

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

**Department of Social Services
801 E. Main Street, 2nd Floor Conference Room
Richmond, Virginia 23219**

February 17, 2016

Attending: Mr. Willie Greene, Sr. (Chair), Dr. Danny Avula (Vice Chair), Ms. Joanne Webster (Secretary), Ms. Lou Ali, Ms. Sheila Coppage, Dr. Jack Knapp, Ms. Mona Malik, Mr. Clyde Santana, Ms. Veronica Washington, Mr. Kent Willis.

Absent: Mr. Darrell Jordan, Jr.

Also in Attendance: Ms. Margaret Ross Schultze (Commissioner), Ms. Jennifer Williamson (Sr. Assistant Attorney General), Ms. Ellen Malenke (Assistant Attorney General) and Eric Reynolds (Assistant Attorney General).

Meeting called to order at 10:01 am – Mr. Willie Greene, Sr.

Review of Agenda – Ms. Karin Clark, Regulatory Coordinator

Comments from the Commissioner – Ms. Margaret Ross Schultze

- Introduced Ellen Malenke, new Assistant Attorney General and counsel to the Board.
- Provided a full list of the 2016 legislation tracked by VDSS. Commissioner Schultze highlighted the agency bills and discussed their status.
- DMAS issued the first annual Foster Care Report. Commissioner Schultze will share the report with the Board.

Family & Children’s Trust Fund – Lisa Specter-Dunaway

Lisa Specter Dunaway gave a presentation titled “Family & Children’s Trust Fund of Virginia”. Ms. Specter-Dunaway provided handouts.

Children’s Services Act – Scott Reiner

Scott Reiner gave a presentation titled “The Children’s Services Act and the Interface with the Department of Social Services”. Mr. Reiner provided handouts.

COMMENT PERIOD

Comment from the Public

Tawana Bryant – Virginia Association of Independent Minority Owned Assisted Living Facilities

Ms. Bryant discussed concerns regarding: daily ALF payment rates; ALF funding; the volume of standards on facilities; regard for resident rights; and qualification/training/protocol for licensing inspectors.

Lauren Mason – Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project

Ms. Mason spoke about the upcoming program and campaign for water and waste water and provided handouts to the Board.

Brenda Powell – Assisted Living Facility Administrator

Ms. Powell discussed concerns regarding mental health issues, funding requirements and standards, and residential issues.

There were no comments from local boards and directors of social services.

There were no comments from boards and directors of community action agencies.

Comments from the Virginia League of Social Services Executives – Cathy Pemberton

Ms. Pemberton spoke about legislation regarding Fostering Futures, the unauthorized practice of law, and the drug testing law for TANF recipients. Ms. Pemberton shared that the VA Case Management System has been performing with fewer latency issues. Powhatan DSS and Powhatan Community Action Agency are sponsoring Bridges Out of Poverty training in March 2016, and offered registration forms to those interested in attending.

Comments from the Virginia Community Action Partnership – Jim Schuyler

Mr. Schuyler shared that Commissioner Schultze was awarded the Mark Grigsby Leadership Award at the January VACAP conference. Mr. Schuyler spoke about the allocation of TANF funds. Mr. Schuyler shared that the Governor participated in a VA Free File event held at the Library of VA with the Tax Commissioner, members of the General Assembly, along with entities that provide tax software. He spoke about the 2015 VACAP Annual Report and provided handouts.

Overview of 22VAC40-72, Standards for Licensed Assisted Living Facilities – Jack Frazier

Mr. Frazier gave a presentation titled “Overview of 22VAC40-72, Standards for Licensed Assisted Living Facilities”. The plan is for the Board to consider a final regulatory package at the April 2016 meeting. Mr. Frazier provided handouts.

Regulatory Update – Karin Clark, Regulatory Coordinator

Ms. Clark reviewed the changes highlighted on the status report handout.

ACTION ITEMS

- 1. Approve December 2015 Minutes**
On Motion Duly Made, (Mr. Willis), second (Ms. Ali), motion approved with all in favor.
- 2. 22VAC40-293, Locality Groupings – Periodic Review Report**
On Motion Duly Made, (Ms. Ali), second (Ms. Malik), motion approved with all in favor.
- 3. 22VAC40-685, Virginia Energy Assistance Program – Periodic Review Report**
On Motion Duly Made, (Ms. Washington), second (Ms. Coppage), motion approved with all in favor.

4. **22VAC40-295, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families – Withdrawal**
On Motion Duly Made, (Ms. Ali), second (Mr. Santana), motion approved with all in favor.
5. **22VAC40-201, Permanency Services – Final**
On Motion Duly Made, (Mr. Santana), second (Ms. Webster), motion approved with all in favor.
6. **April 2016 Office Services Support Employee Appreciation Month Resolution**
On Motion Duly Made, (Ms. Malik), second (Dr. Knapp), motion approved with all in favor.
7. **March 2016 Social Work Month Resolution**
On Motion Duly Made, (Ms. Washington), second (Mr. Santana), motion approved with all in favor.

CLOSED MEETING

On Motion Duly Made, (Ms. Webster), second (Ms. Ali), moved to go into a closed meeting for the purpose of consultation with legal counsel pertaining to actual or probable litigation, pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(7). Attending the closed meeting were: Ms. Malik, Dr. Knapp, Ms. Washington, Ms. Webster, Ms. Coppage, Dr. Avula, Mr. Greene, Mr. Willis, Mr. Santana, Ms. Ali, Commissioner Schultze, and Eric Reynolds. Motion approved with all in favor.

Mr. Greene reconvened the open portion of the session at the conclusion of the closed meeting. Ms. Webster certified that the closed meeting was held in conformity with Virginia law and that only public business matters as identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were discussed. Members unanimously agreed with the certification of the closed meeting.

Board Member Comments

Ms. Malik congratulated Commissioner Schultze, appreciated the education for members and information on FACT and assisted living facilities.

Dr. Knapp thanked Commissioner Schultze and extended appreciation for the presentation from Deputy Commissioner Frazier and the comments made during the public comment period.

Ms. Washington congratulated Commissioner Schultze on her award, expressed the need for data-driven policy, and was proud for the social workers having received their resolution.

Ms. Webster congratulated Commissioner Schultze, noted the significance of the two resolutions, and looks forward to acting on the proposed child day center regulation in June.

Ms. Coppage extended appreciation to Commissioner Schultze and found the information on FACT and CSA helpful.

Dr. Avula continues to be impressed by the breadth of work done by the agency and partners, appreciated the public speakers and member responses, and congratulated Commissioner Schultze.

Ms. Ali appreciated the information on FACT and the General Assembly, thanked Ms. Webster for her handling of the resolutions, and congratulated Commissioner Schultze.

Mr. Santana thanked Commissioner Schultze and acknowledged the worthwhile SERCAP initiative.

Mr. Willis found the General Assembly update as presented by the Commissioner to be impressive and congratulated Commissioner Schultze.

Mr. Greene extended congratulations and appreciation to Commissioner Schultze and found the presentations on FACT, CSA and ALF licensure helpful.

Adjourned at 3:31pm