

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: HEALTH SERVICES

DATE: AUGUST 24, 2020

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS MCDEVITT
BEATY
CONOVER
BRUNO
FRASIER
MAGOWAN
SHEPLER

OTHERS PRESENT:

REPRESENTING WARREN COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES:

GINELLE JONES, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH/PATIENT SERVICES
TAWN DRISCOLL, FISCAL MANAGER
FRANK E. THOMAS, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
MARY ELIZABETH KISSANE, COUNTY ATTORNEY
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD
KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, BUDGET OFFICER

SUPERVISORS BRAYMER
DRISCOLL
HOGAN
LEGGETT
SEEBER
WILD

TAMMIE DELORENZO, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
CHRIS HANCHETT, COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SERVICES
DON LEHMAN, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
AMY MCBYRNE, DIRECTOR, COUNTRYSIDE ADULT HOME
JULIE MONTERO, FISCAL MANAGER OF SOCIAL SERVICES
JEREMY SCRIME, SENIOR COMPUTER SYSTEMS ANALYST/PROGRAMMER
LESLIE LOVELACE, SECRETARY TO THE CLERK OF THE BOARD

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the August 24, 2020 meeting of the Health Services Committee; the meeting in its entirety can be viewed on the Warren County website using the following link: <http://www.warrencountyny.gov/gov/comm/Archive/2020/health>

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". Supervisors McDevitt, Frasier, Magowan and Shepler who were physically present, while Supervisors Beaty, Conover and Bruno attended by videoconference.

Mr. McDevitt called the meeting of the Health Services Committee to order at 11:15 a.m.

Copies of the Public Health meeting agenda were distributed to those in attendance, those participating remotely accessed the agenda via the Warren County website. A copy of the agenda is on file with the meeting minutes.

Motion was made by Ms. Shepler, seconded by Mr. Magowan and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the previous Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Ginelle Jones, *Director, Public Health/Patient Services*, who presented the following requests:

- 1) To authorize a new contract with Keith Baugh dba Keith Baugh, Speech-Language Pathologist to provide Speech Therapy Services for Homecare and Preschool programs at the established current rates for a term

commencing September 18, 2020 and renewing automatically on an annual basis unless terminated upon 30-days written notice by either party.

Motion was made by Ms. Frasier, seconded by Mr. Magowan and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the September 18th Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 2) To authorize a new contract with Abilities, Occupational Therapy, and Speech-Language Pathology, LLC dba Abilities to provide Committee Preschool Special Education (CPSE) services to Warren County children are eligible at the established current rates for a term commencing September 18, 2020 and renewing automatically on an annual basis unless terminated upon 30-days written notice by either party.

Motion was made by Mr. Magowan, seconded by Ms. Shepler and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the September 18th Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 3) To authorize application to the NYSDOH Grants Administration/Health Research Institute (HRI) for Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) COVID-19 Enhanced Detection funds in an amount not to exceed \$1,261,371 for the grant term of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2022.

Motion was made by Mrs. Frasier, seconded by Mr. Magowan and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the September 18th Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 4) To amend the Departmental Table of Organization and Salary Schedule to create the new position of Registered Professional Nurse #40, Grade 19, Base Annual Salary \$47,523, effective September 21, 2020.

Motion was made by Mr. Magowan, seconded by Mrs. Frasier and carried unanimously to approve the request and refer same to the Personnel & Administration Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 5) To fill the position of Registered Professional Nurse #40, Grade 19, Base Annual Salary \$47,523, due to creation effective September 21, 2020.

Motion was made by Mr. Magowan, seconded by Mr. Beaty and carried unanimously to approve the request and refer same to the Personnel & Administration Committee. *A copy of the Notice of Intent to fill Vacant Position form is on file with the minutes.*

- 6) To fill the vacant position of Registered Professional Nurse #31, Grade 19, Base Annual Salary \$47,523, due to resignation.

Motion was made by Mr. Beaty, seconded by Ms. Shepler and carried unanimously to approve the request and refer same to the Personnel & Administration Committee for reporting purposes. *A copy of the Notice of Intent to fill Vacant Position form is on file with the minutes.*

- 7) To fill the vacant position of Registered Professional Nurse #32, Grade 19, Base Annual Salary \$47,523, due to resignation.

Motion was made by Mr. Bruno, seconded by Mr. Magowan and carried unanimously to approve the request and refer same to the Personnel & Administration Committee for reporting purposes. *A copy of the Notice of Intent to Fill Vacant Position form is on file with the minutes.*

- 8) To fill the vacant position of Public Health Nurse #16, *Grade 21, Base Annual Salary \$50,816*, due to resignation.

Motion was made by Ms. Shepler, seconded by Mr. Magowan and carried unanimously to approve the request and refer same to the Personnel & Administration Committee for reporting purposes. *A copy of the Notice of Intent to Fill Vacant Position form is on file with the minutes.*

- 9) To fill up to ten vacant positions of Public Health Assistant/Per Diem, *Grade 10, Base Annual Salary \$37,633 (\$18.09/hour)*, to assist with contact tracing and COVID-19 response.

Motion was made by Ms. Frasier, seconded by Mr. Beaty and carried unanimously to approve the request and refer same to the Personnel & Administration Committee for reporting purposes. *A copy of the Notice of Intent to Fill Vacant Position form is on file with the minutes.*

- 10) To fill the vacant position of WIC Assistant, *Grade 5, Base Annual Salary \$30,520*, due to resignation. It was noted that this position was previously approved for filling, but that authorization had expired.

Motion was made by Mr. Beaty, seconded by Mr. Conover and carried unanimously to approve the request and refer same to the Personnel & Administration Committee. *A copy of the Notice of Intent to Fill Vacant Position form is on file with the minutes.*

- 11) To authorize a five-year agreement with NYSDOH Children and Youth with Special Health Care needs to accept grant funding in an amount not to exceed \$115,440 for the grant period commencing October 1, 2020 and terminating September 30, 2025.

Motion was made by Mr. Bruno, seconded by Mr. Magowan and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the September 18th Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Privilege of the floor was extended to Tawn Driscoll, *Fiscal Manager*, who presented the following requests:

- 12) To authorize a transfer of funds between various budget codes totaling \$40,378.78 to cover Salary/Fringe during April to June 2020 for COVID duties. Mrs. Driscoll advised the first portion of the transfer addressed a reverse of the transfer approved in June of 2020 in accordance with directives provided by the State with regard to the use of COVID funding. She further advised the second portion of the transfer addressed the need to move funding to cover the cost of a full-time Certified Home Health Aide (*CHHA*) Nurse currently working in Public Health division to assist with COVID-related duties.

Motion was made by Mr. Magowan, seconded by Ms. Shepler 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.*

- 13) To amend the 2020 County Budget in the amount of \$150,000 to reflect the receipt of grant funds from HRI to assist with expenses related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Motion was made by Mrs. Frasier, seconded by Ms. Shepler 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 - Mrs. Driscoll reviewed the Revenue and Expenditure Report for 2020 in Attachment #1, noting they were \$71,449.21 below the budget for Salaries at 48.41% of the budget for the year, while last year at this time 58.55% of the budget had been expended.

Revenue and Expense Comparison Report for 2019 vs. 2020 - Mrs. Driscoll reviewed the Revenue and Expense Comparison Report for 2019 vs. 2020 in Attachment #2. She stated salaries were down 4.28% compared to 2019 due to activities normally staffed by per diem and part-time staff being cancelled as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. She stated equipment expenses were up compared to last year due to the purchase of three new vehicles compared to one vehicle purchased in 2019. She informed contractual expenses were lower due to no CHHA, Preschool or Early Intervention expenses. She apprised employee benefits were lower than last year due to savings in programs. She stated revenues were down, but she estimated over \$450,000 was expected after submission for the preschool program, noting the State would not allow billing until they had a better idea of payment status.

Status of Referrals - Ms. Jones reviewed the referrals, included in Attachment #3. She noted there was a decrease of five referrals compared to last year, and advised re-visits were up.

Emergency Response and Preparedness - Ms. Jones advised Attachment #4 in the agenda packet included a review of the Emergency Response and Preparedness Activities for the months of July and August. She noted Dan Durkee, *Senior Health Educator/Emergency Preparedness Coordinator*, Don Lehman, *Director of Public Affairs*, and Supervisor Seeber had distributed over one-hundred masks at Aviation Mall.

Rabies Program Report - Ms. Jones advised Attachment #5 outlined the July rabies report.

Meeting Authorizations - Ms. Jones apprised there were no meeting requests.

COVID-19 Update - Ms. Jones advised there was currently 10 mandatory quarantine cases with 615 mandatory quarantine to date and 15 precautionary quarantine with 317 to date. She said the travel quarantine fluctuated daily and was currently at 178 with 1,178 referrals to date of which 862 were appropriate for quarantine. She informed there had been 291 positive cases with another possible case, 1 current mild case, and there were no current hospitalizations, and there were 256 recovered cases, 117 of which had been in skilled nursing facilities, 13 had been in assisted living facilities and 161 were in the community. She noted 34 lives had been lost to the pandemic, 9 of which were in the hospital, 22 were in skilled nursing facilities, 2 were in assisted living facilities and 1 lived at home. She indicated the Warren County testing clinic had tested 2,432 people to date, with 291 positive tests. She added that of the 2,432 tests on site, 56% were Warren County residents, and of the 6% positive testings, 53 were Warren County residents and 83 were from other counties; she pointed out that 94% of the tests had been negative. Ms. Jones spoke of COVID-19 antibody testing, explaining 2,641 individuals had been tested but it was hard to ascertain the total number of positive results because there were two types of antibodies with two negatives, one positive and one negative or duplication. She apprised her office was working closely with SUNY Adirondack for re-opening as well as the Superintendents of schools for re-opening plans along with school nurses and a COVID liaison. She stated last week the challenge had been gyms opening and she thanked the County Administrator's Office, Mr. Lehman, Charles Wallace, *Administrator, Fire Prevention & Building Code Enforcement*, the City of Glens Falls, and the Towns of Lake George and Queensbury for their help with the undertaking inspection of the 400+ gyms in Warren County which were beginning the process to re-open. She reminded as those would be returning to school and colleges it was important to remember mask

use and social distancing at parties and gatherings, especially during the upcoming Labor Day weekend, and she strongly urged the public to maintain social distancing, as well as wearing masks except when eating and drinking and in those instances she strongly recommended sitting with one's own household. She expressed her appreciation for the support and cooperation received from the County Administrator's Office, the Board Of Supervisors, as well as the other County departments, municipalities, hotels, businesses, economic recovery groups, and schools; she also praised the Health Services staff for their passion, dedication, rapport with patients and the team effort put forth.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, on motion made by Ms. Shepler, seconded by Mr. Magowan and carried unanimously, Mr. McDevitt adjourned the meeting at 11:51 a.m.

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