

MINUTES OF THE BUCHANAN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MEETING
MARCH 17, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Randall Deel at 6:00 P.M. Board members present were Mrs. Elswick, Mrs. Cole, Mrs. Hale, Mr. Farmer, Mr. Thornsby, Mr. Neo and Mr. Deel. Also in attendance was a member of the press, some staff, and some members of the public.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the meeting of February 10, 2009. The motion was made by Mr. Farmer and seconded by Mrs. Cole. In discussion of the motion, Mr. Neo requested that the minutes be amended to include the discussion regarding whether the Director would need to submit a written report after her trip to Richmond to participate in the Local Directors' Learning Experience. In that discussion Mrs. Holland stated "Mr. Neo, I am quite aware of what an itinerary and a written report is. However, I think that after all my years of experience and the fact that I have been here and I have shared with the board, that I find the need to do a written report superfluous." Mr. Neo also asked that the minutes be amended to include the statement that the Director made the determination to go to the Board of Supervisors to ask for additional funding. On motion by Mr. Neo and second by Mrs. Cole, the motion to amend the February minutes was approved by roll call vote by a vote of six aye and one nay.

Mr. Thornsby	Yes
Mrs. Hale	Yes
Mrs. Cole	Yes
Mrs. Elswick	No
Mr. Neo	Yes
Mr. Farmer	Yes
Mr. Deel	Yes

On restatement of the main motion to approve the minutes and with second by Mrs. Cole, the minutes of the February meeting were approved as amended by voice vote.

A motion by Mr. Neo was made to approve the agency bills. A second was given by Mrs. Cole. In discussion, Mr. Neo asked if an itemized list of the bills can be included when the minutes were sent out. Mrs. Holland pointed out that that would be very cumbersome. Mr. Farmer, at this time requested whether there was anything in the bills we could eliminate? Mrs. Holland replied that she thought with the additional appropriation from the Board of Supervisors last week, that we should be okay for the year. Mr. Neo asked if we could get a breakdown of how that appropriation will be used.

On roll call vote the motion to pay the bills was approved.

Mr. Thornsby	Yes
Mrs. Hale	Yes
Mrs. Cole	Yes
Mrs. Elswick	Yes

Mr. Neo	Yes
Mr. Farmer	Yes
Mr. Deel	Yes

The next item was approval of the agenda. Mr. Neo that the agenda be changed so that the Closed Session become item six and everything else would move down one number. Hearing no objection from the board, Mr. Deel agreed to the change in the order of the agenda.

Under Director's items, Mrs. Holland pointed out that March is Social Work Appreciation Month. Each worker will receive a certificate of appreciation signed by the State Board of Social Services Chairperson and each service unit will have a two hour lunch. Mrs. Holland also noted that the Virginia Mountaineer will be doing a progress edition again this year and that this year we hope to use that information in preparing an annual report for circulation with other agencies, etc. Mrs. Sherina Justus, Assistant Director has prepared the Progress Edition.

Mrs. Holland provided the Board with information from her trip to Richmond, including some from the Office of Emergency Management, the transformation of children's services within the department, as well as the network transformation. Mrs. Holland shared some materials on the children's transformation program with the Board and then asked Mr. Bob Coleman to share his understanding of the network transformation related to our server. He told the board that Northrop Grumman has a contract with the state and will be replacing our computers. These changeovers are supposed to be completed by June.

At this time, Mrs. Elswick asked a question related to children which led to a discussion of our Foster Care program in general. Mr. Neo asked about emancipation and other opportunities for adolescents. Mrs. Holland explained that we do provide Independent Living skills for children 14 and over.

The next item on the agenda was Closed Session. On motion by Mr. Neo and a second by Mrs. Cole the Board voted to go into closed session under Code of Virginia 2.2 -3711-A1 Personnel. By role call vote, all ayes were recorded

Mr. Thornsbury	Aye
Mrs. Hale	Aye
Mrs. Cole	Aye
Mrs. Elswick	Aye
Mr. Neo	Aye
Mr. Farmer	Aye
Mr. Deel	Aye

Previous to the second and the roll call vote, a reporter, Brandon Dye asked for more specific information about the closed session at which point Mrs. Hale read the section of the code.

A motion was made to come out of closed session by Mr. Neo with a second by Mrs. Cole. All Ayes were recorded in a roll call vote.

Mr. Thornsbury	Aye
Mrs. Hale	Aye
Mrs. Cole	Aye
Mrs. Elswick	Aye
Mr. Neo	Aye
Mr. Farmer	Aye
Mr. Deel	Aye

Certification of Closed Session

WHEREAS the Buchanan County Department of Social Services Administrative Board convened on December 09,08 pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote in accordance with the provision of the Freedom of Information, and WHEREAS 2.1,37-12 of Virginia requires certification by the Administrative Board that such closed session was conducted in conformity with Virginia Law;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Buchanan County Department of Social Services Administrative Board certifies that, to the best interest of each member's knowledge only matters identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered by the Buchanan County Department of Social Services Administrative Board, that is, only discussion of a personnel issue.

All Board members certified as to the above.

At this time, Mr. Farmer motioned that the Board accept the resignation of Donita Estep and stated how much her work was appreciated. The second was by Mr. Thornsbury. On roll call vote, all ayes were recorded.

Mr. Thornsbury	Aye
Mrs. Hale	Aye
Mrs. Cole	Aye
Mrs. Elswick	Aye
Mr. Neo	Aye
Mr. Farmer	Aye
Mr. Deel	Aye

Mrs Hale made the motion that the Director advertise for an eligibility worker. The second to the motion was by Mrs. Cole. All Ayes were recorded in a roll call vote.

Mr. Thornsbury	Aye
Mrs. Hale	Aye
Mrs. Cole	Aye
Mrs. Elswick	Aye

Mr. Neo	Aye
Mr. Farmer	Aye
Mr. Deel	Aye

There was no Old Business to discuss.

Under New Business

Mrs. Holland asked to present a proposal for a four day work week, which had been discussed by the board in the fall. Mr. Farmer motioned and Mrs. Cole seconded that the four day work week be approved. In discussion, Mr. Neo initially stated his opposition to the motion in concern that it would cause logistical problems. When asked by Mr. Farmer, Mrs. Holland noted that the supervisors, with Assistant Director Sherina Justus, worked out this proposal. She also noted that it works in other agencies like Wise, Dickenson, and Montgomery Counties. Mrs. Holland suggested a three month trial and the motion was amended by Mr. Neo to include a three month review. The second was by Mrs. Cole.

Roll call vote on the amendment resulted in the following:

Mr. Thornsbery	Abstain
Mrs. Hale	Aye
Mrs. Cole	Aye
Mrs. Elswick	No
Mr. Neo	Aye
Mr. Farmer	Aye
Mr. Deel	Aye.

On the amended motion, a roll call vote resulted in the following:

Mr. Thornsbery	Abstain
Mrs. Hale	Aye
Mrs. Cole	Aye
Mrs. Elswick	No
Mr. Neo	Aye
Mr. Farmer	Aye
Mr. Deel	Aye.

Mr. Bobby May had asked to be heard by the Board, but was not in attendance at this point of the meeting.

Mr. Neo made a motion for the next meeting to be held on April 14, 2009 at 6:00 P.M, with a second by Mrs. Cole. A voice vote resulted in passage of the motion.

Mrs. Hale motioned and Mrs. Cole seconded for adjournment. There being no objection, the meeting was adjourned.