

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, July 26, 2022
Meeting Chambers/Zoom

Committee Members Present

John Becker, Chairman, Board of Supervisors, Town of Sullivan
Alex Stepanski, Chairman, Town of Stockbridge, via Zoom
Brandee DuBois, Vice-Chairwoman, City of Oneida
Mary Cavanagh, City of Oneida
John Pinard, Town of Lenox, via Zoom
Melissa During, Town of Lincoln, via Zoom

Others Present

Michael Fitzgerald, Commissioner, Social Services
Jesica Prievo, Deputy Commissioner for Family Services, Social Services
Brett Hembach, Director of Administrative Services, Social Services
Eric Faisst, Director, Public Health
Tina Wayland-Smith, County Attorney
Hannah Tulchinsky, Intern, County Attorney's office
Mark Scimone, County Administrator
Samantha Field, Public Information Officer
Emily Burns, Confidential Secretary to the Board
Teisha Cook, Director, Mental Health Services
Kathryn Hopkins, Mental Health Clinic Treatment Program Coordinator
Keith Lummis, Assistant Director of Finance
Beth Piersall, Confidential Secretary, Mental Health

Call Meeting to Order

Vice Chairwoman DuBois 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 meeting minutes for June 28, 2022. A motion was made by Supervisor Pinard to approve the minutes, seconded by Supervisor Cavanagh and carried unanimously.

Mental Health

Director Teisha Cook presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with Chittenango Central School District for a Satellite Mental Health Clinic

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

Authorizing the Modification of the 2022 Adopted County Budget (Mental Health Office Equipment/Furniture)

A motion was made by Chairman Becker to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Cavanagh and carried unanimously.

Director Teisha Cook provided an update on the school satellite clinics. Social workers for Cazenovia and one of the two positions at Chittenango schools have been hired and are currently completing training. They will begin working at the schools the 2nd week of August.

The NYS Office of Mental Health conducted a site review at the Mental Health Department on July 19th. The site review went very well. The NYS Office of Mental Health is very pleased regarding the satellite school clinics being established. Chairman Becker noted that the Regional Director at the recent NACo Conference complimented the Mental Health Department and stated Madison County is setting the standard for providing mental health services.

Director Teisha Cook and Director Ron Raymer continue to work on plans for utilizing the funding received from the Joseph Dwyer Veterans Peer Support Project.

Public Health

Director Eric Faisst presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

Appointing a Member to Madison County Board of Health

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

Entering into an Affiliate Agreement with Health Alliance IPA, LLC

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

Director Eric Faisst reported that there are currently 1,111 cases of monkeypox in New York State. New York City has the majority of those cases, 1,040. Tompkins is the only CNY county with one case, and Niagara County is latest to report one case of the monkeypox virus.

Social Services

Commissioner Michael Fitzgerald presented the Commissioners Report. These numbers are through the month of June 2022. At this time, all numbers are within range at 44%.

Commissioner Fitzgerald presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

Foster Boarding Home Rates (Foster Parents, Adoptive Parents or KinGap Guardians)

A motion was made by Chairman Becker to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Cavanagh and carried unanimously.

Foster Boarding Home Rates (Regular, Therapeutic, Special Needs and Emergency Foster Boarding Homes)

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

Authorizing the Modification of the 2022 Adopted Budget (Rental Supplement Program)

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

Abolishing one Full-time Caseworker Position and one Full-time Caseworker Assistant Position and Creating a Full-time Senior Caseworker Position

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

Veterans Agency

Chairman Becker discussed that during the recent NACo Conference, the National Association of Counties Board of Directors made the decision to make Operation Green Light country wide. NACo is working with vendors to distribute green lights around the country to display and honor our veterans and raise awareness regarding the challenges they face.

Youth Bureau

Supervisor Cavanagh recently attended an event in Jefferson County where youth were participating in a summer work program. Supervisor Cavanagh asked if opportunities similar to this are available for youth in Madison County.

The Career Center in Madison County oversees the Summer Youth Employment Program in Madison County. Youth are employed in various locations throughout the county based on where they reside. Two youth are working with Maintenance in the Summer Youth Program. Youth participating in the Summer Youth Employment program need to meet income eligibility requirements.

The Youth Bureau also has Summer Program for youth in 5th and 6th grades. As reported last month, the BOCES New Visions Program on the county campus will be expanding next year.

Preferred Agenda

It was the consensus of the Committee to allow any eligible resolutions from today's meeting to be added to the Preferred Agenda. All resolutions were voted on and approved by the Committee.

Motion to Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Supervisor Cavanagh to adjourn the meeting at 11:06 a.m., seconded by Supervisor Pinard and carried unanimously.

Next meeting: August 23, 2022 at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Beth Piersall for Vice-Chairwoman Brandee DuBois