

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

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

December 12, 2018

Attending: Ms. MaryAnn Boyd, Ms. Veronica Washington, Mr. William Boone, Ms. Joan Brennan, Ms. Mona Malik, Ms. Lou Ali, Mr. John Kines, Dr. Andrew Heck.

Absent: Dr. Danny Avula, Mr. Kent Willis.

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

Meeting called to order at 10:00am – MaryAnn Boyd

Comments from the Commissioner – Duke Storen

Commissioner Storen extended his appreciation to the members of the Board, colleagues of the public, local departments and staff for attending the meeting.

The Commissioner provided federal and state updates.

J.R. Simpson, Chief Deputy Commissioner, provided updates on the federal and state budget.

The Commissioner shared J.R. Simpson's retirement announcement and thanked him for his tremendous public service.

Medicaid Expansion – In Toni Washington's absence, Linda Nablo, Special Advisor to the Office of the Governor, gave a presentation on Medicaid expansion. Handouts were provided.

2-1-1 Virginia Outreach – Fran Inge, Director of the Division of Volunteer and Community Services, provided background on her division and introduced Gail Harris, Director of Office On Volunteerism and Community Service. Ms. Harris gave a presentation on 2-1-1 Virginia Outreach and provided handouts.

CLOSED MEETING

On Motion Duly Made, (Ms. Boyd), second (Mr. Boone)-moved to go into a closed meeting for the purpose of receiving additional information and legal advice regarding the investigation of Ronald Scarce, member of the Pittsylvania local board of social services, pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3711A.1.7. Attending the closed meeting were: Ms. Ali, Mr. Santana, Mr. Kines, Dr. Heck, Ms. Boyd, Ms. Washington, Mr. Boone, Ms. Malik, Ms. Brennan, Commissioner Storen, and Ellen Malenke. Motion approved with all in favor.

Ms. Boyd reconvened the open portion of the session at the conclusion of the closed meeting. She 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.

COMMENT PERIOD

Comment from the Public

Nancy Renner – Virginia Child Care Association

Ms. Renner voiced concerns about cooperative preschools and the proposed regulations.

Pam Evens – Chancellor Street Preschool

Ms. Evans voiced concerns about cooperative preschools and the proposed regulations.

Kim Hulcher – Virginia Child Care Association

Ms. Hulcher expressed her support of the amended change of first aid CPR. She requested a 90-day certification window to get staff properly trained and to continue to allow teachers under the age of 18 to work alone.

Grace Creasey – Virginia Council for Private Education

Ms. Creasey thanked the Board for the regulations regarding the first aid and CPR requirements.

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

Comment from Virginia Community Action Partnership – Jim Schuyler

Mr. Schuyler gave an advance look at some of the stories to be included in his annual report. He spoke about the SwiftStart program and People Incorporated of Virginia Whole Family Approach.

Comment from Virginia League of Social Services Executives

Andy Crawford – League President & Director of Bedford Department of Social Services

Mr. Crawford echoed that Medicaid expansion is going fairly well. He talked about the JLARC study and expressed interest in offering to help make the system better.

ACTION ITEMS

- 1. Approve October 2018 meeting minutes**
On Motion Duly Made, (Ms. Malik), second (Ms. Washington), motion approved with all in favor.
- 2. State Board of Social Services Amended Bylaws**
On Motion Duly Made, (Ms. Ali), second (Ms. Brennan), motion approved with all in favor.
- 3. 22VAC40-730, Investigation of Child Abuse and Neglect in Out of Family Complaints-Fast Track**
On Motion Duly Made, (Mr. Kines), second (Ms. Washington), motion approved with all in favor.
- 4. 22VAC40-185, Standards for Licensed Child Day Centers-Final**
On Motion Duly Made, (Ms. Brennan), second (Ms. Ali), motion approved with all in favor.

5. 22VAC40-221, Additional Daily Supervision-Proposed

On Motion Duly Made, (Mr. Boone), second (Mr. Santana), motion approved with Mr. Kines abstaining.

Pittsylvania Department of Social Services Investigation – Ellen Malenke

Ms. Malenke noted the Board received all documentation and comments, and also received Dr. Avula's summary of his conversation with Ronald Scarce. Given the preceding closed meeting, the Board proceeded with action.

On Motion Duly Made, (Ms. Ali), second (Ms. Boyd), motion to suspend Mr. Scarce pending additional investigation. After further discussion, Ms. Ali offered an amended motion to suspend Mr. Scarce until the next Board meeting (2/20/2019). Ms. Washington provided a second to that amended motion. Motion approved with six in favor (Ali, Heck, Boyd, Washington, Malik, Brennan) and three opposed (Kines, Santana, Boone).

Ms. Malenke will draft a letter to Mr. Scarce, with copies to the Pittsylvania County Board of Supervisors and the local board of social services, documenting the vote on this item.

Board Member Requests for Future Information

Ms. Boyd asked members for closing comments and suggestions for future meeting topics. Members provided reflective comments on the meeting in general. Suggested agenda items: continue to monitor co-op schools; updates on high profile assisted living cases; follow up on board training; and progress on recommendations on Rockbridge County.

Meeting adjourned at 2:52pm.