

Workshop Session – March 21, 2017

The Graham County Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, March 21, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. in the Graham County Community building located at 196 Knight Street for their regular monthly workshop session. Commissioners present was: Keith Eller, Connie Orr, Jacob Nelms and Raymond Williams. Commissioner Dale Wiggins was absent.

1. Chairman Eller called the workshop session to order.
2. Chairman Eller asks Tajuana Ledwell, Tax Collector to speak. Manager Garland stated that Ms. Ledwell was not able to attend this meeting but will be added to a workshop session in the future.
3. Commissioner Orr stated that she had met with the EDC Board and they are restructuring and will meet with the finance officer to discuss the monies in their account that are available for use by the EDC Board.
4. Chairman Eller asks Butch Sanders, DSS Director to speak. Mr. Sanders thanked the board for their time and stated that his department has come a long way and he has seen progress and results through the hard work of his employees.
5. Mr. Sanders stated that the new 4-10 hour schedule has worked very well and APS and CPS participated on a trial basis for two weeks. The two week trial cut down on all overtime except on-call and the employees are more satisfied with their job by having a day off to take care of personal needs. Mr. Sanders stated that he will be implementing this new work schedule next pay period and keep in mind that not all staff will be working 4-10's so there will be staff from each department to see clients and answer phones daily and the staff will take off on different days so that everyone is not off at the same time.
6. Mr. Sanders stated that the CPS Unit has undergone two audits in the last four months and Foster Care Federal Funding and a State Program monitoring will audit every six months. Mr. Sanders stated that four cases were reviewed for the Federal Funding Foster Care and only one required a small correction due to court continuances. Ms. Shannon Carpenter is working a Program Development Plan that has been completed and approved and will be reviewed again in May 2017 and every six months after that. All one hundred agencies in NC have a PDP to improve their CPS department to better serve the community. CPS is fully staffed and we are working on getting everyone trained in their assigned roles. CPS is preparing for another federal IV-E Foster Care audit in July 2017. All counties are participating for a state wide review that affects the whole state program and Mr. Sanders stated that he was proud of our CPS staff and stated they all work well together. Mr. Sanders stated that his staff is very committed in helping children and families in the community. Mr. Sanders stated that APS is fully staffed and preparing for a major audit in April 2017.
7. Mr. Sanders stated that Food Stamps has passed their quality control audit and Medicaid has been audited many times and has very little to correct. Mr. Sanders stated that Graham County DSS Income Maintenance department's evaluation and performance puts us at a Level I County, the highest performance level possible.

8. Mr. Sanders stated that NEMT is now billing in NC Tracks and working closely with Graham County Transit and state workers have commented on how well we work together. CIP/LIEAP Energy is going into NC Fast in July 2017.
9. Mr. Sanders stated that Child Support Enforcement Officer Pam Jenkins is carrying 251 open cases and her state representative was here last month and all the cases that were pulled were good. Mr. Sanders stated that Pam has met all or most of her goals set by the state and we hope to have them all met by June 2017.
10. Mr. Sanders stated that the front desk has full time and part time staff currently but we have budgeted for the coming year to have two full time staff for the front desk. Mr. Sanders stated that during the down time the worker will help FNS and Medicaid file and pull case files for the workers, take/process energy applications, file for Child Support and file for CPS and help our full time worker purge files that are ready to be shredded.
11. The board thanked Mr. Sanders for a job well done.
12. Mr. Sanders stated that he was looking forward to moving into the new P&J Facility and thanks the board for the opportunity to move into a larger building.

Keith Eller, Chairman, Graham County Commissioner

Connie Orr, Vice-Chairman, Graham County Commissioner

Jacob Nelms, Member, Graham County Commissioner

Dale E. Wiggins, Member, Graham County Commissioner

Raymond Williams, Member, Graham County Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kim Crisp, Clerk to the Board