

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS
OF GUILFORD COUNTY
CLOSED SESSION**

Greensboro, North Carolina

February 9, 2017

The Board of County Commissioners met in Closed Session at 4:30 PM, during the County Commissioners Annual Retreat located at GTCC Cameron Campus Conference Center, 7908 Leabourne Road, Colfax NC 27235 Rooms 189-185 for the purposes of consulting with the County Attorney and to discuss a personnel matter.

PRESENT: Chairman Jeff Phillips, presiding; Vice Chairman Alan Branson; Commissioners Hank Henning, Ray Trapp, Kay Cashion, Carolyn Q. Coleman, Alan Perdue, J. Carlvena Foster, Justin Conrad.

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Marty Lawing, County Manager; Mark Payne, County Attorney; Clarence Grier, Deputy County Manager; Robin Keller, Deputy Clerk to Board; Deborah Alston Internal Audit Director; Heather Skeens Social Services Director; Myra Thompson Social Services Division Director

I. Call to Order

Phillips called the closed session to order at 4:30PM.

County Manager Marty Lawing introduced the item for board review. He reviewed that the Board had asked for an internal audit to be conducted into the Social Services Daycare Division regarding overspending.

Division Director Myra Thompson, provided an update as to the status of the overspending spending and the County's efforts to ensure that they were able to stay within budgeted funds. Thompson advised that State has reallocated additional funds to help offset the impact she removed additional efforts to reduce spending and noted that they have removed 136 children, to date, from the Daycare program.

Thompson stated that when reviewing the 38 work first cases, the majority of those cases were closed due to families who were not eligible for the program and were doing volunteer work or searching for jobs.

She advised that there were 14 children taken off of daycare where the parent was actively attending school. Thompson shared monthly cost to the county to place those clients back on daycare program.

Skeens stated that additional county funds would be required to add those identified clients back into the program.

Coleman questioned the total overage.

Thompson stated that it is roughly \$3 Million dollars in overspending. The work first block grant requires a County match. She stated that they believe they can reach the figure by the end of the fiscal year by continuing to remove clients off of the vouchers through normal attrition.

Skeens stated that the state will re-evaluate the figures in March to see if there could be any additional monies; however, she advised that there is no guarantee for reversion funds.

Skeens stated that there was a policy that went into effect two years ago regarding the County's spending co-efficient. If a county is spending less than 95% of their spending coefficient, then next year's allocation will mirror the previous year. The counties that are overspending due the policy changes, those spending over 105% receive a smaller allocation formula. With that the County did receive additional funds in January to help offset the overages.

Commissioner Coleman questioned the Manager's contingency fund as a resource option.

Lawing stated that there are funds available.

Perdue stated that if the 14 were added, if a position frees up, you would continue to hold those until the 14 are filled.

The board discussed identified client groups that the county could fund through contingency to re-enroll into the daycare program.

The board advised staff to make every effort to immediately re-enroll 21 identified children.

Skeens and Thompson left the meeting at 4:54pm

Conrad out at 4:54 pm

Lawing shared that the second part of the review was an investigation into the cause of the issues.

Deborah Alston Director of Internal Audit reviewed the allegations associated with the overspending.

Alston reviewed the findings of the internal audit report. Alston reviewed audit standards for some of the findings.

Lawing stated that he will review the investigation results and will make an administrative decision within the next week.

Coleman questioned the status of an impacted employee.

Payne reviewed options with the board.

The board discussed concerns based on the outcome of the review.

Coleman expressed concerns and noted that this would be the third instance of mis-information and mis-spending with the same employee.

Grier reviewed previous issues in the division.

Payne reviewed an outstanding legal matter regarding an inmate medical issue. Payne advised the board that the County was named as a defendant. Payne provided an update on the case and requested settlement authority.

General consensus of the board to settle the matter with the terms shared by the County Attorney.

The board discussed the Insurance Advisory Fund and asked for an update.

Payne updated the board on the elections matter filed by the City of Greensboro. Payne noted that the County is named as the only defendant, and may be asked to pay attorney's fees – even though the County has no role in the complaint.

There being no further business the closed session adjourned at 5:40PM

Robin Keller Clerk to Board

Jeffrey M. Phillips
Chairman