

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Monday, September 28, 2015  
Supervisors Large Conference Room

**Committee Members Present**

Alexander Stepanski, Chairman, Town of Stockbridge  
Lewis Carinci, Vice Chairman, City of Oneida  
James Goldstein, Town of Lebanon  
Paul Walrod, Town of Georgetown

**Committee Members Absent**

Joseph John Pinard, Town of Lenox

**Others Present**

Mark Scimone, County Administrator  
Michael Fitzgerald, Commissioner, Social Services  
Teisha Cook, Director, Mental Health (via conference call)  
Eric Faisst, Director, Public Health  
William Buchan, Esq., Buchan & Sutter, P.C.  
Andy Ali, Chairman, Community Services Board  
Rick Kinsella, Member, Community Services Board  
Marianne Simberg, Director, Consumer Services of Madison County Board  
Tina Campos, Interim Director, Consumer Services of Madison County  
Mary vanLieshout, Clinical Director of PROS Clinic, Consumer Services of Madison County  
Christine Coe, Executive Assistant to the County Administrator

**Call Meeting to Order**

Chairman Alex Stepanski called the meeting to order at 10:36 a.m. indicating that there was a quorum for the Health and Human Services Committee.

**Social Services**

Commissioner Michael Fitzgerald presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

**Authorizing the Chairman to renew and agreement with Liberty Resources, Inc.**

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

**Authorizing the Chairman to renew and agreement with Stoneleigh Housing, Inc.**

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

**Authorizing the Chairman to renew and agreement with Madison County Office for the Aging**

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

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

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

**Authorizing the Chairman to renew and agreement with BRiDGES**

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

**Authorizing the Chairman to renew and agreement with Elmcrest Children's Center**

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

**Fixing foster boarding home rates**

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

Fitzgerald provided the expenditures and caseload report for August 2015. With total expenditures at 62%, they are well within their budgeted expense for the year and caseloads are where they should be.

Fitzgerald reported that NYSAC's resolution that calls on the State to gradually restore the 50/50 state/county cost sharing for the Safety Net program over a five year period has passed.

Governor Cuomo will bring his proposal to raise the age of criminal responsibility in New York back to the state legislature.

A federal waiver is expiring that currently allows adults who are capable of working, but do not, to receive SNAP benefits for an unlimited amount of time. To continue receiving food assistance, able-bodied adults have to either find employment or enroll in a community service program. Otherwise, they will only receive benefits for three months out of a 36-month period. The goal is to get able bodied people working; however, it will be a tracking and administrative burden for the department.

Fitzgerald received a pre-notice from the State that if there is a federal government shutdown, SNAP benefits would no longer be funded at some point in October. Fitzgerald stated that \$1.1 million in SNAP benefits per month are provided in Madison County and his department would still be required to take applications for assistance.

**Mental Health**

Director Teisha Cook presented the following resolutions to the Committee via conference call:

**Authorizing the Chairman to execute contract modification and modifying the 2015 adopted County budget (Liberty Resources, Inc.)**

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

**Authorizing the Chairman to execute contract modification and modifying the 2015 adopted County budget (Consumer Services of Madison County, Inc.)**

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

A resolution and draft letter to terminate the contract with Consumer Services of Madison County, Inc. was provided to the committee. Madison County entered into a contract with Consumer Services to provide OMH State Aid for agency programming.

Supervisor Goldstein questioned who will be picking up the services if the contract is terminated. Cook does not know what Consumer Service's intent is and per OMH they can still provide services; however, they would not receive State Aid. Community Services Board Chairman Andy Ali stated that he and the Mental Health Department started reaching out to Consumer Services in June 2015 with concerns regarding their financials and did not receive communication in return.

Attorney Bill Buchan stated that it would be appropriate to go into executive session to receive advice of counsel on the legal issues and litigation risks regarding the term contract with Consumer Services.

### **Executive Session**

A motion was made by Supervisor Walrod to enter into executive session to consult with counsel regarding a term contract with Consumer Services of Madison County, Inc. and potential legal issues and litigation risks, Supervisor Carinci seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Walrod to exit executive session; Supervisor Carinci seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

### **Resolution authorizing the Chairman to terminate contract with Consumer Services of Madison County, Inc.**

#### **Discussion:**

Rick Kinsella, representing the Community Services Board (CSB), knows that the agency is remiss in providing the necessary financial reports but wants to make sure a plan is in place to provide services if the committee goes forward with this resolution. The PROS (Personalized Recovery Oriented Services) Clinic helps people with severe mental health issues transition from disability to employment status. The 66 people currently participating in this service would be jeopardized.

Marianne Simberg, Director on the Consumer Services Board of Directors, stated that it has been a difficult year. Their executive director left and an interim director was hired. They are trying to move ahead. Consumer Services has been providing services for many years and it is irresponsible to terminate their contract.

Mary vanLieshout, Clinical Director of PROS, provided the committee with a copy of the clinics four year operating certificate that was issued on July 6, 2015 and shared information on the benefits of the clinic and the impact that closing it would have on the clients and surrounding community. She asked for the opportunity to move forward.

Tina Campos stated that when she took over as Interim Director on August 8, 2015, she addressed the financial issues and got the Consolidated Fiscal Report signed and submitted on August 11, 2015.

Buchan stated that Consumer Services Consolidated Fiscal Report (CFR) and certified financial statements for the calendar year 2014 was due April 15, 2015. The CFR dated August 11, 2015 that Consumer Services ultimately provided to the County included an independent accountant's audit report that failed to account for the funds provided by the County to Consumer Services. Instead the independent auditor affirmed a "Disclaimer of Opinion" which states: *Detailed accounts receivable records have not been maintained and certain detailed third party remittance and expense records and supporting data were not available for our audit. Therefore, we were not able to obtain appropriate audit evidence about the amounts at which accounts receivable, revenue and operating expenses are recorded in the statements as of December 31, 2014 and for the year then ended.* Buchan stated that the CFR was not provided with the required financial records; therefore, it is not an audited financial statement and will not be accepted by the State.

Tina Campos stated that an intern inadvertently shredded a box of Medicaid records. A request has been submitted for replacement records. She requested time to get the information corrected and move forward.

Buchan reiterated that the auditor states that there is not appropriate evidence to show what happened to the money or to account for their activities, which is a breach of contract.

Kinsella stated that they are getting the records and should have a revised audit report in a couple weeks.

Stepanski stated that the resolution needs to move forward to the full Board. If a new audit comes in before then, it will be reviewed for consideration. Until then, we need to protect the County. William Buchan will finalize the resolution and letter.

A motion was made by Stepanski to approve the resolution to terminate the contract with Consumer Services of Madison County, Inc., seconded by Carinci and carried unanimously.

### **Public Health**

Director Eric Faisst presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

**Authorizing the Chairman to enter an agreement with Morrisville State**

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

**Modifying contract with Birnie Bus for Pre-school Children Transportation**

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

**Modifying contract with Lanpher Transport for Early Intervention Children Transportation**

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

**Authorizing the modification of the 2015 adopted County budget (Tobacco Enforcement)**

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

**Authorizing the modification of the 2015 adopted County budget (CSHCN Grant)**

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

**Authorizing the modification of the 2015 adopted County budget (Immunization Grant)**

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

**Authorizing the modification of the 2015 adopted County budget (Lead Grant)**

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

**Authorizing the modification of the 2015 adopted County budget (Rabies)**

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

**Authorizing 2015 budget modification for the Federal CDC Grant Public Health Drinking Water Programs to reduce drinking water exposures and creation of a new position**

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

**Authorizing the modification of the 2015 adopted County budget (Radon)**

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

### **Public Health Department Charges – Approved Charges and Fee Schedule**

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

Stepanski questioned what the County does for large animal control. Carinci stated that the Sheriff's Office is working on an independent contract for an animal control department. Currently, the Sheriff's Office is usually called and the caller is referred the Department of Environmental Conservation.

### **Excutive Session**

A motion was made by Supervisor Walrod to enter into executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular person or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person, Supervisor Carinci seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Walrod to exit executive session; Supervisor Carinci seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

### **Other Business**

County Administrator Mark Scimone informed the committee that Karolyn Sayles will be leaving her position with the Mental Health Department by year end. The Deputy Director of Administrative Services position will be eliminated in Mental Health's 2016 budget and the department will contract out for financial review services.

### **Preferred Agenda**

A motion was made by Supervisor Goldstein to include the following resolutions in the Committee's Preferred Agenda for the October 13<sup>th</sup> Board meeting:

1. Authorizing the Chairman to renew and agreement with Liberty Resources, Inc.
2. Authorizing the Chairman to renew and agreement with Stoneleigh Housing, Inc.
3. Authorizing the Chairman to renew and agreement with Madison County Office for the Aging
4. Authorizing the Chairman to renew and agreement with Community Action Program, Inc.
5. Authorizing the Chairman to renew and agreement with BRiDGES
6. Authorizing the Chairman to execute contract modification and modifying the 2015 adopted County budget (Liberty Resources, Inc.)
7. Authorizing the Chairman to execute contract modification and modifying the 2015 adopted County budget (Consumer Services of Madison County, Inc.)
8. Authorizing the Chairman to enter an agreement with Morrisville State
9. Modifying contract with Birnie Bus for Pre-school Children Transportation
10. Modifying contract with Lanpher Transport for Early Intervention Children Transportation
11. Authorizing the modification of the 2015 adopted County budget (Tobacco Enforcement)
12. Authorizing the modification of the 2015 adopted County budget (CSHCN Grant)
13. Authorizing the modification of the 2015 adopted County budget (Immunization Grant)
14. Authorizing the modification of the 2015 adopted County budget (Lead Grant)
15. Authorizing the modification of the 2015 adopted County budget (Rabies)
16. Authorizing the modification of the 2015 adopted County budget (Radon)

### **Motion to Adjourn**

There being no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Stepanski at 12:04 p.m., seconded by Carinci and carried.

**Next meeting:** Monday, October 26, 2015 at 10:30 p.m. in the supervisors' large conference room.

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