

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY BOARD OF SOCIAL SERVICES
SEPTEMBER 11, 2025 BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Sandra Coleman opened the meeting by reading a statement of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act of 1975.

Ms. Coleman asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

Roll Call was taken. The following Board Members were in attendance: Barbara Blackwell, Sandra Coleman, Suchitra Kamath, Eric Marozine, Janelle Rodriguez, Commissioner Azcona-Barber, and Commissioner Koppel.

A motion was made by Ms. Blackwell, seconded by Commissioner Koppel, approving the Minutes of the previous meeting as distributed. Mr. Marozine and Commissioner Azcona-Barber abstained. The motion was adopted.

A motion was made by Mr. Marozine, and seconded by Ms. Blackwell, ratifying transactions accomplished by direction and authority of the Director from August 15, 2025 to September 11, 2025. The motion was unanimously adopted.

A motion was made by Mr. Marozine, and seconded by Ms. Blackwell, approving the Treasurer's Financial Report. The motion was unanimously adopted.

A motion was made by Mr. Marozine, and seconded by Ms. Blackwell, authorizing the requisitioning of funds. The motion was unanimously adopted.

A motion was made by Mr. Marozine, and seconded by Ms. Blackwell, approving the payment of bills as listed. The motion was unanimously adopted.

OLD BUSINESS

Staff reports on new applications in August 2025 showed 256 TANF applications; 466 GA applications, and 1,131 applications for SNAP. SNAP recertifications totaled 1,747 in August. In August, our receptionists assisted 2,876 individuals, with 354 of them visiting the Perth Amboy office. During the month, our call center answered 10,176 calls.

A copy of the Medicaid Redetermination Report for the month of August 2025 was submitted to the Board for review. The report shows a total caseload of 41,508 individuals. Approximately 25 percent of our redeterminations are overdue.

NEW BUSINESS

Public Input

The following members of the public offered comments:

Migdalia Santiago, President of CWA, Local 1032

Miles Diener-Bennett, Medicaid supervisor representing CWA, Local 1032

A motion was made by Mr. Marozine, and seconded by Ms. Blackwell, to discuss personnel matters, the Workers' Compensation Report, and attorney-client privileged communications in closed session.

Ms. Coleman made a motion to go into Closed Session. A roll call vote was taken. The motion was unanimously approved.

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

RESOLUTIONS

#25-072 APPROVAL OF PAYROLLS FROM SEPTEMBER 16, 2025 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2025 AND FROM OCTOBER 1, 2025 TO OCTOBER 15, 2025

#25-073 CONFIRM OVERTIME PAYROLL FROM AUGUST 1, 2025 TO AUGUST 31, 2025

#25-074 APPROVAL TO AUTHORIZE DIRECTOR TO OBTAIN QUALIFICATIONS FOR VARIOUS PROFESSIONAL SERVICES REQUIRED BY THE BOARD IN 2026

#25-075 APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL REPORT
REQUESTS FOR LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Rivera-Drake, Roxann	Clerk 2	08/18/25 – 09/01/25
Martinez, Denisse	Human Services Specialist 2, Bilingual, S/E	09/24/25 – 12/03/25

NEW HIRES

Channaoui, Muhammad M.	Human Services Aide, Temporary	\$49,300	08/21/25
Rios, Diolkiris	Human Services Aide, Bilingual, S/E	\$49,300	10/06/25

PERMANENT APPOINTMENTS

Doolan, James W.	Human Services Specialist 2	\$84,300	08/11/25
Kershaw, Amanda A.	Human Services Specialist 1	\$60,969	09/08/25

RETIREMENTS

Baaklini, Anna	Senior Building Services Worker	11/01/25
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Ms. Coleman asked the Board members if they had questions on any Resolution. There were none.

A motion was made by Ms. Blackwell, seconded by Mr. Marozine, to adopt the Consent Agenda, consisting of Resolutions #25-072 through #25-075. The motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following member of the public offered comments:
Migdalia Santiago, President of CWA, Local 1032

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Blackwell, seconded by Mr. Marozine. The motion was unanimously adopted.

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dara Harkay, Director