



Minutes for Muscogee County Georgia Department of Family and Children Services Board Meeting

Call to Order

- Muscogee County Georgia Division of Family and Children Services Board (GA DFCS) Meeting was held on May 16, 2019, at the Muscogee County GA DFCS office, 2100 Comer Avenue, Columbus, GA 31904.
- Meeting began 12:00 PM and was presided over by Jennifer Melvin.

Attendees

- Voting members in attendance included Charonda Huff, Barbara Story-Jones, Tolua Puailoa and Jennifer Melvin
- Georgia Division of Family and Children Services staff in attendance included LaCharn Dennard, South District Director, Shannon Fields, Region 8 Director, Jena Jones, Muscogee County Director, Cherry Jones, Safety Program Director, Deedre Ligon, OFI Administrator, Tanya Meeks, OFI Administrator, Corey Neal, Program Operation Manager, DeAngela Collins, Executive Secretary.

Approval of minutes from last meeting

- A motion was made for the March and April minutes to be approved. It was seconded and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Finance Report and Operations— Corey Neal

- The balance is appropriate at this point in the fiscal year.
- We are currently waiting on the approval of funds for the next fiscal year.
 - It is currently in the recommendation stage.

- Currently waiting on DHS Office of Procurement and Contracts (OPC) to finalize who won the bidding process for the new janitorial contract.
- Corey is working to finalize the COOP and will share a copy once it is finalized.

Personnel Report – Jena Jones

- There was one new hire in Child Welfare (CW), a promotion from Office of Family Independence (OFI).
- On target for three new case managers starting June 1st.
- Three open supervisors' positions.
 - Two are back filled, one position is new.
- Working hard to bring caseloads down.
- Summers make it easier.
- No vacancies will be overfilled.
- If someone leaves, can be backfilled.

Office of Family Independence (OFI) Report – Tanya Meeks and Deedre Ligon

- The district exceeded State and district goals.
- The Standard of Promptness (SOP) for Expedited Food Stamps has improved significantly since last month but still does not meet the Federal target percentage.

Permanency Report – DeAngela Collins

- The report was read by Deangela Collins.
- Group homes have impacted the community
- We have received several 911 calls.

Safety Report – Cherry Jones

- Cases will decrease tremendously in the summer.

Director's Report – Jena Jones

- CD Jones has selected two potential new members but would like to wait until all board members are present to discuss the names and qualifications.
- Semi-Annual training:
 - Thank Mrs. Huff for attending on behalf of the board members.
 - Was very eye opening and learned so much.
- Resume board meetings in August or September.
- A motion to take a break during the summer and resume board meetings in August or September. It was seconded and the vote was approved unanimously.

Adjournment

The meeting ended at 12:56 PM.

Shannon E. Fields

Secretary
Georgia Division of Family and
Children Services Muscogee County
Board

Jennifer O. B. Melvin

Board Chair
Georgia Division of Family and
Children Services Muscogee
County Board