



MEETING MINUTES

March 19, 2024

6:30 P.M.

Development Services Building, Room 107

* ABSENT FROM MEETING

** ATTENDED MEETING VIRTUALLY

Open Meeting

Laurie Wilson, Chair, opened the meeting at 6:39 PM. The Chair welcomed the two newest members of the Board; Hala Ayala, At Large rep, and Bill Woolf, Brentsville Magisterial District rep.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of February 20, 2024 were approved. [IO, CF; unanimous].

Public Comment

None.

Presentation

FY25 Budget – Presented by Courtney Tierney

In the proposed FY 25 County budget, DSS does not get any money. Two years ago, DSS was promised funds for 11 new (and sorely needed) positions.

Currently, 130,000 people in PWC receive benefits. There has been an 89% increase, between 2021 and 2023, of people needing childcare. There has been a 46% increase in guardianship (for senior/elderly adults and for adults with medical/mental impairments, etc.). The Panhandling problem in the County needs more 'homeless' outreach. Additionally, there has been a 28% increase in child abuse and neglect cases. DSS is in great need of new FTE's to help with their increased workload.

Action Items

Chair Wilson asked to add an action item to this evening's agenda.

MOTION was made to send a letter to the Board of County Supervisors from the Advisory Board requesting reinstatement of the staffing plan for DSS that was promised in 2022. [AW, IO; unanimous].

Chairman's Time

Director's Time

- Retirement – Courtney's last day in the office will be June 14. Her official retirement date is the end of September.
- Social Work Month – A Proclamation was made at today's BOCS meeting declaring the month of March as Social Work Month. DSS has 135 social workers on staff.

- Child Abuse Prevention Month – The Pinwheel’s for Child Abuse Prevention event will take place on April 2 at 1:00 PM at the McCoart ellipse
- The annual Beat the Odds Dinner will take place on May 23 at the Old Hickory Country Club in Lakeridge

Board Members’ Time

Executive Session

MOTION to move into Executive Session made by Idris O’Connor and seconded by Bill Woolf at 7:52 PM to discuss a matter relating to foster care.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 VA Code such discussions may occur in Executive Session

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Prince William County Social Services Board does hereby certify that to the best of each members knowledge; (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Freedom of Information Act were discussed in the Executive Session to which this certification applies, and; (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the Motion by which the said Executive Session was convened were heard, discussed or considered by the Board. No member dissents from the afore-stated certification.

MOTION to certify the Executive Session made by Idris O’Connor and seconded by Andréa Wilson [unanimous].

MOTION to move out of Executive Session by Idris O’Connor and seconded by Andréa Wilson at 7:58 PM. [unanimous].

Adjournment

MOTION made to adjourn the meeting [IO, AW; unanimous]. Chair Wilson adjourned the meeting at 8:01 PM.

APPROVED: _____
Linda Meier
Clerk to Board