

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF MCDOWELL COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
DSS REGULAR SESSION – OCTOBER 21, 2019**

**Assembly**

The McDowell County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session with the DSS on Monday, October 21, 2019, at 11:30a.m., at the Department of Social Services (DSS), 145 E Court Street, Marion, North Carolina.

**Members Present**

David N. Walker, Chair; Lynn Greene; Brenda Vaughn

**Members Absent**

Tony Brown, Vice-Chair; Barry McPeters; Ashley Wooten, County Manager

**Others Present**

Ronald Harmon Deputy County Mgr of Community Development; Cheryl Mitchell, Clerk to the Board; Lisa Sprouse, Director of Social Services

**Agency Update**

The reflective film has been put on the conference room windows, and work is continuing on adding the film to the rest of the windows on the front of the building. Work on metal doors and key fobs will be next.

Also, Ms. Sprouse reported the department is fully staffed, and staff is brainstorming ideas for employee retention.

**Medicaid Transformation/Medicaid Supervisors**

Ms. Sprouse noted there will be an informative Medicaid Transformation meeting tentatively scheduled for November 15<sup>th</sup> in the Community Building. Representatives of the Medicaid plan providers will be set up to answer questions from the public. The providers are United Healthcare; Well Care; AmeriHealth Caritas NC; and Healthy Blue.

Medicaid recipients must make a decision before December 16, 2019. After that date they will be auto assigned to a provider. Then once they are assigned they will be able to switch plans before February 1, 2020. All plans will go live on April 1, 2020.

Ms. Christina Arrowood and Donna Wilson, Medicaid Dept. Supervisors gave an update on the transformation of Medicaid and the 2 coverage groups: NC Medicaid Fee for Service and NC Medicaid Managed Care.

A copy of the handout is in the agenda packet.

HCA/Mission has not entered into an agreement with Medicaid as of yet. Discussion followed on the different plans.

### **Questions and Answers**

Chairman Walker asked for an update on the building. Ms. Sprouse noted the agency is needs more space. She asked if the conference room could be divided with folding doors and what possible renovations could be made. Commissioner Vaughn added privacy would be comprised with folding doors. Ms. Sprouse noted the children and family team meetings are currently held in the conference room. Commissioner Vaughn suggested an addition to the current building could be two stories.

Mr. Sprouse added the carpet has been glued to the cement and was stained. She would like for the hallways to be tiled so they could be cleaned.

Chairman Walker advised Ms. Sprouse to let Mr. Wooten know what the agency's needs are.

Ms. Sprouse also advised the agency was doing a fundraiser for New Hope. Staff had been asked to pay \$2 a day to wear jeans to work during the months of October and November. December the staff would go back to more professional dress code. The proceeds would go to pay for turkeys and hams, and purchase cups with the DSS logo filled with candy. Columbia Carolina employees serve the dinner at the handicap day party which is tentatively scheduled for December 6<sup>th</sup>.

### **Adjourn**

Commissioner Vaughn made a motion to adjourn at 12:16pm, second by Commissioner Greene. By a vote of 3-0 the motion passed.

Attest:

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David Walker  
Chairman

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Cheryl L. Mitchell  
Clerk to the Board