

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Meeting Chambers

Committee Members Present

Mary Cavanagh, Chairwoman, City of Oneida
Brandee Henderson, Vice-Chairwoman, City of Oneida
Kyle Reger, Town of Cazenovia
Alex Stepanski, Town of Stockbridge
Michelle Kinville, City of Oneida

Others Present

Teisha Cook, Director, Mental Health Services – via Zoom
Jesica Prieto, Commissioner, DSS
Tina Louis, Director of Youth Bureau
Erica Bird, Deputy Director of Public Health
Mark Scimone, County Administrator
Samantha Field, Public Information Officer
Jennifer Keville, Confidential Secretary to the Board of Supervisors
James Cunningham, Chairman
Ronald Raymer, Director, Veterans Service Agency
Thomas Daviau, Town of Sullivan
William Nicholson, Director, Community Action Program
Christina Kennedy, Compliance Officer
Melissa Martel Felton, 2nd Assistant County Attorney
Brett Hembach, Deputy Commissioner for Administrative Services
Kristine Burleigh, Confidential Secretary, Mental Health

Call Meeting to Order

Chairwoman Cavanagh called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m., indicating that there was a quorum for the Health and Human Services Committee.

Approval of Minutes

The Health and Human Services Committee reviewed the meeting minutes for February 18, 2025. A motion was made by Supervisor Reger to approve the minutes, seconded by Supervisor Stepanski and carried unanimously.

Public Health

Deputy Director Bird presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

Re-Appointing Board Members to Madison County Board of Health

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

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Meeting Chambers

Public Health cont.

Authorizing the Chairman to Award BID 19-25 and Enter into an Agreement with M.E.I.D. LLC

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

Deputy Director Bird reported Public Health Director, Eric Faisst, is moving forward on the Healthy Housing Coalition. He has scheduled a pre-meeting virtual session in April, followed by an in-person strategic planning meeting in May.

Deputy Director Bird also reported the external planning group for the 2025 Community Health Assessment formulated a plan for focus groups to complement survey responses. Focus groups will either engage target demographics missed in survey responses or dig into broad priority areas like chronic disease and mental health.

- Public Health Department is moving towards short format documents called *data briefs* to disseminate health information and local data for a broader audience.
- Deputy Director Bird will be working with the Public Information Officer, Samantha Field, to develop short videos to promote the publications. Starting with the short video, Lung Cancer in 2024, Excessive Alcohol Use was released earlier this month.
- These *data briefs* and *videos* are available on the Health Publications page and/or by opening the following link. <https://www.madisoncounty.ny.gov/2316/Health-Profiles-and-Publications>

Social Services

Commissioner Prievo presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with VenTek, Inc.

A motion was made by Supervisor Kinville to approve the resolution, seconded by supervisor Reger and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Prievo has one resolution for discussion going before the Finance, Ways and Means Committee:

Discussion: Authorizing the Modification of the 2025 Adopted County Budget (Adoption/Guardian Incentive)

This resolution is for the allocation of funding to be used for activities associated with foster/adoptive parent recruitment and retention, advertising, publication, development/dissemination, and/or event/venue costs associated with recruitment/retention activities. These funds are being 100% federally reimbursed.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Meeting Chambers

Social Services cont.

Commissioner Priervo reported the Commissioners Report will now be presented quarterly, rather than monthly. The 2025 count data for Child & Family Services there have been 273 CPS reports, 34 kids in foster care, with and 7 kids in an institutional setting. There have been 9 neglect petitions and there are currently 3 kids in OCFS custody.

Veteran's Agency

Director Raymer gave an update on upcoming events on the 2025 Veterans Agencies calendar. There were 6, MCVAS sponsored Veteran's Breakfast scheduled for the year. The upcoming breakfast scheduled for April 11, will be the last one held on a Friday, with the remaining dates now scheduled for Saturdays. Those dates are as followed: June 14, August 9, October 11 and December 13.

Director Raymer reported he will be meeting with Sam Field, Public Information Officer, to discuss advertising for the 5th Annual Veteran's Awareness Hike. The hike is scheduled for May 10, with a rain date of May 17. Participants will be divided into three groups this year in order to accommodate skill levels. Hoping to increase participation.

Youth Bureau

Director Louis presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Inter-Departmental Agreement between Social Services (Youth Bureau) and Public Health

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

Director Louis fielded questions about the TAP Survey process. She also reviewed that the state budget is looking favorable at this time for youth related funding for Youth Bureau initiatives.

Mental Health

Director Cook has one resolution for discussion going before the Finance, Ways and Means Committee:

Discussion: Authorizing the Modification of the 2025 Adopted County Budget

This resolution is for a budget modification in order to set up an account for the new OMH Court Based Mental Health Navigator and the redistribution of money for Training & Staff Development cost.

Director Cook reported that Melissa Hale - formerly the Madison County Jail Case Manager, has accepted the position for the OMH Court Based Health Navigator, and will begin on April 3.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Meeting Chambers

Mental Health cont.

Director Cook also reported she met with the Principal at Madison Schools, and they are interested in having a satellite position, starting in the fall of the 2025/2026 school year. Director Cook will present the MOU and the resolution to create the position in the next couple of months.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Supervisor Stepanski to enter into executive session to discuss the performance of a particular contractor, Supervisor Reger seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Reger to exit executive session, Vice-Chairwoman Henderson seconded the motion, and it was 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 Reger to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 a.m., seconded by Supervisor Stepanski and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Kristine Burleigh for Chairwoman, Mary Cavanagh