

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 24, 2022
Meeting Chambers/Zoom

Committee Members Present

Alex Stepanski, Chairman, Town of Stockbridge
Brandee DuBois, Vice-Chairwoman, City of Oneida
Mary Cavanagh, City of Oneida
John Pinard, Town of Lenox
Melissa During, Town of Lincoln

Others Present

Michael Fitzgerald, Commissioner, Social Services
Jesica Prievo, Deputy Commissioner for Family Services
Tina Louis, Director, Youth Bureau
Eric Faisst, Director, Public Health
Shawn Prievo, Deputy Director of Administrative Services
Erica Bird, Quality Improvement Coordinator, Public Health
Mark Scimone, County Administrator
Emily Burns, Confidential Secretary to the Board
Lauren Davie, BRiDGES
Ron Raymer, Director, Veterans Agency
Teisha Cook, Director, Mental Health Services
Keith Lummis, Assistant Director of Finance
Samantha Field, Public Information Officer
Liz Crofut, Executive Director, Community Action Partnership, via Zoom
Beth Piersall, Confidential Secretary, Mental Health

Call Meeting to Order

Chairman 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 meeting minutes for April 26, 2022. A motion was made by Supervisor Pinard to approve the minutes, seconded by Vice-Chairwoman DuBois and carried unanimously.

Mental Health

Director Teisha Cook presented the following resolution to the Committee:

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with Madison County Rural Health Council

A motion was made by Supervisor Cavanagh to approve the resolution, seconded by Vice-Chairwoman DuBois and carried unanimously.

Director Teisha Cook noted that the Rural Health Council will be offering Mental Health First Aid training to all schools in the county free of charge. The Rural Health Council will be meeting with the school districts.

Director Cook requested the Committee's approval regarding the insurance waiver for Sacred Heart University. This is for a social work intern who will be at the Mental Health Department for 10 months. Supervisor Cavanagh approved moving forward with the waiver and Supervisor Pinard seconded this and all were in favor.

A decision has been made regarding the RFP to provide substance abuse services in the jail. A resolution will be presented at the June Health and Human Services Committee meeting.

Director Cook has been conducting interviews for the social worker openings at the Clinic and for the school social worker positions. The positions will be filled over the summer months and agreements signed with the school districts.

Director Cook is happy to report we have received funding from the Joseph Dwyer Veterans Peer Support Project. Director Cook and Director Raymer are working collaboratively on this project.

Public Health

Director Eric Faisst presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with the NYS Department of Health for Rabies Reimbursement

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

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement and Modify the 2022 Adopted County Budget for Public Health Preparedness Grant

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

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into Agreements with Agencies and Therapists for the Preschool Program

A motion was made by Supervisor Pinard to approve the resolution, seconded by Vice-Chairwoman DuBois and carried unanimously.

Presentation - Community Distribution of Naloxone - Erica Bird, Health Department and Lauren Davie, BRiDGES

In an effort to address the opioid epidemic in Madison County, the Health Department and BRiDGES applied for grant funding from the CNY Community Foundation. The funding supports Naloxone distribution by having opioid rescue kits in the community. Erica and Lauren discussed that Naloxone is a lifesaving medication designed to reverse the effects of an opioid overdose in minutes. Receiving Naloxone is not harmful and individuals administering Naloxone

are covered by the Public Health Law Section 3309 that makes it legal in New York State for a non-medical person to administer Naloxone to prevent an opioid overdose. Training would be provided for agencies prior to the kits arriving. If approved, the Health Department and BRiDGES would like to have the Naloxone Boxes next to the defibrillators on the county campus. They will also work with Madison County 911 to identify key locations in the county. Following the presentation, Chairman Stepanski noted that a full resolution is needed to move forward with having the Naloxone kits available on the county campus.

Social Services

Commissioner Michael Fitzgerald presented the Commissioners Report. These numbers are through the month of April 2022. At this time, numbers are within limits. Commissioner Fitzgerald noted that MMIS, Medical Assistance line, will see an increase in the share payment in June. There will be another rate increase for adoptions and foster care subsidy payments in July.

Commissioner Fitzgerald presented the following resolution to the Committee:

Authorizing the Modification of the 2022 Adopted County Budget (PEAF)

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

Out of State Travel Information - Crimes Against Children Conference

This request has already received approval by the Government Operations Committee. Commissioner Fitzgerald wanted the Health and Human Services Committee to be aware as well.

Commissioner Fitzgerald requested the Committee's approval regarding the insurance waiver for Mathew Roosa, Roosa Consulting, LLC. Mr. Roosa will be providing training for Childrens Services providers. Supervisor Cavanagh approved moving forward with the waiver and Supervisor Pinard seconded this and all were in favor.

Veterans Agency

Director Ron Raymer reported that things are going well and the total client contacts for April was 338. The Madison County Veterans Service Agency Annual 22km Veterans Awareness Hike went well. County Administrator, Mark Scimone, and Supervisor During participated in the Awareness Hike. On May 25th, the Veterans Agency will be presenting at the Office for the Aging regarding the services they offer. The Madison County WAVEM Corp. Memorial Day Ceremony will be held on May 30th at 11 a.m. at the Memorial. Director Raymer agreed that the Veterans Agency is happy to be a part of the effort to bring additional resources to the veterans in our community with the funding received from the Joseph Dwyer Veterans Project.

Youth Bureau

Director Tina Louis provided an update on the BOCES New Visions program. The program has provided a wonderful experience for the students and the opportunity for employment for some. There has been discussion of expanding the program in the future. Chairman Stepanski noted he

was very impressed with the impact the mentors had on the interns and their career choices and college plans. County Administrator, Mark Scimone, also acknowledged the great work of the various departments that hosted the interns.

Director Tina Louis reported that the OCFS has \$7,750 in funding available for a new sports program. The organization must be a 501c3. This will be discussed at the Youth Bureau's upcoming Board meeting and Director Louis will provide an update and potentially a contract at the June meeting.

Director Louis noted that the Youth Bureau has received several requests for training regarding on-line safety and how to limit or filter the information that is available.

The TAP (Teen Assessment Project) Survey will be administered this fall.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Chairman Stepanski to enter into executive session on the advice of counsel to discuss the performance of a particular contractor. Vice-Chairwoman DuBois seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously. A motion was made by Supervisor Pinard to exit Executive Session; Supervisor Cavanagh seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Other Committee Business

Authorizing the Chairman to Terminate the Agreements with Dr. P. Scott Petosa of K.A.G. Consulting

A motion was made by Supervisor Pinard to approve the resolutions, seconded by Vice-Chairwoman DuBois and carried unanimously.

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 11:40 a.m., seconded by Vice-Chairwoman DuBois and carried unanimously.

Next meeting: June 28, 2022 at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Beth Piersall for Chairman Alexander R. Stepanski