

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF MCDOWELL COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DSS REGULAR SESSION – DECEMBER 16, 2019**

Assembly

The McDowell County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session with the DSS on Monday, December 16, 2019, at 11:45a.m., at the Department of Social Services (DSS), 145 E Court Street, Marion, North Carolina.

Members Present

David N. Walker, Chair; Tony Brown, Vice-Chair; Brenda Vaughn

Members Absent

Barry McPeters; Lynn Greene

Others Present

Ashley Wooten, County Manager; Cheryl Mitchell, Clerk to the Board; Lisa Sprouse, Director of Social Services

Agency Update

Ms. Sprouse gave the following update on her department:

- one staff opening in Foster Care

Building Update

Ms. Sprouse noted the new doors and frames are scheduled to be installed in January, 2020. She had also received a purchase order estimate for \$13,191 for flooring from Carolina Interiors for 2,925 square feet for all hallways and the Gibson wing.

Vice Chair Brown asked if there were any other bids received, since the Board had previously requested there be three estimates for all renovations.

Suggestion was made to add the back hallway in quote from the other bid competitors, and have Carolina Interiors amend their estimate also. Two more estimates would be obtained.

Chair Walker asked Ms. Spouse if she had looked at getting blinds for the conference room.

Managed Care Update

The Medicaid Transformation Managed Care program has been suspended indefinitely by the state, due to needed legislative action. The state has not passed a budget.

Chair Walker asked about the incident where a person was transported to Dialysis Center by an individual, because the McDowell Transit had cancelled rides to provide services for the Historic Carson House fundraiser. Mr. Wooten noted the Transit Dept would not be cancelling transportation routes for these types of events in the future.

IPDC Housing Resolution

Mr. Wooten submitted for approval a grant request, with no matching county funds. IPDC will administer the grant.

**Resolution Authorizing an Application for Funding to the NC Housing Finance Agency
Essential Single-Family Rehabilitation Loan Pool**

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency announced the availability of \$8 million under the 2020 cycle of the Essential Single-Family Rehabilitation Loan Pool (ESFRLP);

WHEREAS, the maximum funding for a project serving a local government in one county is \$190,000 enabling the recipient organization for the rehabilitation of owner-occupied homes for eligible units;

WHEREAS, ESFRLP 2020 grants are competitive and will be evaluated on organizational capacity and experience with housing rehabilitation assistance;

WHEREAS, points are awarded for local matching funds for hard costs, however a local match is not required;

WHEREAS, McDowell County is committed to supporting programs and services that help to enhance housing conditions that improve the health and overall quality of life of all residents; and

WHEREAS, the Isothermal Planning and Development Commissioner (IPDC) intends to submit an application to the NC Housing Finance Agency for funding to administer the EFRLP 2020 program.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE McDOWELL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THAT McDowell County agrees to support the Isothermal Planning and Development Commission in their application to the NC Housing Finance Agency for ESFRLP 2020 funding. Additionally, McDowell County agrees to support IPDC and comply with all federal, state and local laws, rules, regulations and ordinances applicable to the project and to the federal and state grants and loans pertaining thereto.

Adopted this the 9th day of December, 2019.

Attest:

Cheryl L. Mitchell
Clerk to the Board

David Walker
Chair

Vice Chair Brown made a motion to approve the resolution, second by Commissioner Vaughn. By a vote of 3-0 the motion passed.

The Closed Session minutes from November 18, 2019 were presented for approval.

Commissioner Vaughn made a motion to approve and close the November 18, 2019 minutes, second by Vice Chair Brown. By a motion of 3-0, the motion carried.

Commissioner Vaughn made a motion to send a resolution asking the state to approve a budget for FY2020, second by Vice Chair Brown. Board requested the resolution then be sent to Gov. Cooper, Lt. Gov. Dan Forest, and Speaker Tim Moore; as well as all other counties. By a vote of 3-0 the motion carried.

Questions, Answers, and Suggestions

Ms. Sprouse distributed the data tracker for the agency. A copy is with the agenda materials.

Chair Walker asked for a hard copy of the employee policy for each Commissioner.

Chair Walker asked about long term planning for DSS, noting it would be good to have all DSS services at one location. There are plans for a multi-county armory to be built in Burke County, and it would be a good relocation for DSS.

Consensus from the Board was for Mr. Wooten to write Senator Hise and Rep. Dobson for their support of the armory reverting back to the county once the current armory is combined with the new facility in Burke County.

Adjourn

Commissioner Brown made a motion to adjourn at 12:30 pm, second by Commissioner Vaughn. By a vote of 3-0 the motion passed.

Attest:

Cheryl L. Mitchell
Clerk to the Board

David Walker
Chairman