notice of the Department's intent to suspend their license. In an abundance of caution, approximately 6,300 licenses were reinstated by Department of Driver Services (DDS). The Commissioner expressed gratitude to DDS for its immediate attention to resolve the issue. She also commended Tanguler Gray, Venkat Krishnan and their respective teams for their non-stop work to resolve the issue.

Commissioner Crittenden shared successes relating to the Department from the last few months. The Child Support team met and/or exceeded all performance measures, to which Commissioner extended her congratulations. The Commissioner applauded Director Cagle, Tonya Curry, and all key players who worked to file the Kenny A. consent and move forward with the exit plan. The Commissioner highlighted several positive meetings which have taken place around the state with Area Agencies on Aging (AAA), the Georgia Regional Commission (GARC) and the Georgia Connection Family Partnerships; she emphasized the importance of partnerships in serving vulnerable families in Georgia. Commissioner Crittenden also acknowledged National Adoption Month and National Caregivers Month.

The DHS Leadership Team gathered in October at the Methodist Home in Macon, Ga. to hear from Ginger Pryor and Jeff Penix regarding the Blueprint for Change. She noted that the entire team, a group of 100 plus leaders from across the Department, left feeling inspired, focused and ready to move forward with the Blueprint. The Commissioner announced the kickoff of the Blueprint, scheduled to take place in January, which will include a series of webinars, announcements and interactive meetings.

The Commissioner reported the Department's efforts to participate in the State Charitable Contributions Campaign, noting employee pledges totaling just shy of \$33,000. This year's theme for DHS is the "Power of One", which emphasizes the combined impact of 9,000 DHS employees pledging \$1 a month for one year. Offices and Divisions housed in 2 Peachtree have participated in the campaign by hosting bake sales, raffles, cook-offs and more.

Shawn Ryan, previous Director of the Integrated Eligibility System (IES), was recently nominated and confirmed by the Board to become President at the Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC). Laura Ellis, who previously served as the project manager for IES, is the new IES Director. Commissioner Crittenden applauded Ellis and her team on a phenomenal job and seamless transition. Commissioner extended congratulations to Commissioner Reese who was appointed by Governor Deal to the Georgia Court of Appeals. Commissioner Frank Berry will now serve as the Commissioner at the Department of Community Health.

On January 7, 2017, the DHS Division of Child Support Services (DCSS) will hold its second "Fatherhood Celebration" in Augusta, Ga. Attendance is expected to exceed 500 people, which surpasses previous attendance numbers at the event held in Atlanta in June 2016. The Board was provided with the DHS event calendar and was invited to join in on the upcoming events.

The Commissioner informed the Board of recent staff changes. Kristyn Cherry, previous DHS Fellow, is now serving as the Special Assistant to the Commissioner, while Angela Johnson is providing administrative support to the Commissioner. Dr. Johnson, previous Medical Director, recently left the Department to return to private practice. Medical Director interviews are currently underway.

The Board was provided the Department's Strategic Plan that was submitted to Governor Deal. Commissioner noted that progress on the strategic plan will be reported at upcoming meetings.

Lastly, Commissioner Crittenden congratulated Venkat Krishnan for again being nominated for the CIO of the year for the state of Georgia. She extended her appreciation to Venkat and noted that his skills and leadership are invaluable to achieving DHS' mission and vision. Commissioner recognized him with a cake and invited attendees to join her in celebrating him for the work he has done.

This concluded the Commissioner's report.

CLOSING COMMENTS


Chair Fletcher extended congratulations to the Division of Aging Services for hosting the Senior Hunger Summit in October. She revered the summit as extremely educational and is looking forward to the statewide plan that is soon to be developed to address senior hunger and food insecurity. Chair Fletcher provided accolades to the Commissioner and all staff for the work being done to strengthen families in Georgia.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:53 p.m.

THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Human Services is scheduled for Wednesday, February 15, 2017, at 2 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, Georgia.

Respectfully submitted,



Monica Walters, Secretary

APPROVED:



Robertiena Fletcher, Chair