

## SOCIAL & MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE

Monday, October 28, 2013, 3:30 PM  
Supervisors Large Conference Room  
Minutes

Present: Chairman Salka  
Supervisor Carinci  
Supervisor Shwartz  
Supervisor Stepanski  
Absent: Supervisor Goldstein

Supervisor Salka called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm with a note that next month we will try using the computer and projector for the agenda and documents to see if that will work better for seeing some of the smaller print on reports.

### **I. Veterans Agency, Director Donald Smith:**

Director Smith presented the Monthly Activity Report for the Veterans Agency stating that the Agency continues to receive successful appeal decisions regarding Agent Orange and PTSD related disabilities.

Indigent veteran burials remain at an average level with five in October and one adjustment for a previous burial. A discussion regarding the difficulties in finding able bodied veterans for local color guard and pallbearers prompted questions about speaking to local chapters of the American Legion. Director Smith indicated that if we could get 1 or 2 from each chapter that should do. He will be keeping a list in his office and able bodied veterans are encouraged to contact him directly.

Director Smith indicated that efforts were made regarding two veterans who were either homeless or close to homeless by helping them find housing and getting assistance.

The WAVEM Veterans Day Service will be held on Monday, November 11 at 11:00 on the War Veterans Memorial Plaza in Wampsville. Judge Donald Cerio will be the guest speaker, Victor Ramirez will be singing the National Anthem and Holly Page will sign God Bless America. A reception will follow at Madison Bistro.

Lastly, Director Smith was invited to become a member of Representative Hanna's Advisory Committee for the term of November 1, 2013 through November 1, 2014, which he has accepted.

### **II. Social Services, Commissioner Michael Fitzgerald**

Commissioner Fitzgerald presented the Social Services Expenditures Report to the committee indicating that they are on track coming into the last quarter with most lines where they expected.

They are still seeing a crush in Day Care as the funding has not increased over the past few years, however the need and the cost of day care has risen. They currently have a waiting list and are considering closing current open cases.

The funding is at \$800,000 for 2014 which reflects approximately \$300,000 less than 2013 partly because of some rollover from 2012. This will create a loss of benefits of approximately 20 children per month.

Supervisor Shwartz asked if there were any plans to try to increase funding or if there were hard statistics that could be used to request additional funding from state or federal government and Commissioner Fitzgerald indicated he would research and provide additional information next month.

Federal Shutdown/Fiscal Cliff Implications the recent shut down which only lasted two weeks didn't cause issues for them, however with the January deadline looming, a longer shutdown could indeed affect administrative jobs which would result in layoffs. This would likely only happen if the Government shutdown were to last past two months.

As of November 1, 2013 families who are on Food Stamps/SNAP Benefits will see a reduction of \$10 per person in the household. A notification has been sent to all recipients; however they do expect to receive telephone calls asking why benefits have decreased.

Commissioner Fitzgerald advised of the Elimination of Excellus as a Managed Care Plan through Medicaid as of April 1, 2014. They will not be enrolling anyone new after February 1, 2014. The only Managed Care Plans remaining will be Fidelis or United which has a significantly lower amount of covered physicians. Excellus indicated that they are only pulling out of upstate New York as they are losing money.

The ACA New York State Website is up and running and has approximately 37,000 people enrolled at this time. There are currently two health care navigators in Madison County who are looking for referrals.

A Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Social Services and the Information Technology Department for both 2013 and 2014 was presented to the committee and accepted with one minor word change. A signed revision will be forwarded to the County Administrator shortly.

Resolution:

A motion was made by Supervisor Carinci to approve the BRiDGES – Alcohol/Substance Abuse Assessment Services resolution and seconded by Supervisor Shwartz. Carried

#### **IV. Mental Health, Director Cook and Deputy Director Sayles**

Deputy Director Sayles presented the Mental Health Fiscal Reports and program updates advising that BOCES did not have a contract with them for the 2013-2014 school year and that the clinicians will begin the 45 minute appointment schedule as previously discussed on November 1, 2013.

Resolutions:

- 1) Resolution Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with Central New York Services, Inc.

Motion was made by Supervisor Stepanski to approve this resolution and seconded by Supervisor Carinci. Carried

- 2) Resolution Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with Coordinated Care Services, Inc.

Motion was made by Supervisor Shwartz to approve this resolution and seconded by Supervisor Stepanski. Carried

3) Resolution Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with RxScribe, Inc.

Motion was made by Supervisor Carinci to approve this resolution and seconded by Supervisor Stepanski. Carried

4) Resolution Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement for Psychiatric Services

Motion was made by Supervisor Stepanski to approve this resolution and seconded by Supervisor Shwartz. Carried

5) Resolution Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with Rubicon Consulting

Motion was made by Supervisor Shwartz to approve this resolution and seconded by Supervisor Stepanski. Carried

6) (2) Separate Resolutions Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with Professional Practice Group

Motion was made by Supervisor Carinci to approve both of these resolutions and seconded by Supervisor Stepanski. Carried

7) Budget Modification Resolution COPS Recovery Payment 2006 - 2008

Motion was made by Supervisor Shwartz to approve this resolution and seconded by Supervisor Carinci. Carried

### **Other committee Business**

A motion was made to approve the September 23, 2013 Minutes with a change in wording to the Mental Health portion “*presented the Mental Health Fiscal Reports and program updates advising that BOCES did not have a contract with them for the 2013-2014 school year*” by Supervisor Carinci and seconded by Supervisor Stepanski.

### **Executive Session:**

A motion was made to enter into executive session citing Section 105 of the Open Meetings Law for “matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation” by Supervisor Carinci and seconded by Supervisor Stepanski. Carried.

A motion was made to exit executive session by Supervisor Shwartz and seconded by Supervisor Stepanski. Carried.

Next Meeting Date: November 25, 2013 at 3:30pm

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 4:55pm by Supervisor Carinci and Seconded by Supervisor Shwartz.