



Meeting Minutes
Social Services Commission Quarterly Meeting
December 14, 2022, 10:00 A.M.

I. Call to Order

1. Chairman Pledger called the Social Services quarterly meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Meeting was virtual using Go-To-Webinar.
2. Chairman Pledger read the ethic statement/conflicts of interest statement; being that there were none, Gwen Waller proceeded to call the roll.
3. Social Services Commission roll call:
 - a. **Commissioners in attendance and constituting a quorum were:** Chairman Drew Pledger, Heather Hayes-Williams, Dr. Tia Crooms, Margie Christopher, Willa Wyatt, Vice Chairman Robert Simmons, Cindy Locklear, Daniel Briggs, and Tanisha James
 - b. **Commissioners absent:** Kelsey Crowe, Dr. Sigmund Tannebaum, Anthony Anderson, and Heather Hayes-Williams
 - c. **DHHS Staff Present:** Paris Penny (DSS), Gwen Waller (DSS), Mike Leighs (DSS), and Jay Pontier (NC FAST), and Madhu Vulimiri (DCFV)
 - d. **DOJ Staff Present:** Colleen Crowley and Adrian Dellinger
 - e. **Others:** Charles Lycett, Dare County DSS Director, President NCACDSS
4. Chairman Drew Pledger provided introductions and opening remarks.
5. Motion by Chairman Pledger to move and approve the meeting minutes from September 14, 2022. Motion carried by Vice Chairman Robert Simmons and seconded by Willa Wyatt and carried without dissent.
6. Motion by Chairman Pledger to move and approve the meeting minutes from November 9, 2022. Motion carried by Tanisha James and seconded by Vice Chairman Robert Simmons and carried without dissent.

II. New Business

1. 10A NCAC 14J .1307 Contested Case Hearing
The Department of Health and Human Services approved the Permanent Jails rule for publication in the NC Register. The rule is for Jails, Local Confinement Facilities and it is in response to SL2022-74. The law requires the Division of Health Service Regulation do temporary rules and permanent rules.

2. Appointments to county boards of social services to fill the seats. Applications voted upon as follows:
 - a. Congressional District 1:
 - i. Motion by Chairman Pledger to move to appoint Sandra Rudd-Knight to Halifax County Department of Social Services Board. Motion carried by Vice Chairman Robert Simmons. Seconded by Willa Wyatt and carried without dissent.
 - b. Congressional District 3:
 - i. Motion by Chairman Pledger to move to appoint Tanya Bryant to Greene County Department of Social Services Board. Motion carried by Tia Crooms. Seconded by Vice Chairman Robert Simmons and carried without dissent.
 - c. Congressional District 7:
 - i. Motion by Chairman Pledger to move to appoint Barbara Harris to Duplin County Department of Social Services Board. Motion carried by Vice Chairman Robert Simmons. Seconded by Willa Wyatt and carried without dissent.
 - d. Congressional District 9:
 - i. Motion by Chairman Pledger to move to appoint Sharon Little to Anson County Department of Social Services Board. Motion carried by Cindy Locklear. Seconded by Vice Chairman Robert Simmons and carried without dissent.
 - e. Congressional District 10:
 - i. Motion by Chairman Pledger to defer to the next quarterly meeting to allow more time to vet Sherry Butler to Catawba County Department of Social Services Board. Motion carried by Willa Wyatt. Seconded by Margie Christopher and carried without dissent.

III. Presentations

Madhu Vulimiri gave an overview of the Division of Child and Family Well-Being. Presentation was emailed to Commissioners.

IV. Staff Comments

- Paris introduced Mike Leighs, Director of Operations and Strategic Initiatives. Mike is part of the Human Services senior leadership team and will provide senior leadership continuity to the Commission. Mike's role includes operations, policy, legislative and communications.
- As staff have previously shared, the NC SSC manual is being updated and will be emailed to Commissioners before the end of the calendar year.
- Something staff would like to gauge your interest in is the option for an in-person orientation directly after the March 8, 2023 SSC quarterly meeting. This would be an opportunity to meet face-to-face. In addition to orientation, we would like to share the legislative priorities.

V. Commission Comments

VI. Adjournment

Motion by Chairman Drew Pledger to adjourn the quarterly meeting at 10:50 a.m.

Motion carried by Willa Wyatt. Seconded by Vice Chairman Robert Simmons and carried without dissent.

The next quarterly meeting is March 8, 2023.