

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF MCDOWELL COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DSS REGULAR SESSION – JUNE 17, 2019**

Assembly

The McDowell County Board of Commissioners met in DSS Regular Session on Monday, June 17, 2019, at 11:30a.m., at the Department of Social Services, 145 E Court Street, Marion, North Carolina.

Members Present

Tony Brown, Vice-Chair; Lynn Greene; Brenda Vaughn

Members Absent

David N. Walker, Chair; Barry McPeters

Others Present

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

Agency Update

Mr. Wooten noted the DSS Supervisor meetings were going well and were beneficial to the department. Ms. Sprouse agreed and noted there would be special events coming up later this month the Board would be invited to attend. She then introduced the program topic for today's meeting.

Child Welfare 101

DSS staff present were: Jennifer Morgan, Child Welfare Program Administrator, Becky Burleson, formerly known as Foster Care now is Permanency Planning Supervisor; Sherry Miller, In-Home Services Supervisor; Jenny Milsaps, Foster Home Licensing; formerly known as Foster Care; Sara Brewer, Permanency Planning Supervisor; Carla Reid, Investigator - Assessments; Brandon Gaddy, Intake

The first presentation was on Child Protective Services (CPS). There is currently an average of 70 reports per month, and most calls come in during the school year.

Also covered in the presentation was Assessments with CPS, In Home Services; Permanency Planning; and Foster Home Licensing program. There are currently 34 licensed foster families and 109 children in foster care.

A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is with the agenda packet.

Building Safety

Ms. Sprouse requested an update to the building by adding secure doors in the DSS

building; also concrete barriers placed in front of the window of the conference room and windows of the lobby area. Mr. Wooten suggested Ms. Sprouse, Mr. DePoyster, and a Commissioner address the security issues in the building. Mr. DePoyster noted security issues have to be addressed according to the function of the county building.

Questions/Answers/Suggestions

Vice Chair Brown thanked the supervisors and Ms. Sprouse for the information on the programs received.

Reports from Staff

Mr. Wooten noted there would be a ribbon cutting at the new Superior Courtroom on Monday, June 24th, at 8:30am.

The Clerk shared an invitation from Marion Business Association requesting the Board's participation in the July 4th parade at 6:00pm.

The Clerk also reviewed the itinerary for the Charters of Freedom dedication ceremony to be held on Friday, June 21st at 10am on the Courthouse Lawn.

Adjourn

Commissioner Greene made a motion to recess to Friday, June 28 at 11:30am, second by Commissioner Vaughn. Meeting was recessed at 1:40pm.

Attest:

Tony Brown
Vice-Chair

Cheryl L. Mitchell
Clerk to the Board