



MEETING MINUTES

June 17, 2025

6:30 P.M.

Development Services Building, Room 107

*ABSENT FROM MEETING

** ATTENDED MEETING VIRTUALLY

Open Meeting

Chair Laurie Wilson opened the meeting at 6:30 PM. Director Phyllis Jennings-Holt introduced Leslie Carrera, the new DSS HR Manager, to the Board.

Approval of Minutes-

Minutes of the March 18, 2025 Board meeting were approved [CT, IO; 4 members approved/ 1 member; JM; abstained].

Public Comment

Lisa Pratt, from Legal Services and works with Elder Law and Medicaid, attended the meeting.

Presentation

The Assistant Directors presented their Divisional Updates to the Board. Presenters were: Meron Gebremedhin, PA; Tonya Golden, HSD; Jessica McCauley, FSS; Lena Purifoy, APP; Norma Sanchez presented for Lucia Dentone, CSS; Van Washington, CPS; and She'la White, CSA.

Of special note, Meron Gebremedhin informed the Board of the current status of the possible changes to social programs that are being debated in the U.S. Senate as part of the 'big, beautiful bill. Tonya Golden let the Board know that the final P.I.T. count, which was conducted in January, came in at 115 unsheltered individuals and 227 sheltered individuals.

Action Items

None.

Chairman's Time

Director's Time

- DSS New Deputy Director – Holly Handy. The Board congratulated Holly on her new appointment as DSS Deputy Director.
- Fatherhood Initiative. An official FTE was approved for a Fatherhood Initiative Coordinator in the FY26 Budget. Jeffery Faulkerson, who has been serving as Coordinator in a temporary staff position, will fill the new full-time position.
- The Father-Daughter Dance on May 217 at Ferlazzo was a great success and well attended. Plans have already been made for the next dance to be held in April of 2026.
- DSS' Full Staff Meeting was held at Camp Snyder on May 16. The survey sent out to staff came back with excellent reviews and good suggestions for next year's meeting.

- The Annual Judge's Dinner will be held at the Senior Center in Manassas on September 16. The planned presentations will be on the Kinship Care program and Home Studies and Assessments.

The Director asked the Board what presentation they would like to have in July and it was decided they would like more in-depth information on the CSS Division, including the probable impacts of the President's recent bill.* (*Amended by unanimous consent on July 15, 2025).

Board Members' Time

Executive Session

None

Adjournment

MOTION made to adjourn the meeting [IO, CT; unanimous]. Chair Wilson adjourned the meeting at 8:16 PM.

APPROVED: *Linda Meier*
Clerk to Board