

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: HEALTH SERVICES

DATE: FEBRUARY 22, 2021

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS FRASIER
MCDEVITT
CONOVER
HOGAN
STROUGH

OTHERS PRESENT:

ROB YORK, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
DEANNA PARK, DIRECTOR, OFFICE FOR THE AGING
REPRESENTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH:
GINELLE JONES, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC HEALTH/PATIENT SERVICES
TAWN DRISCOLL, FISCAL MANAGER
RACHEL E. SEEBER, CHAIRWOMAN OF THE BOARD
RYAN MOORE, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
MARY ELIZABETH KISSANE, COUNTY ATTORNEY
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD
FRANK E. THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER
SUPERVISORS BEATY
BRAYMER
DRISCOLL
GERAGHTY
MAGOWAN
SMITH
WILD
TAMMIE DELORENZO, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
WILLIAM VANNESS, COMMISSIONER (R), BOARD OF ELECTIONS
DON LEHMAN, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
TOSHA BROWNELL, COMPUTER HELP DESK TECHNICIAN
LESLIE LOVELACE, SECRETARY TO THE CLERK OF THE BOARD

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the February 22, 2021 meeting of the Health Services Committee; the meeting in its entirety can be viewed on the Warren County website using the following link:

<https://warrencountyny.gov/mma>

Note: As per Governor Cuomo’s Executive Order 202.1: “Article 7 of the Public Officers Law, to the extent necessary to permit any public body to meet and take such actions authorized by the law without permitting in public in-person access to meetings and authorizing such meetings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided that the public has the ability to view or listen to such proceeding and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed”. Supervisor Frasier was physically present, while Supervisors McDevitt, Conover, Hogan and Strough attended virtually.

Mrs. Frasier called the meeting of the Health Services Committee to order at 11:17 a.m.

Copies of the Office of Community Services, Office for the Aging and Public Health meeting agendas were distributed to those in attendance, those participating virtually accessed the agendas via the Warren County website. Copies of the agendas are on file with the meeting minutes.

Motion was made by Mr. McDevitt, seconded by Mr. Strough and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the previous Health Services Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Rob York, *Director, Office of Community Services*, who proceeded with a review of the Office of Community Services agenda, presenting the following requests:

- 1) To amend the 2021 County Budget in the amount of \$236,375 to allow pass through of 100% State Aid from the New York State Office of Mental Health for Behavioral Health Services North to support outpatient mental health services in Warren County.

Motion was made by Mr. Strough, seconded by Mr. McDevitt and carried unanimously to approve the request and refer same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 2) To authorize an intermunicipal agreement with Saratoga County for shared mental health Home-Based Crisis and Mobile Crisis Services provided by Parsons Child and Family Center/Northern Rivers Family Services for children, youth and families.

Motion was made by Mr. Strough, seconded by Mr. McDevitt and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the March 19th Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Mr. Conover entered the meeting at 11:21 a.m and Ms. Hogan entered at 11:22 a.m.

There being no further Office of Community Services business to discuss, privilege of the floor was extended to Deanna Park, *Director, Office for the Aging (OFA)*, who proceeded with a review of the OFA agenda, presenting the following requests:

- 1) To fill the vacant position of Meal Site Manager #5, *Grade 2, Base Annual Salary \$27,438 (25hrs/week \$13.19/hr)*, at the Warrensburg Meal Site due to resignation.
- 2) To fill the vacant position of Fiscal Coordinator, *Grade 15, Base Annual Salary \$42,141*, due to retirement.

Motion was made by Mr. McDevitt, seconded by Mr. Conover and carried unanimously to approve both requests as outlined above and refer same to the Personnel, Administration & Higher Education Committee for reporting purposes. *Copies of the Notice of Intent to Fill Vacant Position forms are on file with the minutes.*

- 3) To authorize submission of 2020-2021 MIPAA (*Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act*) grant application in an amount not to exceed \$22,259.

Motion was made by Mr. Strough, seconded by Mr. Conover and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the March 19th Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Continuing to the Information for Discussion portion of the agenda, Ms. Park provided an update on New York State Office of the Aging (*NYSOFA*) budget cuts, explaining in November NYSOFA was notified the State would be imposing a 20% budget cut and later she received notification from NYSOFA that her office would be receiving full reimbursement for the remainder of the 2020 budget year. She apprised last week she was informed her office would receive more stimulus funding for the 2021 budget year. Ms. Park said she was not sure of the amount but would share the figures with the Committee Chair and the County Administrator once she received them.

Next, she reported the Association on Aging had set up a meeting between her office and an area pharmacy to discuss receiving full access to their vaccines for Warren County residents which would allow them to set up weekly vaccine appointments.

There being to further OFA business to discuss, privilege of the floor was extended to Ginelle Jones, *Director, Public Health/Patient Services*, who commenced review of the Public Health agenda, presenting a request to

authorize an agreement with High Peaks Hospice & Palliative Care, Inc., to provide hospice care to patients referred by Warren County for a term commencing March 19, 2021 and terminating March 18, 2022.

Motion was made by Mr. McDevitt, seconded by Ms. Hogan and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the March 19th Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Tawn Driscoll, *Fiscal Manager*, presented and explained a request to authorize the transfer of funds between various budget codes totaling \$48,912.50 to reclassify salaries and expenses for the COVID-19 grant to cover expenses over budget for the year 2020.

Motion was made by Mr. Conover, seconded by Ms. Hogan and carried unanimously to approve the request and refer same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

A review of the Information for Discussion/Review portion of the agenda proceeded as follows:

Report of Expenditures, Revenues, Overtime and Per Diem Use for 2020- Ms. Driscoll reviewed the Revenue and Expenditure Report for 2021 in Attachment #3, apprising the CHHA program for January 2021 was in the process of being closed. She added the WIC program food voucher values had not yet been reflected for both revenue and expenses. She stated they had received approval from the State to bill for Preschool 2020 and that had been billed. She noted on the attachment the total of part-time salaries of \$38,171 was the total for both part-time and full-time salaries related to COVID activities. She stated the total COVID related overtime salaries was \$18,292, which was 53.22% of the total overtime. She said the part-time salaries related to COVID activities was \$19,879, which was 30.86% of the budget.

Revenue and Expense Comparison Report for 2020 vs 2021 - Ms. Driscoll reviewed the Revenue and Expense Comparison Report for 2020 vs 2021 in Attachment #4. She stated salaries were higher as compared to the year before due to COVID activities. She said equipment expenses were higher due to the purchase of phone equipment. She appraised contractual expenses were lower as a result of invoice timing. She stated employee benefits were lower due to a savings in salaries within programs. She reiterated revenues were lower as compared to the previous year due to revenues not yet reflected for the January CHHA program, as well as no Rabies, Immunizations or Travel clinics being held due to COVID. She noted this time last year there was a negative \$21,567 in revenues due to an adjustment the Treasurer's Office made regarding the Preschool program.

Status of Referrals - Ms. Jones reviewed the referrals, included as Attachment #5A & 5B, noting there were 15 more referrals in December 2020 compared to December 2019 and visits remained steady. She appraised the hospital census was lower and as a result there may be fewer referrals in the near future.

Emergency Response and Preparedness - Ms. Jones advised Attachment #6 in the agenda packet included a review of the Emergency Response and Preparedness Activities for the months of December, January and February.

Rabies Program Report - Ms. Jones advised Attachment #7 outlined the January rabies report, adding there were no rabies clinics currently scheduled, but it was possible clinics would be held in the Spring.

Meeting Authorizations - Ms. Jones appraised Jaime Clute, Jaime Martin, Sara Hettel, Jolie Navatka, Crystal Harrington, Cassandra Rausch and Beth Paquette would be attending NYS WIC Association Virtual Conference on March 16 - 18, 2021, Beth Paquette and Sara Hettel would be attending NYS WIC Breastfeeding Coalition Virtual Conference on March 23, 2021 and Beth Paquette and Jaime Martin would be attending NYS WIC

GOLD Lactation Virtual Conference on March 29 - June 30, 2021.

COVID-19 Update- Ms. Jones informed due to the high volume of vaccine inquiries she would update on those rather than the positive cases which were published daily. She apprised there were over 64,000 residents in Warren County and 13,900 of those were seniors which was 22%. She informed on a weekly basis the department was receiving 100 doses of the COVID vaccine. She stated as a participant of the COVID-19 Vaccination Program they were directed to vaccinate essential workers, excluding healthcare workers and seniors. She remarked the vaccination process was proving to be very challenging due to the shortage of the vaccine. She apprised she was working hard with the other partners, such as Glens Falls Hospital, the federally qualified health centers, Office for the Aging, and local pharmacies in an effort to streamline the registration process for seniors. She informed she sent a letter to the Governor's office through the Health Commissioner in early February advising of the frustration at the local level and the difficulty seniors were having monitoring web sites to sign up for vaccination appointments and the distance seniors had to drive for those vaccinations. She said her letter offered suggestions and requested better communication and requested fair distribution of the vaccine, as well as an allocation to catch seniors up. She added she also indicated pharmacy associations and pharmacies should be made to work in conjunction with the local health departments and the Office for the Aging in an effort to distribute timely information to seniors. She said she also looked at homebound seniors with mobility issues who were not able to leave the home and was working closely with them. Ms. Jones apprised they would be focusing on seniors with comorbidities. A brief discussion regarding vaccinations ensued.

There being no further business to come before the Health Services Committee, on motion made by Mr. Conover, seconded by Ms. Hogan and carried unanimously, Mrs. Frasier adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Lovelace, Secretary to the Clerk of the Board