

**Commonwealth of Virginia
State Board of Social Services
Virtual Meeting**

August 19, 2020

Attending: Ms. Lou Ali (Chair), Ms. MaryAnn Boyd (Vice Chair), Mr. William Boone (Secretary), Ms. Mona Malik, Dr. Danny Avula, Mr. Kent Willis, Mr. John Kines, and Mr. Clyde Santana.

Absent: Dr. Andrew Heck

Also in Attendance: Mr. Duke Storen (Commissioner) and Ms. Ellen Malenke (Assistant Attorney General).

Meeting called to order at 10:00am – Ms. Ali

Review of Agenda – Karin Clark, Regulatory Coordinator

Comments from the Commissioner – Duke Storen

Commissioner Storen thanked everyone for participating in the virtual board meeting. He extended sympathies to Clyde Santana on the passing of his wife Gail Davis. He spoke about the increase demand for services and staff workload due to COVID-19. He provided local, state, and federal updates. He extended his appreciation and admiration to all the colleagues at local department of social services, community action agencies, providers, contractors, and state staff.

Assisted Living Facilities - COVID-19 Response – Tara Ragland provided information on the assisted living facilities COVID -19 response.

COMMENT PERIOD

There were no comments from the public.

There were no comments from boards and directors of community action agencies.

Comment from the Virginia League of Social Service Executives – Andy Crawford, President
Mr. Crawford expressed his excitement and foreboding about the resolution requesting the new allocation formula. He's put a committee together with the CFO and the League's Administration Committee to work on the actions that will come out of the resolution. He reported staff are working hard to keep up with SNAP and Medicaid renewals. Staff are working with the state to ensure their electronic system DMIS is accessible to workers while teleworking. He expressed disappointment about the Governor's budget cuts and the impacts of the Families First and IT initiatives. He shared some agencies have seen their CPS number come back to normal.

Comment from the Virginia Community Action Partnership – Jim Schuyler, Director
Mr. Schuyler expressed his thanks to the department and local agencies. He talked about their collaborative relationship among the community action network during this challenging time. He

reported that with funding from the General Assembly last year, six community action agencies are participating in a multiyear whole family pilot project overseen by VDSS.

ACTION ITEMS

- 1. Approved June 2020 Meeting Minutes**
On Motion Duly Made, (Ms. Malik), second (Mr. Willis), motion approved with all in favor.
- 2. Administrative/Human Resources Manual for LDSS – Chapter 4, Update Annual Leave Policy**
On Motion Duly Made, (Mr. Santana), second (Mr. Kines), motion approved with all in favor.
- 3. 22VAC40-675, Personnel Policies for Local Departments of Social Services - Periodic Review Reports of Findings**
On Motion Duly Made, (Mr. Boone), second (Mr. Santana), motion approved with all in favor.
- 4. 22VAC40-201, Permanency Services-Prevention, Foster Care, Adoption and Independent Living – Proposed Regulation**
On Motion Duly Made, (Mr. Kines), second (Mr. Willis), motion approved with all in favor.
- 5. 22VAC40-73, Standards for Licensed Assisted Living Facilities – Exempt Regulation**
On Motion Duly Made, (Mr. Santana), second (Ms. Boyd), motion approved with all in favor.
- 6. 22VAC40-201, Permanency Services-Prevention, Foster Care, Adoption & Independent Living – Exempt Regulation**
On Motion Duly Made, (Mr. Boone), second (Ms. Malik), motion approved with all in favor.
- 7. 22VAC40-211, Foster & Adoptive Home Approval Standards – Exempt Regulation**
On Motion Duly Made, (Mr. Boone), second (Ms. Malik), motion approved with all in favor.
- 8. 22VAC40-705, Child Protective Services – Exempt Regulation**
On Motion Duly Made, (Mr. Santana), second (Ms. Boyd), motion approved with all in favor.
- 9. 22VAC40-665, Child Care Program – Exempt Regulation (Child Care Ratios)**
On Motion Duly Made, (Ms. Malik), second (Ms. Boyd), motion approved with all in favor.
- 10. 22VAC40-665, Child Care Program – Exempt Regulation (Background Checks)**
On Motion Duly Made, (Mr. Boone), second (Ms. Malik), motion approved with all in favor.
- 11. 22VAC40-35, Virginia Independence Program – Exempt Regulation**
On Motion Duly Made, (Mr. Kines), second (Ms. Boyd), motion approved with all in favor.
- 12. 22VAC40-295, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families – Exempt Regulation**
On Motion Duly Made, (Ms. Malik), second (Mr. Boone), motion approved with all in favor.
- 13. Resolution Requesting New Allocation Formula**
On Motion Duly Made, (Mr. Santana), second (Mr. Boone), motion approved with all in favor.
The resolution is embedded in the minutes.

Report from Nominating Committee & Election of New Officers – Kent Willis

Mr. Willis reported on the slate of officers chosen by the Nominating Committee. Included were Lou Ali for Board Chair; Clyde Santana for Vice Chair; and William Boone for Secretary. Members voted unanimously in favor of the new officers.

Board Member Requests for Future Information

Ms. Ali asked members for closing comments and suggestions for future meeting topics. Ms. Ali thanked Dr. Avula for his excellent work in the Commonwealth.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40a.



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Resolution to Request the Commissioner of the Virginia Department of Social Services to Develop a New Funding Allocation Formula August 19, 2020

Whereas, the formula for allocating state funding to local Departments of Social Services has not changed in over ten years;

Whereas, the rationale for the present formula is not well understood;

Whereas, the present match requirement, being the same for all localities, is not fair to those localities with the least resources;

Whereas, funding from the federal government to support local agencies is used in a way that does not benefit the whole Commonwealth;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Virginia Board of Social Services requests that the Virginia Social Services Commissioner develop a new funding allocation formula that can be applied on a regular basis (annually or every two years) to determine funding amounts available to each local agency and present that formula to the Board.

Be it further resolved that the Board suggests that this formula be based on the following or similar factors: the number of people below the poverty level in the service area, the number of families below the "ALICE" threshold, the number of people or families served the previous year in the program or service being funded, and/or the number of people in service area potentially eligible for the service being funded.

Be it further resolved that the Board requests that the Commissioner develop a variable match requirement that is based on each locality's ability to pay using factors such as the true value of all real property, adjusted gross income, and taxable retail sales and that a match requirement formula take into consideration the special needs of those localities in extreme financial stress.

And be it further resolved that the Board requests that the Commissioner consider ways to leverage state funding to use as match for federal funding so that federal funding can be used as a resource for the whole Commonwealth and not just for those localities with the extra resources available for the required federal match.

Lou Ali
Chair, State Board of Social Services
Commonwealth of Virginia