

November 14, 2007
Franklin, NC 28734

Social Services Board met this date in regular scheduled session. Members in attendance were Dom D'Ascoli, Wendy Dalton, Mark West and Secretary. Meeting was called to order by Chairman D'Ascoli.

Closed Session minutes of the October 17, 2007 board meeting were reviewed and approved on motion of Wendy Dalton, and second by Mark West. Regular Session minutes of the October 17, 2007 board meeting were reviewed and approved on motion of Mark West and second by Wendy Dalton.

Monthly expenditure reports were briefly reviewed. Only area of concern in the budget is the Medicaid county match budgeted at \$1.7 million and current trending forecasts this budget line item will be overspent.

When the county budget was in the process of approval, the General Assembly proposed Medicaid cost savings for Macon County was approximately \$400,000 which county management recommended the budget request of \$2.1 million be cut by the legislative proposed county cost savings. When the final plan was approved by the General Assembly in August the amount of county cost savings for Macon County that had been approved in the current fiscal year budget will not be realized. County will have to provide the required Medicaid county match even if the amount is not budgeted.

Secretary shared report detailing a 35% increase in Family and Children's Medicaid application approval for October 2006 as compared to October 2007 application approvals. Changes in Medicaid Long Term policies were also shared, which state consultants have advised will take caseworkers 2-3 times longer to assess and process these types of applications. These changes were result of the federal Deficit Reduction Act, and were implemented November 1, 2007.

Effective January 1, 2008, a change in the N C adoption law will require Departments of Social Services perform a diligent search for an adoptee's biological family, if requested by the adoptee. There was no funding appropriated to the local departments for this new mandate; however there is language in the approved legislation that an adoptee above poverty will be charged fees for this service. Policy and recommendations on implementing this new requirement will be presented for approval at the December DSS board meeting.

Short discussion was held on the bond referendum for public buildings not passing. Board supported the need for Senior Services to add bathrooms and showers for Adult Day Care Program. County Commissioners will be considering plan before the end of the calendar year to implement these necessary buildings improvements.

Board went into Closed Session to discuss contracts, personnel and confidential case information on motion of Wendy Dalton and second by Mark West. Board returned from Closed Session.

Board members received copies of a monograph entitled Good to Great and the Social Sectors by Jim Collins.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 19, 2007 at 9:00
in the DSS Administrative Conference Room.

Meeting adjourned.

APPROVED BY:

Chairman/Date

Secretary/Date