



Meeting Minutes
Social Services Commission Quarterly Meeting
March 8, 2023, 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, Kelsey Crowe, Anthony Anderson, Brandie Walser, Samantha Branch, Jeanne Lindquist, Dr. Tia Crooms, Margie Christopher, Willa Wyatt, Vice Chairman Robert Simmons, Cindy Locklear, and Tanisha James
 - b. **Commissioners absent:** Dr. Sigmund Tannebaum, and Heather Hayes-Williams
 - c. **DHHS Staff Present:** Paris Penny (DSS), Gwen Waller (DSS), Mike Leighs (DSS), and Jay Pontier (NC FAST), Lisa Cauley (DSS), Dr. Charlene Wong (DCFV), Susan Osborne (DHHS), and Carla West (DSS)
 - d. **DOJ Staff Present:** Tom Campbell, Colleen Crowley and Adrian Dellinger
 - e. **Others:** Charles Lycett, Dare County DSS Director, President NCACDSS and Kristi Nickodem, Assistant Professor of Public Law and Government, UNC-CH School of Government
4. Chairman Drew Pledger provided introductions and opening remarks.
5. Motion by Chairman Pledger to move and approve the meeting minutes from December 14, 2022. Motion carried by Vice Chairman Robert Simmons and seconded by Willa Wyatt and carried without dissent.

II. New Business

1. Appointments to county boards of social services to fill the seats. Applications voted upon as follows:
 - a. Congressional District 1:
 - i. Chairman Pledger requested a motion to appoint Dianna Talley to Warren County Department of Social Services Board. Motion by Vice Chairman Robert Simmons. Seconded by Willa Wyatt and carried without dissent.

- b. Congressional District 3:
 - i. Chairman Pledger requested motion to move to appoint Sherrill Henderson to Jones County Department of Social Services Board. Motion by Tia Crooms. Seconded by Vice Chairman Robert Simmons and carried without dissent.
 - ii. Chairman Pledger requested motion to move to appoint Amy Banks to Camden County Department of Social Services Board. Motion by Tia Crooms. Seconded by Vice Chairman Robert Simmons and carried without dissent.
- c. Congressional District 5:
 - i. Chairman Pledger requested motion to move to appoint Alesia Calloway to Avery County Department of Social Services Board. Motion by Vice Chairman Robert Simmons. Seconded by Willa Wyatt and carried without dissent.
 - ii. Chairman Pledger requested motion to move to appoint Sandra Smith to Stokes County Department of Social Services Board. Motion by Vice Chairman Robert Simmons. Seconded by Willa Wyatt and carried without dissent.
 - iii. Chairman Pledger requested motion to move to appoint Darlene Bullins to Stokes County Department of Social Services Board. Motion by Vice Chairman Robert Simmons. Seconded by Willa Wyatt and carried without dissent.
- d. 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.
- e. Congressional District 11:
 - ii. Chairman Pledger requested motion to move to appoint Edward Phillips to Cherokee County Department of Social Services Board. Motion by Cindy Locklear. Seconded by Vice Chairman Robert Simmons and carried without dissent.

III. Presentations

- Dr. Charlene Wong and Lisa Cauley gave a presentation. Child Welfare and Family Well-Being Transformation presentation was emailed to Commissioners.
- Mike Leighs gave an update about the NCGA 2023 Legislative Session.

IV. Staff Comments

- Please review the email from Gwen dated 6 March 2023 at 12:59 pm that has the SEI Newsletter for 2023 and remember to submit your SEI filing by April 17, 2023, with the state ethics office not our office. There is a lot of helpful information in the newsletter including frequently asked common questions.

- Child CARING INSTITUTIONS SECTION 91.4. Until the Social Services Commission adopts rules setting standardized rates for child caring institutions as authorized under G.S. 143B-153(8), the maximum reimbursement for child caring institutions shall not exceed the rate established for the specific child caring institution by the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Controller. In determining the maximum reimbursement, the State shall include county and IV-E reimbursements.
<https://www.ncleg.gov/Sessions/2021/Bills/Senate/PDF/S105v7.pdf>
page 243, G.S. 143B-153(8)
- The Commission may establish by regulation, except for Title XX services provided solely through the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, rates or fees for:
 - A fee schedule for the payment of the costs of necessary child care in licensed facilities and registered plans for minor children of needy families.
 - A fee schedule for the payment by recipients for services which are established in accordance with Title XX of the Social Security Act and implementing regulations; and
 - The payment of an administrative fee not to exceed two hundred dollars (\$200.00) to be paid by public or nonprofit agencies which employ students under the Plan Assuring College Education (PACE) program.
 - Child support enforcement services as defined by G.S. 110-130.1

https://www.ncleg.net/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/PDF/BySection/Chapter_143B/GS_143B-153.pdf

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 June 14, 2023.