

## **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Monday, March 23, 2015

Supervisors Large Conference Room

### **Committee Members Present**

Alex Stepanski, Chairman, Town of Stockbridge  
Lewis Carinci, Vice Chairman, City of Oneida  
James Goldstein, Town of Lebanon (10:33am)  
Joseph John Pinard, Town of Lenox  
Paul Walrod, Town of Georgetown

### **Others Present**

Mark Scimone, County Administrator  
Joanne Eddy, Director, Youth Bureau  
Donald Smith, Director, Veterans Agency  
Michael Fitzgerald, Commissioner, Social Services  
Teisha Cook, Director, Mental Health  
Karolyn Sayles, Deputy Director of Administrative Services, Mental Health  
Eric Faisst, Director, Public Health  
Christine Coe, Executive Assistant to the County Administrator

### **Call Meeting to Order**

Chairman Alex Stepanski called the meeting to order at 10:30 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 February 23, 2015 meeting minutes. A motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Carinci, seconded by Pinard and carried unanimously.

### **Youth Bureau**

Joanne Eddy presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

#### **Entering into an Agreement with Community Action Program and Modifying the 2015 Adopted County Budget**

A motion was made by Pinard to approve the resolution, seconded by Carinci and carried unanimously.

#### **Entering into Agreements for Youth Programming and Modifying the 2015 Adopted County Budget**

A motion was made by Pinard to approve the resolution, seconded by Walrod and carried unanimously.

### **Veterans Agency**

Donald Smith provided a report of the Veterans' Service Agency's activities and statistics for February 2014. The VA's claims backlog is slowly improving and fully developed claims are going much quicker; however, the centralized scanning process is adding 30-60 days at the onset of wait times for newer claims.

Boys State Post packages were distributed and Posts will be conducting interviews to select 24 delegates. Don has been asked to be a counselor for Boys State again this year.

At the VA/CVSOA meeting on March 19<sup>th</sup>, the VA announced they will no longer look at assets on the mean test for VA healthcare, only income. Also, on March 24<sup>th</sup>, new forms and

procedures go into effect for notifying Intent to File a Claim, filing claims for specific disabilities, and initiating appeals.

Don Smith presented the following draft resolution to the Committee:

**Designating Madison County, New York as a Purple Heart County**

Discussion: Don stated that the cost to post signs that proclaim Madison County as a Purple Heart County (similar to the Buy Madison signs) would cost approximately \$3,500 - \$4,000. The expense to the County could be less if the signs are procured through the State prison system. Don will finalize the draft resolution for the May 14<sup>th</sup> Board of Supervisors meeting. A motion was made by Goldstein to approve the resolution, seconded by Carinci and carried unanimously.

**Social Services**

Commissioner Fitzgerald provided the expenditures and caseload report for February 2015. Mike stated that expenditures are good overall with the foster care line being slightly over budget, and caseloads are average.

Stating April 1<sup>st</sup>, Medicaid shares are going up \$3,000 per week. There are approximately 9,000 individuals receiving Medicaid in Madison County.

Mike stated that he has completed the annual performance appraisals for management/confidential staff in his department, and they are available for review. Draft copies of Social Service's 2014 Annual Report were provided to the Committee. The final report will be posted on the department's website.

Mike Fitzgerald presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

**Authorizing the Chairman to renew an agreement with Dr. Scott Petosa of K.A.G. Consulting**

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

**Authorizing the Chairman to renew an agreement with Community Action Program, Inc.**

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

**Authorizing the Chairman to enter an agreement with Dr. Jennifer C. Genovese**

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

**Authorizing the Chairman to enter an agreement with Family Counseling Services in collaboration with Cortland County upon NYS OCFS Grant funding approval**

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

**Authorizing the modification of the 2015 adopted County budget**

A motion was made by Pinard to approve the resolution, seconded by Walrod and carried unanimously.

**Authorizing attendance at an out-of-State conference**

A motion was made by Walrod to approve the resolution, seconded by Pinard and carried unanimously.

## **Mental Health**

Teisha and Karolyn presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

**Authorizing the Chairman to terminate the agreement with Lifespan N.P. Psychiatric Services, P.C.**

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

**Authorizing the Chairman to enter an agreement with American Recovery Systems-ARS, Inc.**

A motion was made by Pinard to approve the resolution, seconded by Carinci and carried unanimously.

**Authorizing the Chairman to proclaim April as Alcohol Awareness Month.**

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

**Authorizing the Chairman to execute contract modifications and modifying the adopted County budget**

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

Teisha informed the Committee that a resolution to enter an agreement with St. Joseph's Hospital for their tele-psychiatry services will be presented at the April Committee meeting. St. Joseph's Hospital is building capacity and is willing to grow with us for our lower need patients. There will be no administrative costs and the technology and nurse will be located within Mental Health.

Mental Health's 2014 financial information should be available next month.

## **Public Health**

Eric Faisst presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

**Authorizing the Chairman to change effective date of Resolution 31-15**

A motion was made by Carinci to approve the resolution, seconded by Walrod and carried unanimously.

**Authorizing the Chairman to enter into agreements with Veterinarians for Rabies Clinic**  
Discussion: The Committee discussed the growing feral cat issue and the cost to spay/neuter, vaccinate and euthanize.

A motion was made by Walrod to approve the resolution, seconded by Pinard and carried unanimously.

**Authorizing the Chairman to enter into agreement with CNY Epidemiological Alliance**

A motion was made by Pinard to approve the resolution, seconded by Carinci and carried unanimously.

**Abolishing a Public Health Technician and creating a Public Health Sanitarian**

A motion was made by Carinci to approve the resolution, seconded by Pinard and carried unanimously.

**Public Health Department Charges**

A motion was made by Walrod to approve the resolution, seconded by Carinci and carried unanimously.

**Budget modification**

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

Discussion: Eric stated that the baseline study is the most critical component of the gas compressions station health study. While Public Health has \$26,690 in their budget to start purchasing the environmental monitoring equipment for the project, approximately \$60,000 more is needed to complete the baseline study before construction begins in September 2015. A grant is due on Friday that could replace the County's share. Eric will be looking for additional grants to help fund the annual testing thereafter. Representatives from the gas company are on Eric's project team to ensure we are kept informed of events scheduling (construction, blowdowns, etc.) so that we can coordinate monitoring. The project team will also keep Supervisors Dan Degear and Pete Walrod informed throughout the process.

A motion to amend the resolution to include funds from the County's contingency fund to cover the remaining baseline study costs was made by Pinard, seconded by Goldstein and carried unanimously.

Eric will work with the County Treasurer to modify the resolution so that it can go before the Finance, Ways and Means Committee and the Board of Supervisors.

Eric stated that the City of Oneida will be holding a public hearing tonight on fluoridating the city water supply. Board of Health member Dr. Samuel Barr will speak as a proponent of fluoridation and Dr. Paul Connett will share his with opposing viewpoints.

**Motion to Adjourn**

There being no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Walrod at 11:53 a.m., seconded by Carinci and carried.

**Next meeting:** April 27, 2015 at 10:30 p.m. in the Supervisors' large conference room.

*Respectfully submitted by Christine J. Coe for Chairman Alexander R. Stepanski.*