

St. Mary's County Department of Social Services
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
February 24, 2015

Attendance: The regular meeting of the Board of the St. Mary's County Department of Social Services was held on February 24, 2015. Board members in attendance were: Wanda Brown, Chairperson; Rose Frederick; Richard Buckler; Leisha Wood; and Ella Somerville. Also present Ella May Russell, Director. Absent: Susie Fowler, Cynthia Brown, Lynn Fitrell and Joan Gelrud.

Quorum: A quorum was established.

Minutes: Minutes for May 27, 2014, October 28, 2014

Education: No Education session.

Chair's Report:

Membership: Four members of the board are ineligible for re-appointment in June 2015. Suggestions from the board were to solicit from community partners, i.e., police office, health care community or clergy member from a local church. A letter will be drafted and sent to the County Commissioners.

Ms. Brown presented a letter to Mrs. Russell from President Obama, thanking her for her work in the community.

Director's Report:

Mrs. Russell gave an overview of the new administration. Local Directors met with the new Secretary, Sam Malhotra. Secretary Malhotra stated DHR is working on a 1980 and 1990 model of IT and changes will be made. The local Director's will meet again with the Secretary on March 4th.

The new administration instituted a voluntary separation program. The Governor would like 600 vacancies. These vacancies would become non-existent in the state. Employee's applications are due by March 13th, and if approved, employment would end on April 28th.

Point In Time Survey: The Point In Time Survey counted 339 homeless in St. Mary's County with 96 sheltered and 243 unsheltered; 123 in Calvert with 99 sheltered, 24 unsheltered; and 679 in Charles County with 356 sheltered and 332 unsheltered. Kerry Miciotto, Team Leader Lexington Park, is working with DHR (homeless services) on a grant to bring more money to the county to help with homeless.

Maryland is the first State to be awarded the IV-E Waiver grant. This grant will be used to identify services for children and families.

March is Social Work month --- a luncheon will be arranged for staff.

New Business: No new business.

Meeting adjourned at 6:25 PM.

The next meeting will be on March 24, 2015.