

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, June 23, 2020

Meeting via Zoom & In-Person

Committee Members Present

Alex Stepanski, Chairman, Town of Stockbridge (In-Person)
Loren Corbin, Town of Brookfield (Via Zoom)
Joe Magliocca, City of Oneida (Via Zoom)
Eve Ann Shwartz, Town of Hamilton (Via Zoom)
James Goldstein, Vice-Chairman, Town of Lebanon (Via Zoom)

Others Present

Mark Scimone, County Administrator
Michael Fitzgerald, Commissioner, Social Services
Melissa Maine, Deputy Commissioner for Family Services
Tina Louis, Director, Madison County Youth Bureau
Eric Faisst, Director, Public Health Services
Ron Raymer, Director, Veterans Agency
Tina Wayland Smith, County Attorney
Teisha Cook, Director, Mental Health Services
Kathryn Scheirer, Mental Health Clinic Treatment Program Coordinator
Cindy Edick, County Treasurer
Deanna Matt, Confidential Secretary, Public Health Services

Call Meeting to Order

Chairman Alex Stepanski called the meeting to order at 10:33 a.m., indicating that there was a quorum for the Health and Human Services Committee.

Approve Minutes

The Health and Human Services Committee reviewed the meeting minutes for May 19, 2020. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Supervisor Jim Goldstein seconded by Supervisor Joe Magliocca and carried unanimously.

Veterans Agency

Director Ron Raymer provided an update on the Veteran's Service Agency. All MC Veterans Service Agency staff returned to the office as of June 8th, and are following appropriate COVID-19 safety guidelines. A new Veterans Counselor was hired, and will tentatively start on July 13th.

Director Raymer presented the following resolution to the Committee:

Authorizing the Modification of the 2020 Adopted County Budget

A motion was made by Supervisor Goldstein to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Corbin and carried unanimously.

Social Services

Commissioner Fitzgerald provided updates from the Department of Social Services including announcing the retirement of Melissa Maine, Deputy Commissioner for Family Services, after 33 years at the County. Jessica Prieto will take over upon Deputy Commissioner Maine's retirement. Commissioner's Report reviewed and pointed out the most changes are resulting from COVID-19.

Director Tina Louis reported on the Youth Bureau, stating that the resolutions presented this month were from previous months, but now include changes in the final "Whereas" statements. Discussion occurred regarding the Youth Bureau's inclusion as Specific Bequest Beneficiary in the Estate of Jeannine J. Fariel.

Director Louis presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with BRiDGES, Madison County Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Inc., and to Modify the 2020 Adopted County Budget

A motion was made by Supervisor Goldstein to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Corbin and carried unanimously.

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with Chittenango Landing Canal Boat Museum and to Modify the 2020 Adopted County Budget

A motion was made by Supervisor Goldstein to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Corbin and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Fitzgerald presented the following resolution to the Committee:

Authorizing the Chairman to Amend an Agreement with Northwoods Consulting Partners, Inc.

A motion was made by Supervisor Goldstein to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Shwartz and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Fitzgerald states that this resolution is to amend the existing agreement to include mobile capability during field visits.

Mental Health

Director Teisha Cook provided an update of Mental Health, stating that since April video conferencing has completed over 600 sessions. Appointment only face-to-face meetings have been occurring and going well. Director Cook also gave an update on the 2 new NPs – things going very well and the wait list has been cleared and showing a shorter wait.

Director Cook presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

Authorizing the Modification of the 2020 Adopted County Budget

A motion was made by Supervisor Shwartz to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Magliocca and carried unanimously.

Authorizing the Chairman to Renew an Agreement with Family Support in Central New York, Inc.

A motion was made by Supervisor Goldstein to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Corbin and carried unanimously.

Director Cook noted that this is 100% funded by State Aid, and is an extension for one year.

Authorizing the Chairman to Renew an Agreement with Madison-Cortland Arc, INC.

A motion was made by Supervisor Goldstein to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Shwartz and carried unanimously.

Director Cook commented that services have been provided January-June 30, and this will pay for that. The second half of the year is on-hold and will be evaluated.

Public Health

Director Eric Faisst provided an update of the County's COVID-19 status to date. No new positive cases today, 20 active cases, 48 in quarantine – the average is about 2 new cases each day, with around 140 tests conducted each day. These numbers are sustaining our metrics for continuing with phased reopening. Discussion occurred regarding Fastrac employee case, and the corresponding press release. The three county colleges are gearing up for Fall start; limited home visits in EI will start the week of 7/6; Beginning work on a wastewater testing pilot program with Syracuse University for early detection of COVID-19 in wastewater systems.

Director Faisst presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)

A motion was made by Supervisor Goldstein to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Corbin and carried unanimously.

Authorizing the Chairman to Renew Enter into an Agreement with Oneida Healthcare Center

A motion was made by Supervisor Goldstein to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Magliocca and carried unanimously.

Authorizing the Modification of the 2020 Adopted County Budget

A motion was made by Supervisor Shwartz to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Stepanski and carried unanimously.

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement to Conduct Aerial Spraying

A motion was made by Supervisor Shwartz to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Corbin and carried unanimously.

Other Business

County Administrator Mark Scimone presented the following resolution to the Committee:

Supporting A.6215 / S.5459 to Amend the Vehicle and Traffic Law in Relation to Accessible Parking Space Requirements for Persons with Disabilities and Enforcement of Illegal Parking

A motion was made by Supervisor Goldstein to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Shwartz and carried unanimously.

Administrator Scimone noted minor corrections to be made in the body of the resolution, to be made before presentation to the Board of Supervisors.

Preferred Agenda

The Committee unanimously agreed to include all resolutions in their Preferred Agenda, upon motion by Supervisor Goldstein and seconded by Supervisor Stepanski.

Executive Session

Motion to move into Executive Session for advice of counsel was made by Supervisor Alex Stepanski at 11:46am, seconded by Supervisor Corbin and carried unanimously.

Motion to end Executive Session was made by Supervisor Goldstein at 12:00pm, seconded by Supervisor Shwartz and carried unanimously.

Motion to Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Supervisor Goldstein to adjourn the meeting at 12:02pm, seconded by Supervisor Shwartz and carried unanimously.

Next meeting: July 28, 2020 at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Deanna Matt for Chairman Alexander R. Stepanski