

**Commonwealth of Virginia  
State Board of Social Services**

**Department of Social Services  
Central Regional Office  
1604 Santa Rosa Road  
Richmond, Virginia 23229**

**April 17, 2019**

**Attending:** Dr. Danny Avula (Chair), Mr. Kent Willis (Vice Chair), Ms. MaryAnn Boyd (Secretary), Ms. Veronica Washington, Mr. William Boone, Ms. Lou Ali, Ms. Mona Malik, Mr. Clyde Santana, Mr. John Kines, and Dr. Andrew Heck.

**Absent:** Ms. Joan Brennan

**Also in Attendance:** Mr. Duke Storen (Commissioner) and Ms. Ellen Malenke (Assistant Attorney General).

**Meeting called to order at 10:00am** – Dr. Avula

**Review of Agenda** – Ms. Karin Clark, Regulatory Coordinator

**Comments from the Commissioner** – Mr. Duke Storen

Commissioner Storen thanked everyone for taking the time to be there and for their on-going service, interest, and investment in the system. He expressed his appreciation and thanked the providers, local departments of social services, community service boards, and stake-holder partners for their broad collaboration of work. He provided federal and state updates.

Mr. Boone acknowledged the three directors from southwest Virginia- Lana Mullins, Jennifer Lily, and Trevor Hensley.

**Program Improvement Plan and Child and Family Services Plan** – Carl Ayers provided an update on the Program Improvement Plan and the Child and Family Services Plan. Handouts were provided.

**Community & Volunteer Services Update** – Seyoum Berhe gave an update on the impact of federal actions on the Virginia Refugee Program. Fran Inge provided an update on opioids and addiction initiatives.

**COMMENT PERIOD**

***Comment from the Public***

**Emily Griffey** – Voices for Virginia’s Children

Ms. Griffey encouraged the Board to keep child care subsidy on the radar to give it a brighter spotlight and do what they can to encourage the state agency and policy makers to take it seriously.

**Tawana Tucker – African American Assisted Living Facilities**

Ms. Tucker spoke about individuals who suffer with paranoia and manic depression and making sure a displacement plan is in place.

**Comment from Local Boards and Directors of Social Services**

Lana Mullins, Director, Scott Co DSS, shared that her agency was one of the 25 that received additional funding for foster care services. She thanked the Commissioner for his support.

**Comment from the Virginia League of Social Service Executives – Andy Crawford, President**

Mr. Crawford was not in attendance. His representative, Rick Verilla, provided updates on his behalf. He spoke about the Medicaid dashboard and thanked the Commissioner.

**Comment from Virginia Community Action Agency Partnership – Jim Schuyler**

Mr. Schuyler introduced Hester Brown, new director at CAPUP. He provided information on the community action 2Gen Whole Family Pilot Project beginning in FY 2020. He provided the VACAP Annual Report 2018-2019 handout.

**Senate Bill 1326 (2019) – Tara Ragland**

Ms. Ragland provided an overview of Senate Bill 1326, which was left in the Senate Rehabilitation and Social Services Committee. The Committee requested that the Board provide a report with recommendations regarding the regulation of room occupancy in assisted living facilities, in follow-up to Senate Bill 1326. Dr. Heck and Ms. Ali will assist Tara with drafting the report for the Board's consideration.

**State Board of Social Services Advocacy Role – Commissioner Storen** provided an explanation and guidance regarding the Board's advocacy role.

Ellen Malenke introduced Susan Whyte, new assistant attorney general.

**Report on Child Care Subsidies - Barbara Newlin** provided an update on Child Care Subsidies. Handouts were provided.

**Regulatory Update – Karin Clark, Regulatory Coordinator**

Ms. Clark provided updates on the agency bills. She also provided the status update on 22VAC40-185 and 22VAC40-191 highlighted on page 2 of the report; 22VAC40-221 highlighted on page 3; 22VAC40-411 and 22VAC40-677 highlighted on page 4; 22VAC40-705, 22VAC40-730, and 22VAC40-880 highlighted on page 5.

**ACTION ITEMS**

- 1. Approve December 2018 meeting minutes**  
*On Motion Duly Made*, (Mr. Kines), second (Mr. Santana), motion approved with all in favor.
- 2. Resolution to Recognize April 2019 as Office Services Support Appreciation Month**  
*On Motion Duly Made*, (Mr. Boone), second (Ms. Washington), motion approved with all in favor.

3. **22VAC40-400, Funding Limitations for the Refugee Resettlement Program – Periodic Review Report**  
*On Motion Duly Made*, (Ms. Ali), second (Ms. Washington), motion to retain with all in favor.
4. **22VAC40-35, Virginia Independence Program – Periodic Review Report**  
*On Motion Duly Made*, (Mr. Kines), second (Ms. Boyd), motion to amend at a future date with all in favor.
5. **22VAC40-295, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families-Periodic Review Report**  
*On Motion Duly Made*, (Ms. Washington), second (Mr. Santana), motion to amend at a future date with all in favor.
6. **22VAC40-470, Exemptions Applicable to Public Assistance Programs-Periodic Review Report**  
*On Motion Duly Made*, (Ms. Ali), second (Ms. Washington), motion to repeal with all in favor.
7. **22VAC40-601, Supplemental Nutrition & Assistance Program-Periodic Review Report**  
*On Motion Duly Made*, (Mr. Kines), second (Mr. Boone), motion to amend at a future date with all in favor.
8. **22VAC40-201, Permanency Services-Prevention, Foster Care, Adoption and Independent Living-Proposed Regulation**  
It was agreed that, because the action was still under review by the Attorney General’s office, it would be postponed until June.

**Selection of Nominating Committee for New Officers – Dr. Avula**

Dr. Avula appointed Kent Willis, Clyde Santana, and MaryAnn Boyd as the nominating committee for new officers.

**Board Member Requests for Future Information**

Dr. Avula asked members for closing comments and suggestions for future meeting topics. Members provided reflective comments on the meeting in general. Mr. Boone offered to host the June meeting in southwest Virginia. Mr. Kines would like an overview and discussion of the monitoring of the Children’s Services Act. Dr. Heck is interested in hearing about some of the challenges with assisted living facilities.

Commissioner Storen provided updates on Pittsylvania County and Rockbridge.

**Meeting adjourned at 3:07pm.**