

Macon County Social Services Board

February 24, 2023

Minutes

Call to Order

Patrick Betancourt called the regular meeting of the Macon County Social Services Board to order. Members attending were Anne Hyder, Dale West, Evenlyn Southard, Page McCurry/HR, Patrick Betancourt, and Cathy Makinson, Business Officer designated to record minutes

Agenda was approved on motion of Dale West and second by Anne Hyder.

Minutes

Deferred December minutes and January minutes were approved on motion of Anne Hyder, second by Dale West.

Financials/Energy Update

Budget Officer, Cathy Makinson, updated the Board on the Energy program. The state and Duke Energy have continued to work on the direct deposit issues. As of today, only 2 of 12 approved direct LIEAP payments have been posted to Macon County clients. The largest due from December at \$65k+ has still not been credited to clients. Budget is due to County by 5pm on 3/16/23, which is the Board's normal scheduled meeting date. Budget includes an increase from 12.63% to 12.91% to retirement funds. State has communicated that they will continue the hold harmless Medicaid funds for next FY. Our projected amount of \$11k/month continues to apply. Cathy stated she has been in communication with our indirect cost plan developer, Maximus, who has received guidance from the state in how to apply the Medicaid enhanced rate to cost of space. Financials were provided in the board books.

Succession Planning

With Cathy's impending retirement in June, we are requesting the position be re-allocated to Administrative Officer II (AO II). We are to meet with Derek and Lori on our transition request to allow Cathy's position to be advertised and filled to begin 4/24/23 for a two month overlap for training purposes.

Personnel Updates/Turnover Rate

Page informed the Board that Aaron Bridges has been hired as a CPS social worker and that we have a new MSW intern, Kyla Allison, working in adult services. Only one DSS vacancy remains in Adult Medicaid. Page shared she had attended a job fair yesterday and continues to update our social media presence. Patrick shared that the turnover reports will change from fiscal year to monthly and quarterly to better align with other counties data.

Senior Services Awards

Senior Services received a clean report in their compliance monitoring through Southwestern Commission Area Agency on Aging (AAA). Jennifer Hollofield, Senior Services AO II, applied for a grant with the National Council on Aging in conjunction with Joey Gibson and the Community Paramedic program to provide flu and covid vaccinations in the home to seniors. The \$50k award they received will help fund part of Joey's salary as well as an intern coordinator who will assist in capturing the data. Lastly, they received the Ernest B. Messer award, one of four that the State presents. This award was given for a community-based organization who addresses the needs of older citizens. The award was given to Senior Services on their focus during the pandemic, of the congregate drive-through and all the added services, during that time. The award will be presented in Macon County, hopefully at a Commissioners' meeting. The Board expressed their congratulations to Jennifer and her staff on the recognition.

Closed Session

Dale West made a motion to go into Closed Session to discuss personnel as allowed under G.S. 143-318.11. Evelyn Southard seconded, motion carried.

Next Meeting

Next Meeting is scheduled on Thursday, March 16, 2023, at 9am in the Admin Conference Room. Motion to adjourn made by Dale West, second by Anne Hyder.

APPROVED BY:

Chairman/Date

Secretary/Date