

The Accomack County Board of Social Services met at its facility on Tuesday, November 18, 2025, at 9:30 A.M. Present in person were Ms. Reneta Major, Chairman; Mr. David Whalen, Vice-Chairman; Mr. Robert Martin; Mr. Jackie Phillips; Mrs. Minnie White; Dr. Ronnie Holden; and Mrs. Vicki Weakley, Secretary.

Ms. Major called the meeting to order and welcomed the Board Members. Mr. Phillips gave the Invocation.

Ms. Major proceeded to **Item 3 – Approve Minutes of October 14, 2025**. Mr. Holden made a motion, seconded by Mr. Martin, to approve the Minutes as written. Hearing no discussion, the motion carried.

Ms. Major continued to **Item 4 –Introduction of New Employee: Shyneqwa Warren**. Mrs. Weakley introduced Ms. Warren. She will be working in the Child Protective Services unit. Ms. Major welcomed her to her new position. The Board, in unison, expressed the same.

Ms. Major proceeded to **Item 5 - Fraud Report**. Ms. White inquired if there was a time frame in which the fraud cases must be closed. Mrs. Weakley stated that a fraud case can stay open forever. If a fraud case is completed, it cannot be purged until 75 years after the last transaction.

Ms. Major continued to **Item 6 - Director's Notes**. Mrs. Weakley stated that since the last meeting she attended a meeting with Cathy Pemberton, a former Director working with the State DSS regarding the SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) error rate. Ms. Pemberton interviewed this agency's benefit staff and sent a report back with her recommendations. She followed up with the agency to see how things were going and to inquire which of her recommendations had been implemented and which were not. It has been arranged for the senior worker of the benefit's unit to have two uninterrupted days each week, where she focuses only on reading cases. If she discovers issues, the unit will have staffing's to discuss what issues she has seen that would cause an error to occur. Mr. Martin inquired if SNAP would still be affected on December 1, 2025, even though the government shutdown is over. Mrs. Weakley stated that when the government opened back up, things were put into place to make sure there was no halt in SNAP benefits until toward the end of 2026. In the meantime, it is hoped that a better system will be put into place. In the sixty plus years of SNAP existing, this is the first time it has been negatively impacted. There was no precedence or preparation because no one saw this as a possibility. Mr. Martin inquired if the full amount was scheduled out. Mrs. Weakley stated that the amounts recipients were used to receiving did not come all at once. When the government reopened, there was a very complicated system that the State used. To calculate how much each family would receive initially. They announced that recipients would receive 65% of their allotment. When the amounts were issued, it was not truly 65% of what had been received previously, but 65% of an odd number that could not be understood. On the first release day, some received their full amounts, some received the 65%, and others received nothing. The Deputy Commissioner stated that every time they make a change it is not a simple process as they must reprogram the computers. Mr. Holden inquired if those who received nothing would be reimbursed retroactively. Mrs. Weakley stated that it is likely they will receive something, but because of the confusing state of the 65%, it is unclear how much they would receive. Mr. Martin asked if a lot of people showed up on the Monday after the first release. Mrs. Weakley stated that a number of angry phone calls were received, but nothing in person.), meeting with Carl Ayers, Deputy Commissioner, Benefits "Coffee Break, VLSSE three-day Director's meeting in Williamsburg, (All of the three prior listed events were focused on the SNAP shutdown, what was going to occur, and what localities would be reimbursed.), CPMT (Community Planning Community Planning and Management Team), two Family Services Supervisor interviews, and a reconciliation training (The training involves another computer system related to HR and reconciliation of the budget which will be going electronically.).

Ms. Major proceeded to **Item 7 – Purge CSA Records**. Mrs. Weakley stated that there are 1,235 CSA records that are ready to be purged according to state guidelines. Mr. Phillips made a motion, seconded by Mr. Whalen, that the cases mentioned be purged. Hearing no discussion, Ms. Major called a vote for all in favor to signify by Aye. The motion carried.

Ms. Major continued to **Item 9 – Financial Statement – Administrative Office Manager – Marco Hernandez**. Mr. Hernandez stated that the local budget was \$962,455.00. The Year-To-Date Local Expenditures were \$306,962.86, and the Total Local Balance-To-Date is \$655,492.14.

Closed Session – On motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Holden, the Board went into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing items stated only on the Agenda (Consent to Adopt #21224353 and Director’s Consult) as permitted by the Code of Virginia, Section 2.2.3712. The motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Whalen, the Board returned from Closed Session and confirmed that the only items discussed were the ones listed on the Board Members’ Agenda. Ms. Major called a vote (Mrs. White – yes; Dr. Holden – yes; Mr. Martin – yes; Mr. Whalen – yes; Mr. Phillips – yes; Ms. Major - yes). The motion carried.

On motion by Mr. Whalen, seconded by Mrs. White, that the Board accept the Consent to Adopt #21007169. Ms. Major called a vote for all in favor to signify by Aye. The motion carried.

On motion by Mrs. White, seconded by Mr. Martin, that the Board accept the Foster Care Case #21252268. Ms. Major called a vote for all in favor to signify by Aye. The motion carried.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 16, 2025, at 9:30 A.M. Mr. Phillips made a motion, seconded by Mr. Whalen, to adjourn the meeting at 10:32 A.M.

APPROVED: **Cassandra Reneta Major**

ATTEST: **Vicki Weakley**