

**MINUTES FROM THE JOINT MEETING HELD BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE COUNTY OF WARREN IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES STAFF MEETING ROOM ON SEPTEMBER 22, 2004 AT 6:00 PM.**

The meeting of the Board of County Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Ulysses S. Ross at 7:15 pm. Other Commissioners present were: Clinton G. Alston, Weldon C. Capps, Jr., Janet Humphries, and H.E. Luke Lucas. Department of Social Services Board members present were: Clinton Alston, Gwendolyn Crews, Barbara Kinton, Giannelli Evans and Paul D. Kearney. Others in attendance were: Loria D. Williams, County Manager, Charles T. Johnson, Jr., County Attorney and Susan W. Brown, Finance Officer, Neil Walters, NC Department of Social Services Community Liaison.

Chairman Ross gave the floor to Henry Hayes, Department of Social Services Director. Mr. Hayes distributed a list of issues for discussion:

- 1) Requests for use of John Graham Facility by Public
- 2) Day care administrative staff (need for help)
- 3) Request for information from individual commissioners
- 4) Personnel reclassification: compliance issues
- 5) Statutory duties of DSS Director, DSS Board, & Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Hayes informed the Board of Commissioners that:

The Warren County Democratic Party had requested use of the DSS building for evening hours. Mr. Hayes expressed concern of public accessibility of confidential materials if building is used after hours.

The Board of Commissioners agreed that if a political party used the facility, then all other political parties should be given the same right of access. Therefore, in the best interest of confidentiality and to avoid conflict of interest, the John Graham building should not be used by non county agencies.

Explained that the Day Care administrative staff of one (1) was carrying a heavy case load and another person was needed.

The August 2, 2004 Commissioner's agenda item 9C "a request to reclassify Child Welfare Social Worker Position" was denied. Therefore, Warren County is out of compliance with Office of State Personnel in the reclassification of certain Department of Social Services positions. Said action jeopardizes future Federal and state funding for Warren County's Social Services programs.

The Board of Commissioners was presented information regarding: Statutory Powers and Duties of County Directors of Social Services; Statutory Powers and duties of Board of Commissioners Regarding Social Services Matters; and Statutory Powers & Duties of County Board of Social Services. Mr. Hayes proceeded to inform Board members of a request from Commissioner Humphries that, if carried out, would violate confidentiality of DSS recipients and NC General Statutes.

On motion of Commissioner Lucas, which was seconded by Commissioner Humphries and duly carried by unanimous vote, it was ordered to approve the August 2, 2004 request to reclassify Child Welfare Social Worker Position per Office of State Personnel directive. Retroactive to July 1, 2004.

Katherine Williamson, Human Resource Manager informed the Board that reclassification of said position would effect four (4) Department of Social Services employees.

With no further business to discuss and on motion of Commissioner Lucas, which was second by Commissioner Alston the joint meeting was adjourned at 7:45.

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Angelena Kearney-Dunlap, Clerk