



Pamlico Human Services Board

Barbara Fisher Angelo Midgette Pat Bullis
Sarah Delap Paul Delamar

11 AM-12 Noon 4th Tues

Human Services Building

Director

Robert S. Johnson

Note taker:

Deborah Jones

Board Vice Chair: Barbara Fisher

Board Chairwoman: Pat Bullis

4-28-2015-Board Notes

All Board members present with exception of Sarah Delap. Meeting began with a general discussion concerning DSS and Abortion issues. Past and present policies and mandates were discussed and ramifications of past scenarios were presented. No action requested.

Discussion concerning a Personnel decision to rehire an employee who had been accused of a crime that resulted in her resigning her position during the legal processes that ensued. The Direction discussed the ethical concerns he and his supervisory staff had stated as reasons to rehire or not hire the employee back after a satisfactory decision had been reached in the court. It was stated that the employee was an excellent employee for 17 years and never had any legal issues. Her involvement legally came as a result of being the Executor of her parent's estate. She would be brought back in a position that would not have her working with the courts or with families who might object to her legal background. The Director made the decision to rehire based on all information presented by the Board and supervisory staff.

A discussion was held concerning a program compliance issue from several years ago that may end up costing our county a payback. The issue centered around State Audits of the Adoption Assistance Program in which auditors found Pamlico DSS in compliance with federal regulations concerning the payment of Adoption Assistance. At the beginning of this budget year the State informed counties that the Auditors were wrong on various cases and that this would result in a payback. Pamlico had three cases in question, two of which had previously been audited as correct. The State is now saying that the county is responsible for the payback of federal funds even though there was no knowledge of miscalculations and no indication that anything was wrong. The county is waiting on the state to let us know the amount of any paybacks.

Discussion on Medicaid "Hump". The Director discussed with the Board last month the problems of a backload of Medicaid recertification's due. This hump is 700 individuals who need to be reviewed for benefits in NC Fast as part of an on-going yearly process. Each member of a family unit is considered an individual case. This hump exists because of problems with the NC Fast process and State having "rolled Over" any cases due for Recertification in a month but not processed. This problem is worsened by the slowness of our internet capabilities and problems within NC Fast. Since many counties in the State are affected by these Humps, the State continues to roll over unprocessed cases. Peoples Medicaid benefits are not being affected by this situation. At Pamlico DSS, all Persons in all units which have connectivity to NC Fast are helping the Medicaid Unit catch up. Economic Services workers are working night hours and weekend hours in order to reduce numbers in the backlog.

Discussion held on the issue of unclaimed bodies. The agency is responsible for handling final arrangements for bodies not claimed at death. We have a contract whereby we get cremations' performed for approximately \$450. The problem we have is with the disposition of remains. We have several "boxes" in our Adult Services Supervisors Office that need to be disposed of. Board Discussion centered around Director's idea to bury these boxes in our center courtyard and a Memorial Garden. The Board

agreed to this idea and felt that in this manner we preserved the dignity of the deceased while alleviating the problem.

The Director gave information on the Financial and IT Audit that we had recently undergone. No problems were identified.

The Director discussed the CAP program and the unusually large number of deaths that had occurred in our client population this year. We have lost nine clients and are working to bring numbers back up. It is necessary to identify new clients in October to serve as backups to the 25 client program. If there is a need for more slots, we are approved for 20 additional clients but this would require another Social Worker to come on staff.

As time had depleted, Paul Delamar motioned to Adjourn and Angelo Midgette seconded the motion. We will again meet May26th at 11AM at DSS.

Robert Johnson for Deborah Jones