

STEBEN COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Monday, January 7, 2009

10:00 a.m.

*Legislative Conference Room
Steuben County Office Building
Bath, New York*

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE: David Stachnik, Chair John S. Walsh Randolph J. Weaver

STAFF: Mark R. Alger Greg Heffner Linda Tetor
Kathryn Muller Lise Reynolds Frederick H. Ahrens, Jr.
David English

LEGISLATORS: Lawrence P. Crossett Joseph J. Hauryski

ABSENT: Francis L. Gehl, Vice Chair Richard A. Argentieri

OTHERS: Mary Perham, *The Leader*

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Stachnik called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and asked Mr. Hauryski to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 3, 2008 MEETING MADE BY MR. WALSH. SECONDED BY MR. WEAVER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

III. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. OFA/RSVP

1. **2009 Subcontracts/Space Agreements** – Mrs. Tetor presented her 2009 subcontracts and space agreements for approval.

MOTION: APPROVING THE FOLLOWING 2009 SUBCONTRACTS FOR THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING: ADULT DAY SERVICE OF ST. JAMES MERCY HOSPITAL – III-E-RESPIRE (\$3,000.00); CORNING MEALS ON WHEELS – HOME DELIVERED MEALS (\$3,800.00); FAITH IN ACTION – TRANSPORTATION (\$10,000.00); FIRST TRANSIT – III-B TRANSPORTATION (\$500.00); HOME AND HEALTH CARE – III-E RESPIRE (\$27,936.00); INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN SERVICES – IMPACT PROGRAMMING AND TRUST IN THE LIVES OF OLDER WOMEN (\$33,328.00); INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN SERVICES – MEDICARE/EPIC PROGRAM (\$9,889.00); INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN SERVICES – OMBUDSMAN (\$20,489.00); INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN SERVICES – PROJECT CARE (\$16,238.00); INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN SERVICES – TITLE V TRANSITION (\$72,127.00); INSTITUTE OF HUMAN SERVICES – TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT (\$65,602.00); INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN SERVICES – WRAP (\$12,392.00); LEATHERSICH – DIETARY CONSULTANT (\$8,580.00); McCARTHY – LEGAL SERVICES (\$5,250.00); PROACTION – HEAP (\$4,685.00); PROACTION – SNAP – HOME DELIVERED MEALS (\$171,439.00); PROACTION – TITLE III-C 1 & 2 CONGREGATE & HOME DELIVERED MEALS (\$393,060.00); PROACTION – WELLNESS (\$12,195.00); ST. JAMES MERCY HOSPITAL – LIFELINE EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICE (\$15,500.00); STEUBEN SENIOR SERVICES FUND, INC. (\$12,000.00) AND STEWART – DIETARY CONSULTANT (\$10,400); AND APPROVING THE FOLLOWING 2009 SPACE AGREEMENTS: CITY OF CORNING (\$4,800.00); CITY OF HORNEILL (\$18,000.00); PROACTION – ADDISON PLACE (\$3,600); PROACTION – CORNING SENIOR CENTER (\$1,200.00); PROACTION – HORNEILL HOUSING (\$2,400.00); PROACTION – LAKEVIEW

(\$8,400.00); PROACTION – PARKWAY – DAYSPRING (\$2,400.00); AND PROACTION – WAYLAND LITTLE HOUSE (\$3,000.00) MADE BY MR. WEAVER. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

Mrs. Tetor requested authorization to amend the 2009 contract with Wilma Stewart, dietary consultant, to appropriate \$850.00 which represents under spent funds from last year's contract. The total contract amount will now be \$11,250.00.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING TO AMEND THE 2009 CONTRACT WITH WILMA STEWART, DIETARY CONSULTANT TO REFLECT A TOTAL COST OF \$11,250.00 WHICH INCLUDES \$850.00 WHICH WAS UNDER SPENT FROM THE 2008 CONTRACT MADE BY MR. WEAVER. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

B. Department of Social Services

1. **Informational** – Ms. Muller stated she has no agenda items, but she wanted to thank the committee for their support over the past year. They are working on dissecting the State Budget and next month she hopes to be able to report to the committee what will be happening. We do expect a cut to our Administration money and we are concerned about that.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. WALSH. SECONDED BY MR. WEAVER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Amanda L. Chapman
Senior Stenographer
Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR
February 4, 2009 @ 10:00 a.m.**

**PLEASE SEND AGENDA ITEMS TO THE
CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE'S OFFICE
NO LATER THAN NOON Wednesday, January 28, 2009.**

STEBEN COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

*Wednesday, February 4, 2009
10:00 a.m.
Legislative Conference Room
Steuben County Office Building
Bath, New York*

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE: David Stachnik, Chair Francis L. Gehl, Vice Chair John S. Walsh
 Randolph J. Weaver

STAFF: Mark R. Alger Gregory P. Heffner Jack Wheeler
 Linda Tetor Gary Pruyn Kathryn Muller
 Lise Reynolds Teresa Deninger David English
 Frederick H. Ahrens, Jr.

LEGISLATORS: Philip J. Roche Lawrence P. Crossett Joseph J. Hauryski
 John S. Walsh

ABSENT: Richard A. Argentieri

OTHERS: Natasha Thompson, Food Bank of the Southern Tier
 Mary Perham, *The Leader*

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Stachnik called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and asked Mr. Heffner to lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 7, 2009 MEETING MADE BY MR. GEHL. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

III. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. OFA/RSVP

1. **2009 State Budget Impact** – Mrs. Tetor stated last month she had outlined the State budget impacts in her monthly report. They expect a 10 percent reduction in smaller programs, and the impact to our office will be approximately \$800.00. The State is also proposing eliminating the COLA for in-home services programs such as EISEP, SNAP and CSE. We pay for case management and transportation and since we had not budgeted for the COLA, we will not feel the impact of this. There may also be a reduction in last year’s COLA for these same three programs of 1 percent.

Mrs. Tetor reported that the LTCIEOP funding of \$50,000 is being proposed for elimination, however, if approved the EPIC funding will increase to that same level, allowing us to continue portions of the LTCIEOP program and to focus more on health insurance issues such as Medicare Part D, etc. We are not losing any money, the funding source will be different, and in this case, that is not a bad thing.

We will see a reduction in funding for NY Connects, but the State Office for the Aging is going to assist with this program and there will be no local cuts.

Mr. Walsh asked what is the total amount of the cuts? Mrs. Tetor replied less than \$5,000.

B. Youth Bureau

1. **2009 Youth In Government Contract** – Mr. Pruyn requested authorization to renew his contract with Richard McCandless to provide the Youth In Government Program for six months, ending June 30, 2009 for a cost of \$6,500.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE YOUTH BUREAU TO RENEW THEIR CONTRACT WITH RICHARD McCANDLESS TO THE YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT PROGRAM FOR SIX MONTHS, ENDING JUNE 30, 2009 FOR A COST OF \$6,500 MADE BY MR. GEHL. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

2. **2009 State Budget Impact** – Mr. Pruyn stated the biggest impact is with the Youth Block Grant. There is no provision for County municipal funding in the grant. For 2009, we were going to fund 38 municipals across the county and they operate 99 programs for approximately 14,000 youth. The Office of Children & Family Services portion of the funding was \$34,580 under the older per capita plan. That generates \$500,000 because the municipals had to match their funding and other funding sources were added. This Grant will not exist under the Governor's proposal. Mr. Pruyn explained we provided the municipals with structure and forms. We give them technical assistance and we started a lot of these programs.

Mr. Stachnik commented it would seem that in this economy, this would have damaging effects. Mr. Alger replied we don't know. If the Block Grant goes, as it is being proposed, then the County has the flexibility in determining how to spend the money. The problem with the Block Grant is that it mixes mandated and non-mandated services. The mandated services you have to pay, like it or not. Then the question is how do we fund those things that are not mandated that we think our important.

Mr. Gehl asked what programs would be cut? Mr. Pruyn replied all the municipal programs. We would expect that most will quit having their programs and that would affect 5,000 – 10,000 kids. A lot of the municipals are small and use their funding to pay for supplies. If this goes through, we will lose services to two-thirds of kids. A lot of testimony regarding this issue has been given at Albany by our association. Steven Acquario, NYSAC, stated in his testimony that the total funding available is \$90 million, compared to \$118 million last year, for all programs included in the Block Grant. This is an example of mixing mandated and non-mandated services into one pool and asking counties to choose which programs to cut. This gives an appearance of flexibility, but mandates are mandates, and when the court orders detention, that is the service the county will have to provide. The reality is the State is simply putting all of this funding together in one pot of money – funding for youths who have committed a crime and funding for services to prevent youth from committing a crime – and then telling the county they may choose. They have no choice but to provide the mandated program.

Mr. Pruyn commented the entire OCFS allocation is equal to the cost of two kids in OCFS residential care for one year. The County cost would be having four kids in OCFS residential care for one year. With regard to an agency impact, if money were available, we most likely could fund just those high-risk youth programs. The Youth In Government Program would be cut. Overall the agency would serve 2,000 less kids.

Mr. Pruyn stated another impact is that the face of the Youth Board and Youth Bureau would change. The Governor is proposing the elimination of Article 19A establishing Youth Boards. All would be eliminated and the legal authority would be gone. We have been the champions of kids for over 30 years.

Mr. Gehl asked would the Board of Directors be done away with? Mr. Pruyn replied the legal authority would be eliminated and the County would have to decide whether or not to continue. Currently all counties are given a per capita amount for youth and that would be gone. We asked the State about planning. If they eliminate the Youth Board/Youth Bureau, the planning requirement will still be intact under separate legislation. The bottom line is that we are losing primary preventive services that helped keep kids out of intervention and treatment.

Mr. Stachnik commented a memorialization resolution would be appropriate. Mr. Roche stated with the memorialization resolution we can put them all into one and highlight the ones that have the highest impact, and this would certainly be one of those.

Mr. Alger stated the State budget proposals this year are going to significantly change the relationship between the counties and the State. This is one area that is being dramatically changed.

MOTION: OPPOSING THE GOVERNOR'S 2009 BUDGET PROPOSAL TO ELIMINATE THE YOUTH BLOCK GRANT AND ALSO OPPOSING THE ELIMINATION OF ARTICLE 19A ESTABLISHING YOUTH BOARDS/YOUTH BUREAUS MADE BY MR. GEHL. SECONDED BY MR. WEAVER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0. Resolution Required.

IV. PRESENTATIONS

A. Food Bank of the Southern Tier

1. **Overview of Program** – Ms. Thompson informed the committee that they work with six counties and their relationship with Steuben County is one of the best and the greatly appreciate the partnership. Most of our service is to the numerous food banks located within the county. We distributed 1.7 million pounds of food which equates to approximately 133 pounds/individual and we were able to serve over 50,000 households. We receive funds through the Department of Health and also rely heavily upon donated products. The backpack program started as a pilot program in 2005 and now we have 5 sites in Steuben County and have distributed 12,603 backpacks which have served 295 children. In July 2007 we started the mobile food pantry which has served 20,000 households and is the single most effect program to bring nutritious foods to the community. In 2008 we saw a 3 percent increase in distributions.

V. DEPARTMENT REPORTS/REQUESTS (Continued)

C. Department of Social Services

1. **Caseload Statistics** – Ms. Muller distributed her quarterly and year-end reports for the committee's review. Over the course of the year, cases went down for Public Assistance, but we are starting to see a bit of an increase. Family Assistance cases were down, while Safety Net cases increased. Food Stamp caseloads are increasing. The area that is most difficult is the emergency walk-in's. We are seeing more and more every day. Our HEAP applications for the month of January were up 80 percent.

Ms. Muller stated with our Child Services Division, the Child Protective Unit saw a 10 percent increase in reports over 2007. There were 200 more reports in 2008 and 24 percent were indicated, but the reports increased. We ended the year with 100 kids in care. In January we took in 12, discharged 7 and had one adoption.

The Adult Protection Unit saw a 19 percent increase in referrals over 2007. We are seeing more and more activity in this unit.

The Mobile Work Program ended the year with the same amount of jobs and value. We are working well with the Department of Public Works.

Ms. Muller reviewed the year-end financial report. We ended the year a little better than the last report you received. Ms. Reynolds commented we were able to pay the IGT local share this year.

2. **2009 State Budget Impact** – Ms. Muller informed the committee our budget is very complicated with regard to how aid is appropriated and is based on many different factors. Our Local Administration Fund (LAF) funds the nonfederal share of the Employment Program, Employment Administration, Food Stamps and Public Assistance. In 2008 our reimbursement was cut by \$1.1 million and our expenditure was \$1.5 million. Under the proposed budget, that \$1.1 million reimbursement will be going away. They are offering to replace that by giving us an increase in the flexible fund for family services dollar for dollar. The problem in that is with the federal funding, you cannot use federal funding to replace the local administration funds because of the restriction on how you use that money.

Ms. Muller informed the committee that the State is proposed increasing our child welfare threshold. Historically, we have had to spend a certain level to draw down State funding on prevention programs. They have increased this by a little over \$500,000 which means we will lose \$400,000. The second part of this is that the increase in

the flexible fund has to be appropriated into child welfare and that will result in another loss of \$400,000. The net effect of this is a gain of \$400,000.

Ms. Muller stated with regard to the Youth Programs Block Grant, the State is lumping funding for mandated and non-mandated programs together. For our department this includes Secure Detention, Non-secure Detention and PINS and we are looking at \$640,000 and then they will reduce that by 25 percent. We will be taking a \$160,000 hit.

Ms. Muller stated that with regard to the TANF and Safety Net we will see an increase in the non-shelter portion of the Public Assistance Grant and the 3 – 10 percent increases will be effective January 2010, January 2011 and January 2012. We have made a very conservative estimate of a loss of \$66,000.

Ms. Muller stated we will also see a reduction in the Intensive Case Management Grant and that will be a loss of \$64,000. The net effect is we will lose \$1.1 million out of the Local Administration Fund and will gain \$400,000 in the FFFS/Child Welfare.

Mr. Roche commented the \$400,000 represents a reduced cost in the program. Ms. Muller replied we will have program growth. We have to see if we can reduce any other local costs with the \$400,000. On the administration money, we can use for TANF administration, but that is capped at 15 percent.

Mr. Alger stated the elimination of the local administration fund has the direct effect of saying the State of New York no longer is interested in supporting welfare and it will be supported by the local property taxpayers and the federal government. Oh, but by the way, the counties still have to fund it. Last night, the Legislature passed the deficit reduction plan intact, the way the Governor had proposed it. Mr. Alger stated the concern we have is this doesn't close the budget deficit for the State and still leaves an opportunity for reductions to the counties. Bear in mind the schools have taken a significant hit and if the State restores funding to the schools, the counties will be cut more. The New York State Association of Counties is suggesting to the State that we recognize the deficit and that we are not opposed to reductions or eliminations of programs, however, don't just shift costs from the State to the counties and say that we must continue programs. The State needs to provide us with the opportunity to say that we are not doing a program anymore and then have it be eliminated. That is the position we have been advocating with NYSAC. If you want to cut costs, cut programs and eliminate them. Just shifting the cost to us, there is nothing we can do if there is no flexibility in the programs.

Ms. Muller commented that with regard to daycare, when the State created the flexible fund for family services three years ago, the county had the option to include daycare or not. It was presented as though we had extra money, but we did not. Since that time, sometimes they allocate the funds for daycare at the end of June and the program ends in September of the same year and shows up as having it twice and you end up with a rollover. The rollover is bad because the State bases your future allocations on whether or not counties have a rollover. You may again hear Steuben County named as having a rollover.

Mr. Alger explained to determine your allocation, they take the rollover amount and subtract that from the upcoming year and the allocation goes down and then you end up having to cut daycare. Eventually you will catch up, but in that year, you could have a significant cut. If there is a 25 percent cut and basing it on 100 percent the money and then you only have three months left and that isn't enough time to spend it. It is a ridiculous methodology. The cost for the daycare program is \$2.7 million.

Ms. Muller stated there is a proposal for child support that would put an additional burden on the unit. When a non custodial parent is not paying support, we have to look for bank accounts from which to collect support. The State puts a time restriction on the unit seeking out that and the non custodial parent has the opportunity to decline. There are fiscal penalties if we are not within the time constraints.

D. Veteran's Service Agency

1. **2009 State Budget Impact** – Mr. McRae informed the committee that last year they received \$5,000 and they have been informed that may double, but the definitely will not receive any less than that.

2. **Member Item** – Mr. McRae informed the committee that in December he sent a member item request to Senator Winner and Assemblyman Bacalles for \$14,000 to have their microfiche updated and digitized. Depending upon the State budget, we may or may not receive that funding. If we do not get the grant, we will not go ahead with this project.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. WALSH. SECONDED BY MR. GEHL. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Amanda L. Chapman
Senior Stenographer
Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR
March 4, 2009 @ 10:00 a.m.**

**PLEASE SEND AGENDA ITEMS TO THE
CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE'S OFFICE
NO LATER THAN NOON Wednesday, February 25, 2009.**

STEBEN COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 4, 2009

10:00 a.m.

Legislative Conference Room
Steuben County Office Building
Bath, New York

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE: David Stachnik, Chair Francis L. Gehl, Vice Chair John S. Walsh
 Randolph J. Weaver

STAFF: Mark R. Alger Gregory P. Heffner Jack Wheeler
 Kathryn Muller Lise Reynolds Linda Tetor
 James Gleason Frederick H. Ahrens, Jr. David English

LEGISLATORS: Philip J. Roche Dan C. Farrand

ABSENT: Richard A. Argentieri

OTHERS: Mary Perham, *The Leader*

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Stachnik called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and asked Mr. Gehl to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 4, 2009 MEETING MADE BY MR. GEHL. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

III. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Department of Social Services

1. **Equipment** – Ms. Muller informed the committee that they have received an additional allocation for the administration of the HEAP Program. She requested authorization to accept an additional \$20,000 in HEAP federal revenues and appropriate \$4,500.00 to minor equipment for the purchase of 14 headsets and one fax machine and appropriating \$15,500.00 to FS/HEAP Overtime.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO ACCEPT \$20,000.00 IN ADDITIONAL HEAP FEDERAL REVENUES AND APPROPRIATING \$15,500.00 TO FS/HEAP OVERTIME LINE ITEM AND \$4,500.00 TO MINOR EQUIPMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF 14 HEADSETS AND ONE FAX MACHINE AND AMENDING THE MINOR EQUIPMENT LIST TO REFLECT THIS ADDITION MADE BY MR. GEHL. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. Resolution Required.

2. **Budget Transfer** – Ms. Muller requested authorization to transfer a total of \$3,000 from their telephone and printing line items into their minor equipment line item to purchase a duplicator. Our department produces 600,000 copies each year for forms that we use on a daily basis. Mr. Gleason commented purchasing a duplicator is the cheapest way to produce that volume of black and white copies. The cost for the duplicator is \$2,820.00 plus delivery and if we were to purchase a copy machine to do this, it would be at least \$20,000.00.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO TRANSFER \$2,000.00 FROM THE TELEPHONE LINE ITEM AND \$1,000.00 FROM THE PRINTING LINE ITEM TO THEIR MINOR EQUIPMENT LINE ITEM TO PURCHASE ONE DUPLICATOR AT A COST OF \$2,820.00 PLUS DELIVERY AND AMENDING THEIR MINOR EQUIPMENT LIST TO REFLECT THIS ADDITION MADE BY MR. WEAVER. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

3. **Contract** – Ms. Muller requested authorization to enter into a new contract with Bonadio Group, an accounting firm out of Pittsford, NY. They will conduct audits of individuals who are applying for Medicaid that are self-employed and will review their tax returns to ensure they are eligible. This will be billed under Medicaid Administration. The rate will be \$150.00 per hour and we anticipate them working 8 hours per month. Mr. Weaver asked this is a contract that we have never had before? Ms. Muller replied that is correct. Mr. Weaver asked will there be a cost savings in doing this? Ms. Muller replied other counties have seen a 30- 40 percent cost avoidance.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH BONADIO GROUP OF PITTSFORD, NY TO CONDUCT AUDITS OF SELF-EMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS APPLYING FOR MEDICAID AT A RATE OF \$150.00 PER HOUR, UP TO 8 HOURS PER MONTH MADE BY MR. GEHL. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

B. OFA/RSVP

1. **Budget Cuts** – Mrs. Tetor informed the committee that we will be receiving a 20 percent cut in transportation funds for the current year and that equates to approximately \$3,000.00.

2. **Budget Adjustment** – Mrs. Tetor informed the committee that last year we began the Trust in the Lives of Older Women project which is a joint effort with the Department of Social Services and the Office of Community Services. We did not put this line item into the 2009 budget. She requested authorization to add account 677700.5.440126 to the 2009 budget and appropriate \$11,792.00 to that line item for this program.

MOTION: AMENDING THE 2009 BUDGET TO INCLUDE THE ADDITION OF LINE ITEM 677700.5.440126 INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN SERVICES – TRUST IN THE LIVES OF OLDER WOMEN PROGRAM AND APPROPRIATING \$1,107.00 FROM LINE ITEM 677700.4.3772900 GRANT IN AID – BACALLES AND \$10,685.00 FROM LINE ITEM 677700.4.2801900 INTER-DEPARTMENT TRANSFER FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO THIS LINE ITEM MADE BY MR. GEHL. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. *Resolution Required.*

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. GEHL. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Amanda L. Chapman
Senior Stenographer
Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR
April 1, 2009 @ 10:00 a.m.**

**PLEASE SEND AGENDA ITEMS TO THE
CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE'S OFFICE
NO LATER THAN NOON Wednesday, March 25, 2009.**

STEUBEN COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

10:00 a.m.

Legislative Committee Conference Room

Steuben County Office Building

3 East Pulteney Square

Bath, New York 14810

Meeting Cancelled

Mrs. Tetor informed the committee that the per unit rate for housekeeper/chore and respite services as well as homemaker under the Title III-E Respite Program have increased to \$27.20 for 2009 and that rate is retroactive to January 1, 2009. This will result in an increase in our contract with Home and Health Care Services by \$2,121 bringing the total of that contract to \$30,057.00 and she requested authorization to amend their contract to reflect this change.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING TO AMEND THEIR CONTRACT WITH HOME AND HEALTH CARE SERVICES, INC. TO REFLECT A PER UNIT RATE INCREASE FOR HOUSEKEEPER/CHORE, RESPITE SERVICES AND HOMEMAKER TO \$27.20 RETROACTIVE TO JANUARY 1, 2009, BRINGING THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF THE CONTRACT TO \$30,057.00 MADE BY MR. GEHL. SECONDED BY MR. WEAVER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

B. Department of Social Services

1. **Detention Center Roof** – Ms. Muller informed the committee that the Detention Center is in need of a new roof and they put out a request for quotes. The lowest quote was \$11,624.00 from Tenney & Sons out of Cameron Mills. She requested approval to award the quote to Tenney & Sons and to close the Detention Sprinkler Capital Project and transfer the remaining balance to the Detention Center Roof Capital Project.

MOTION: AWARDING THE QUOTE FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE DETENTION CENTER ROOF TO TENNEY & SONS OUT OF CAMERON MILLS, NY AT A QUOTE OF \$11,624.00 AND AUTHORIZING THAT THE CAPITAL PROJECT ENTITLED DETENTION CENTER SPRINKLER PROJECT BE CLOSED AND THE REMAINING BALANCE BE TRANSFERRED TO THE CAPITAL PROJECT ENTITLED DETENTION CENTER ROOF REPAIR PROJECT MADE BY MR. ARGENTIERI. SECONDED BY MR. GEHL. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0. Resolution Required.

2. **Caseload Statistics** – Ms. Muller reviewed caseload statistics with the committee. She also reviewed year-to-date expenditures and revenues. The Medicaid budget is reflecting the stimulus money that we have received and they are now reducing our weekly share expense and that will reduce the local share by about \$4 million. With the TANF program the 10 percent increase in the grant is effective July 1, 2009 and the State will cover the increase for the first three years. We will not see a local impact of that until 2012. Mr. Roche asked when does the Medicaid stimulus money end? Mr. Alger replied we will have that until the end of 2010.

3. **Foster Care Banquet** – Ms. Muller informed the committee that the Foster Care Banquet will be held on May 27, 2009. She requested authorization to spend up to \$1,700.00 on this event.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO SPEND UP TO \$1,700.00 ON THE FOSTER CARE BANQUET BEING HELD ON MAY 27, 2009 MADE BY MR. GEHL. SECONDED BY MR. ARGENTIERI. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

4. **Quarterly Law Luncheon Meetings** – Ms. Muller informed the committee that the Steuben County Law Department will host four quarterly law luncheon meetings in 2009 at an approximate cost of \$35.00 per quarter and they have money in their budget.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO SPEND \$35.00 PER QUARTER FOR THE FOUR QUARTERLY MEETINGS HOSTED BY THE STEUBEN COUNTY LAW DEPARTMENT MADE BY MR. GEHL. SECONDED BY MR. ARGENTIERI. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

5. **Semi-Annual Services Unit Division Meetings** – Ms. Muller informed the committee that the Services Unit has division meetings twice a year which cost approximately \$30.00 each. She requested authorization to spend \$30.00 semi-annually on the Services Unit meetings. Money is in the budget and these expenses are chargeable to State and Federal funding sources.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO SPEND \$30.00 SEMI-ANNUALLY FOR THE SERVICES UNIT DIVISION MEETINGS MADE BY MR. GEHL. SECONDED BY MR. WEAVER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

6. **Coalition Against Underage Drinking** – Ms. Muller informed the committee that through Public Health Nursing Services, they has established a marketing coalition against underage drinking. This coalition includes the Office of Community Services, the Sheriff's Department, school resource officers, Catholic Charities and private providers. She stated they have been asked for a \$200.00 donation which will be used to sponsor a poster contest throughout the county as well as to do other promotional activities. She requested approval to make this donation.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO MAKE A \$200.00 DONATION TO THE COALITION AGAINST UNDERAGE DRINKING TO BE USED TO SPONSOR A COUNTY-WIDE POSTER CONTEST AND OTHER PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES MADE BY MR. GEHL. SECONDED BY MR. ARGENTIERI. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. ARGENTIERI. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Amanda L. Chapman
Senior Stenographer
Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR
June 3, 2009 @ 10:00 a.m.**

**PLEASE SEND AGENDA ITEMS TO THE
CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE'S OFFICE
NO LATER THAN NOON Wednesday, May 27, 2009.**

STEBEN COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Wednesday, June 3, 2009

10:00 a.m.

*Legislative Conference Room
Steuben County Office Building
Bath, New York*

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE: David R. Stachnik, Chair Francis L. Gehl, Vice Chair John S. Walsh

STAFF: Mark R. Alger Gregory P. Heffner Gary Pruyn
Dan McRae Frederick H. Ahrens, Jr. David English

LEGISLATORS: Philip J. Roche Lawrence P. Crossett Joseph J. Hauryski
Robert V. Nichols Thomas J. Ryan

ABSENT: Richard A. Argentieri Randolph J. Weaver

OTHERS: Mary Perham, *The Leader*

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Stachnik called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and asked Mr. McRae to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 6, 2009 MEETING MADE BY MR. WALSH. SECONDED BY MR. GEHL. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

III. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Youth Bureau

1. **Contracts** – Mr. Pruyn requested authorization to appropriate \$43,568.00 in pass through prevention funding from the Department of Social Services to the Family Services Society for prevention services contracts.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE YOUTH BUREAU TO APPROPRIATE \$43,568.00 IN PASS-THROUGH PREVENTION FUNDING FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES FOR THE FOLLOWING 2009 PREVENTION SERVICES CONTRACTS: FAMILY SERVICE SOCIETY – YOUTH SERVICES (\$6,501.00), FAMILY SERVICE SOCIETY – CAYC – TEEN NIGHT (\$16,867.00) AND FAMILY SERVICE SOCIETY – CAYC – PROGRAM MANAGEMENT (\$20,200.00) MADE BY MR. GEHL. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

2. **Tyrtle Beach** – Mr. Pruyn reported that the Youth Board reviewed and has allocated \$33,045.00 to 75 youth agencies in Central Steuben. Chairman Roche has raised the fourth largest amount of \$32,000.00. It was a very successful fundraiser.

B. Veterans' Service Agency

1. **Member Item Grant** – Mr. McRae requested authorization to proceed with a member item grant in the amount of \$12,850.00 to produce digital records at their office. Mr. Alger stated he would like to accept the grant funding contingent upon the approval and execution of the contract.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE VETERANS' SERVICE AGENCY TO ACCEPT A MEMBER ITEM GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$12,850.00 TO PRODUCE DIGITAL RECORDS OF VETERANS' SERVICE RECORDS CONTINGENT UPON THE APPROVAL AND EXECUTION OF THE CONTRACT MADE BY MR. GEHL. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0. Resolution Required.

2. **2008 Geographic Distribution of VA Expenditures** – Mr. McRae distributed the 2008 Geographic Distribution of VA Expenditures Report for the committee's review. He commented the most notable increases are in comp and pension. Also, the aid to localities current amount is \$5,000.00 and that will be going up to \$7,000.00. Mr. Roche asked what is the impact of the Bath VA on the numbers? Mr. McRae replied that is hard to figure out, but we do see a lot of veterans that cycle through the VA.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

A. **Foster Care Recognition Dinner** – Mr. Gehl stated that last Thursday was the Foster Parent Recognition Dinner. Commissioner Muller and her staff do a terrific job in this area.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. GEHL. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Amanda L. Chapman
Senior Stenographer
Steuben County Legislature

STEBEN COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Special Meeting

Monday, June 22, 2009

9:45 a.m.

Legislative Conference Room
Steuben County Office Building
Bath, New York

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE: Philip J. Roche Richard A. Argentieri John S. Walsh
Randolph J. Weaver

STAFF: Mark R. Alger Jack Wheeler Gary Pruyn

LEGISLATORS: Donald B. Creath Lawrence P. Crossett Patrick F. Donnelly
Dan C. Farrand Joseph J. Hauryski Patrick F. McAllister
Robert V. Nichols Thomas J. Ryan Scott J. Van Etten

ABSENT: David Stachnik, Chair Frances L. Gehl, Vice Chair

OTHERS: Mary Perham, *The Leader*

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Roche called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m.

II. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. Youth Bureau

1. **2009 Contracts** – Mr. Pruyn presented his 2009 contracts for approval. He commented that we are seeing an approximately 15 percent reduction in State funding from last year. The County is reimbursed through the Department of Social Services Prevention funds. The State funds 63 percent and the agencies make up the 37 percent match.

MOTION: APPROVING THE FOLLOWING 2009 CONTRACTS FOR THE YOUTH BUREAU FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT & DELINQUENCY PREVENTION: FAMILY SERVICE SOCIETY (YOUTH SERVICE) \$19,646.00; BATH POLICE COUNSELING \$1,928.00; HORNELL CONCERN \$29,034.00; YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT \$16,205.00; ADDISON YOUTH CENTER (YOUTH SERVICE) \$12,189.00; LITERACY VOLUNTEERS (TEEN TUTORING) \$5,042.00; CATHOLIC CHARITIES (BATH HOPE) \$21,059.00; ADDISON YOUTH CENTER (TEEN PROJ) \$2,997.00; AND CENTER FOR DISPUTE SETTLEMENT (PINS) \$2,423.00 AND THE FOLLOWING CONTRACTS FOR SPECIAL DELINQUENCY PREVENTION: CENTER FOR DISPUTE SETTLEMENT (YOUTH MEDIATION) \$8,835.00; STEUBEN COUNTY DSS (ADOLESCENT PREVENTIVE) \$6,141.00; ADDISON YOUTH CENTER (CRISIS) \$1,705.00; PROACTION (TASA A & B) \$8,157.00; CORNING AREA YOUTH CENTER (JUST US) \$5,340.00; AND CORNING AREA YOUTH CENTER (CRISIS) \$8,739.00; AND THE FOLLOWING CONTRACTS FOR PREVENTION SERVICES: CENTER FOR DISPUTE SETTLEMENT (JUV DIV) \$14,550.00 MADE BY MR. ARGENTIERI. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. WEAVER. SECONDED BY MR. ARGENTIERI. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted by: Amanda L. Chapman, Senior Stenographer, Steuben County Legislature

STEUBEN COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Wednesday, July 1, 2009

10:00 a.m.

Legislative Committee Conference Room

Steuben County Office Building

3 East Pulteney Square

Bath, New York

**** MINUTES****

Meeting was cancelled.

STEBEN COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Wednesday, August 5, 2009

10:30 a.m.

*Legislative Conference Room
Steuben County Office Building
Bath, New York*

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE: David R. Stachnik, Chair Francis L. Gehl, Vice Chair John S. Walsh

STAFF: Mark R. Alger Gregory P. Heffner Jack Wheeler
Linda Tetor Kathryn Muller Teresa Deninger
Lise Reynolds Lisa Baker Jason McLoud
Joan Woodard Jan Kenyon Nancy Smith
Carol Whitehead Frederick H. Ahrens, Jr.

ABSENT: Richard A. Argentieri Randolph J. Weaver

OTHERS: Mary Perham, *The Leader*
Heather Morey

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Stachnik called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. and asked Mr. Gehl to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 1, 2009 MEETING MADE BY MR. WALSH. SECONDED BY MR. GEHL. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

III. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

A. OFA/RSVP

1. **NY Connects** – Mrs. Tetor explained NY Connects is a program they do in partnership with the Department of Social Services. They have received additional Title IIIB federal funding in the amount of \$61,091.00. She requested authorization to accept this funding and appropriate \$61,091.00 to their line item for DSS NY Connects. This increase will cover all of 2009. She commented that funds from the Department of Social Services offsets some of their costs.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING TO ACCEPT \$61,091.00 IN TITLE IIIB FEDERAL FUNDING AND APPROPRIATING TO THEIR LINE ITEM DSS NY CONNECTS TO COVER 2009 COSTS MADE BY MR. GEHL. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

2. **Budget Transfer** – Mrs. Tetor informed the committee that they lost their State funding for the Long-Term Care Insurance and Outreach Program, however, they did come up with HIICAP funding for Medicare Outreach to balance that out. She requested authorization to transfer \$27,583.00 from their line item for the Long-Term Care Insurance and Outreach Program to the Medicare Outreach line item.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING TO TRANSFER \$27,583.00 FROM THE LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE OUTREACH PROGRAM LINE ITEM WHICH REFLECTS A DECREASE IN STATE FUNDING AND APPROPRIATING \$27,583.00 TO THE MEDICARE OUTREACH PROGRAM LINE ITEM MADE BY MR. WALSH. SECONDED BY MR. GEHL. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

Mrs. Tetor informed the committee that they have received stimulus funding in the amount of \$9,973.00 for our home delivered meals program and \$20,550.00 for our congregate meals program. She requested authorization to accept this funding and appropriate \$9,973.00 to their ARRA Home Delivered Meals line item and \$20,550.00 to their ARRA Congregate Meals line item. Mrs. Tetor also requested authorization to amend their contract with Corning Meals on Wheels to provide home delivered meals to reflect an increase of \$3,191.00 due to an increase in stimulus funding.

Mrs. Tetor explained that with regard to their congregate meals program, they are looking to try a restaurant model. They would contract with a restaurant to serve meals. They would like to do a pilot with the restaurants in Prattsburgh and Canisteo. The restaurants would have a very specific menu and seniors would pay a donation to receive a ticket. The restaurant would then collect the tickets which will be signed by the seniors, and then turn them into our office and we in turn will pay the restaurants. We will use the stimulus funding for this new program. We will be serving areas of the county that we have not been able to reach before. This will be a supplement to congregate meals program.

Mr. Gehl asked how will you identify seniors to participate? Mrs. Tetor replied they will be advertising through churches, historical societies, etc. We will have someone at the restaurants before we begin the program and have certain hours where people can come in and get their tickets.

Mr. Stachnik asked when the stimulus funding dries up, so will the funding for this program? Mrs. Tetor replied correct. If the program is not paying for itself it will be discontinued. This program has been very successful in Washington County and they have done it for years.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING TO ACCEPT \$9,973.00 IN STIMULUS FUNDING FOR THE HOME DELIVERED MEALS PROGRAM, APPROPRIATING \$9,973.00 TO THEIR LINE ITEM FOR ARRA HOME DELIVERED MEALS AND AMENDING THEIR CONTRACT WITH CORNING MEALS ON WHEELS TO REFLECT AN INCREASE OF \$3,191.00; ACCEPTING \$20,550.00 IN STIMULUS FUNDING FOR THE CONGREGATE MEALS PROGRAM AND APPROPRIATING \$20,550.00 TO THEIR LINE ITEM ARRA CONGREGATE AND AUTHORIZING THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING TO START A RESTAURANT PROGRAM IN PRATTSBURGH AND CANISTEO USING THIS STIMULUS FUNDING MADE BY MR. WALSH. SECONDED BY MR. GEHL. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

3. **Steuben Senior Services Fund** – Mrs. Tetor informed the committee they have received a total of \$25,215.00 in State grants for aging in place. We subcontract for our Steuben Senior Services Fund and through that have a countywide plan for aging in place. She requested authorization to accept this funding and to amend their contract with the Steuben Senior Services Fund to reflect an increase of \$20,800.00; and to amend their contract with the Institute for Human Services to reflect an increase of \$500.00 for phone work.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING TO ACCEPT TOTAL STATE GRANT FUNDING FOR AGING IN PLACE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,215.00; APPROPRIATING \$20,800 TO THEIR STEUBEN SENIOR SERVICES FUND, \$3,915.00 TO THE LINE ITEM FOR OTHER EXPENSES AND \$500.00 TO THE LINE ITEM FOR INSTITUTE AIP AND AMENDING THEIR CONTRACT WITH THE STEUBEN SENIOR SERVICES FUND TO REFLECT AN INCREASE OF \$20,800.00 AND AMENDING THEIR CONTRACT WITH THE INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN SERVICES TO REFLECT AN INCREASE OF \$500.00 FOR PHONE WORK MADE BY MR. GEHL. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

4. **Steam Table** – Mrs. Tetor informed the committee that ProAction is in need of a steam table to be used for the senior nutrition program. There is a steam table available at the old Health Care Facility. She requested authorization to enter into an agreement with ProAction to loan them the steam table for use for their kitchen located at Lakeview Apartments.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH PROACTION FOR A STEAM TABLE LOCATED AT THE OLD HEALTH CARE FACILITY TO BE LOANED TO THEM FOR USE IN THEIR KITCHEN LOCATED AT LAKEVIEW APARTMENTS MADE BY MR. WALSH. SECONDED BY MR. GEHL. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

5. **16B Requests** – Mrs. Smith informed the committee that the Office for the Aging has requested two new positions; one Specialist, Services for the Aging and one Social Welfare Examiner. This is the worst budget for considering new positions. Mr. Walsh asked are you recommending these positions? Mrs. Smith replied no.

Mrs. Tetor explained she was given strict guidelines and she felt that she had to put these positions in. She understands the economic problems and put these positions in for future planning. The senior population is growing and we do have a contract person that does the duties of a Specialist and they are in place now and it is funded; however, they could change. Both of these positions would be zero-based.

Mr. Gehl asked, if the positions are zero-based, do they stay on the books for two years and then get abolished? Mrs. Smith replied if a zero-based position goes to unfunded for two years, it is then abolished.

Mrs. Tetor commented with regard to the Specialist, Services for the Aging position, the contract position would be eliminated and the funding would go to the county position.

MOTION: RECOMMENDING THE CREATION OF TWO ZERO-BASED POSITIONS IN THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING; ONE SPECIALIST, SERVICES FOR THE AGING AND ONE SOCIAL WELFARE EXAMINER, AS LONG AS FUNDING IS AVAILABLE MADE BY MR. GEHL. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

B. Department of Social Services

1. **Staff Recognitions** – Ms. Muller informed the committee that Jan Kenyon and Lisa Baker have received one of three recognitions by the State Office of Temporary Assistance for education and training opportunities in the Employment Unit. **CONGRATULATIONS!**

Ms. Muller informed the committee that Jason McLoud and Joan Woodard are receiving the only recognition in the State for their collaboration efforts with Probation. They, with Cheryl Crocker from Probation, will be recognized on August 13, 2009. **CONGRATULATIONS!**

2. **Caseload Statistics** - Ms. Muller reviewed caseload statistics with the committee. We are not getting the increase yet that we would expect to see down the road, but we are overwhelmed with walk-in's. The State is doing a Back-To-School Program where they are sending checks to every child between the ages of 3 and 17 who are getting Food Stamps or Temporary Assistance. The children will receive checks in the amount of \$200.00 to get school supplies. The program is funded 80 percent federal and 20 percent State. There is no local cost. We have 3,500 children that will be getting these checks which equates to approximately \$700,000.00. These amounts will go into their grant card.

Ms. Muller stated during the 2008 – 2009 HEAP season they had 11,000 applications resulting in 19,000 benefits which equaled \$7.5 million. During 2007 – 2008 we had 7,000 applications resulting in 13,000 benefits. We have seen a significant increase in one year.

Ms. Muller stated with regard to the Child Protective Unit we have 109 children in care and 11 adoptions pending.

Ms. Muller reported the Mobile Work Program is operating with four crews. Recently during the United Way Day of Caring, Mr. Spagnoletti had our four crews participate and Lisa Baker promoted our Mobile Work Program. We have been scheduling 25 – 30 individuals with about half showing up. Our jobs are up a bit.

Ms. Muller reviewed the financial report with the committee. We are faced with Administrative dollars that were reduced in the State budget and that is reflected in our 6010 account. Our programs are well within budget. We are under budget in Foster Care and JD/PINS. The Medicaid stimulus funding is what is holding us where we are and we are projecting Medicaid to come in under budget.

3. **Day Care Funding** - Ms. Muller informed the committee that we are faced with the Daycare issues we had in 2005. The State has a very complicated way they fund our daycare costs. We get flexible FFFS and child care money and some years the regular TANF portion is allocated in the flex fund. The total allocation is \$3 million. The State came out with a directive to allocate the TANF portion of the FFFS account what accounts for \$1 million and the remaining allocation would be in the child care block grant and we did that. Once you allocate the money in the flex account, you cannot amend the plan. Then they came out with a new directive that the State will issue the entire child care allocation. We took a double hit. We lost \$1 million in the flex fund and then got an extra \$1 million in the regular child care block allocation. The Governor's Office issued a press release targeting counties for misusing daycare funds and is looking at taking them away. The State office is misadministering the funds. They reduced our allocation 40 percent of our rollover and we are short \$1 million. Now we are going through the process of having to cut back. Previously the cutoff was that individuals needed to be at 200 percent of the federal poverty level and the parent fees are at 30 percent. We are now cutting it back to a guideline of being at 120 percent of the federal poverty level.

Ms. Muller stated she sent a letter to the Governor's Office with copies to Senator Winner, Assemblyman Bacalles and the commissioner of the Office of Child & Family Services. Senator Winner and Assemblyman Bacalles are meeting today to discuss this. The last time we went through this we lost 40 child care providers. This time it will affect 60 child care providers.

Mr. Alger stated this has been a problem for some time. What ends up happening is the number of slots and the amount of day care dollars is reduced significantly. This has a net effect on the population and many are not able to work and that has a ripple effect. There is a flaw in the methodology and the timing is poor. They need to look at how and when they allocate the funds.

MOTION: MEMORIALIZING THE GOVERNOR AND THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO CHANGE THEIR METHODOLOGY WITH REGARD TO DAY CARE FUNDING MADE BY MR. WALSH. SECONDED BY MR. GEHL. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

4. **Budget Transfer** - Ms. Muller requested authorization to transfer \$35,000.00 from the lawyer charge-back line item to the security services line item to cover additional expenses.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO TRANSFER \$35,000.00 FROM ACCT. 601000.5.423990 TO ACCT. 161000.5.444360 TO COVER ADDITIONAL SECURITY CHARGES MADE BY MR. GEHL. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

C. Administrator

1. **Cell Phone Request** – Mr. Alger informed the committee that the Department of Social Services is requesting two cell phones for the BILT (Building Independence for the Long Term) Program. Ms. Muller explained this unit works with intake for Temporary Assistance, homeless intervention, domestic violence intervention and also conduct drug/alcohol screenings and mental health evaluations. These individuals are out in the field a lot and they would benefit from having a phone for emergencies.

MOTION: APPROVING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES REQUEST FOR TWO CELL PHONES FOR THE BILT UNIT MADE BY MR. GEHL. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. GEHL. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR.
MOTION CARRIES 3-0.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

Amanda L. Chapman
Senior Stenographer
Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR
Wednesday, August 5, 2009 @ 10:00 a.m.**

**PLEASE SEND AGENDA ITEMS TO THE
CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE'S OFFICE
NO LATER THAN NOON Wednesday, August 26, 2009.**

are accepted? Ms. Muller replied she doesn't know the percent, but most applications are approved. Individuals can look online to see if they are eligible to receive HEAP.

2. **Homeless Prevention Program** – Ms. Muller informed the committee they have received, through the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Grant for a twenty-two month period in the amount of \$466,353.00. This is stimulus funding and we are one of four counties that received this award. This funding will be used to address homelessness issues. We currently have a part-time homeless worker through Catholic Charities and with this funding we will fund that position full-time. We have a contract with Southern Tier Legal Services to provide attorney coverage for evictions and to help prevent evictions. Also, through Arbor Development, we will have HUD habitability inspections. Ms. Muller requested authorization to appropriate four months of this grant to cover 2009.

MOTION: ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF A 22-MONTH HOMELESS PREVENTION AND RAPID RE-HOUSING GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$84,840.00 MADE BY MR. WEAVER. SECONDED BY MR. WALSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0. Resolution Required.

3. **Transitional Jobs Program** – Ms. Muller informed the committee they have received, through the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, the Transition Jobs Program Grant in the amount of \$103,531.00. She requested authorization to accept and appropriate the first four months of the grant in the amount of \$69,021.00. Ms. Muller explained through this program, individuals will be required to work 35 hours per week, of which 7 of those hours will be for job training. They will be paid \$8.00 per hour. We will work with the private sector, Pathways and the Health Care Facility to provide jobs and training opportunities. This grant will pay their salary for six months and their positions will become permanent.

MOTION: ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF THE TRANSITIONAL JOBS PROGRAM GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$69,021.00 MADE BY MR. WALSH. SECONDED BY MR. WEAVER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0. Resolution Required.

4. **Child Care Funding** – Mr. Roche asked Ms. Muller how did the reduction in the child care allocation come about and what did we do last year? Ms. Muller explained we receive daycare funding through the Child Care Block Grant. That is our total daycare allocation. Last year, we received a directive to fund the TANF portion of child care out of our flex fund. We were getting an additional \$1 million in the flex fund to cover the TANF portion of child care services. Eleven months later we were sent a second directive which said we are going to give you a TANF subsidy in the child care block grant. In the flex fund, if you carve out money for child care you cannot modify that portion of your plan. By reversing that directive, it created a \$1 million roll over. We allocated the \$1 million in the flex fund into the allocation in the child care block grant. Because we had a roll over, they cut our next year's allocation 40 percent of the roll over, which is about \$1 million. We finally determined that two weeks ago, but there was no fix before our close date of September 8th. The federal stimulus money allocation will be October 1, 2009 and that would be a way to assist the county in making us whole. The question is, will they consider us for the next State year allocation? This is our new allocation, this will be our next year's allocation.

Mr. Gehl stated that he would like to offer a resolution to take \$1 million out of the fund balance for child care. This affects people who should be working. Ms. Muller commented that she would caution appropriating local dollars into the day care. Her opinion is that the State needs to fix this. If we appropriate money this year, that will lock us into that amount every year. She would be concerned going forward.

Mr. Alger stated that he would not recommend doing that either. This is the second time this has happened with the State. This is a problem the State created. Its federal dollars. The State did fix Suffolk County and are refusing to do the same for us.

Ms. Muller stated she would like to thank Mary Perham for her press on this as it was what prompted the phone call from the State. Mr. Alger stated we have written to every official in the State. They have stimulus money they could use to fix the problem for the County.

Mr. Weaver stated they are penalizing us for doing what they told us to do.

Ms. Muller commented this has impacted thirty counties.

Mr. Gehl asked what would have happened if you had not used the flex funding? Ms. Muller replied they would have cut my day care funding for the future if we had not followed their directive. They would have withheld revenue they owe us.

Mr. Donnelly stated it should be made part of the record that the State fixed the problem in Suffolk but not upstate.

Mr. Roche asked next year will be a smaller appropriation? Ms. Muller replied that is correct. It will be \$1 million less. We are closing 300 cases and that will affect 160 – 170 families. We are getting \$2.9 million now and will get \$2.1 million. Previously we served up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level and now it will be 120 percent of the federal poverty level. We also had to increase our parent fees to 30 percent; those were previously 10 percent. We also have been notified that two day care providers will be closing.

Mr. Roche requested in the future, talk about what these actual dollars are. Share those figures with Mary Perham.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. WALSH. SECONDED BY MR. WEAVER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Amanda L. Chapman
Senior Stenographer
Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR
Wednesday, October 7, 2009 @ 10:00 a.m.**

**PLEASE SEND AGENDA ITEMS TO THE
CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE'S OFFICE
NO LATER THAN NOON Wednesday, September 30, 2009.**

MOTION: AWARDING THE BID FOR RESIDENTIAL HEATING SYSTEMS TO I.D. BOOTH, BLEVINS AND VINE CITY SUPPLY ON A LINE ITEM BASIS MADE BY MR. ARGENTIERI. SECONDED BY MR. GEHL. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

3. **Budget Appropriation** – Ms. Muller requested authorization to accept additional HEAP funding in the amount of \$24,455.00 and appropriate that funding to Minor Equipment and Computer Equipment line items.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO ACCEPT ADDITIONAL HEAP FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$24,455.00 AND APPROPRIATING \$17,455.00 TO THE MINOR EQUIPMENT LINE ITEM AND \$7,000.00 TO THE COMPUTER EQUIPMENT LINE ITEM MADE BY MR. GEHL. SECONDED BY MR. ARGENTIERI. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

4. **School Resource Officer** – Ms. Muller informed the committee that Hornell City School District Superintendent, Chief of Police and Mayor are working together to support the County putting in a School Resource officer in the Hornell High School. We currently do this with the Bath School District. She requested authorization to enter into a contract with the City of Hornell for \$80,000.00 per year to provide a School Resource Officer. We draw down 63.7 percent funding from the State; the City of Hornell would fund \$51,000.00 and the Hornell City School District will fund the remaining \$30,000.00.

Mr. Ahrens asked who will employ this individual? Ms. Muller replied the School Resource Officer will be an employee of the City of Hornell.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO CONTRACT WITH THE HORNELL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT TO PROVIDE A RESOURCE OFFICER AT THE HIGH SCHOOL AT A COST OF \$80,000.00 OF WHICH THE CITY OF HORNELL WILL FUND \$51,000.00 AND THE SCHOOL DISTRICT WILL FUND \$30,000.00 MADE BY MR. ARGENTIERI. SECONDED BY MR. GEHL. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

B. Veterans' Service Agency

1. **Aid to Localities Funding** – Mr. McRae informed the committee that they have been informed they will be receiving an allocation of \$8,654.00.

2. **Digitized Records** – Mr. McRae informed the committee that they did receive a member item grant in the amount of \$12,000.00 to digitize records. They are currently working on a bid.

Mr. Roche commented that he heard from two constituents who moved in from out of the area and they were very complimentary as to the great job the Veterans' Agency did to help them.

C. Administrator

1. **Youth Bureau** – Mr. Alger commented that you received a letter from Mr. Pruyn. In effect, because his request to fill a vacant position was denied, he is withdrawing the Mentoring Program. That program will no longer be operational and he will be leaving the position vacant.

Mr. Stachnik commented this is a positive example of when funding runs out, being able to step away from a program. There is the loss of the program, however, should things change and the funding is in place, then the program could be resurrected. Mr. Walsh commented this may just be a sign of the times.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. ARGENTIERI. SECONDED BY MR. GEHL. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Amanda L. Chapman
Senior Stenographer
Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR
Wednesday, November 4, 2009 @ 10:00 a.m.**

**PLEASE SEND AGENDA ITEMS TO THE
CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE'S OFFICE
NO LATER THAN NOON Wednesday, October 28, 2009.**

STEUBEN COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Wednesday, November 4, 2009

10:30 a.m.

*Legislative Conference Room
Steuben County Office Building
Bath, New York*

****MINUTES****

Meeting was cancelled.

3. **Volunteer Recognition Dinner** – Mrs. Tetor informed the committee that the Volunteer Recognition Dinner will be held on Thursday, December 3, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at Lakeview Apartments.

Mr. Stachnik commented that he has been working with Linda Tetor for over 20 years. She is very consistent and is a glowing example to others. He stated that he will miss her and thanked her for all she has done.

B. Department of Social Services

1. **Caseload Statistics** – Ms. Muller informed the committee that caseloads for Temporary Assistance and Safety Net are not growing by leaps and bounds, but the emergency visits have. They averaged 43 walk-ins per day during the month of November, with 80 percent of those coming in with an emergency. Our Food Stamps and HEAP units are seeing the most increase. We are seeing significant growth in Food Stamps and Medicaid and we only anticipate more. In the Services Division we currently have 108 children in care. We did celebrate Adoption Day in November.

2. **Contracts** – Ms. Muller presented her 2010 contracts for approval. These are all existing contracts.

MOTION: APPROVING THE FOLLOWING 2010 CONTRACTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES: MARYANN BRYANT – MANAGED CARE CONSULTANT (\$5,000.00), FIRE ALARM SERVICE TECHNOLOGY (\$1,005.0), VIRDEE MEDICAL GROUP, PLLC – DR. TEJINDER VIRDEE (\$30.00 PER PHYSICAL EXAM), LABORATORY CORPORATION OF AMERICA (\$45.00 PER PERSON), FAITH MILLS – FOSTER PARENT TRAINING (\$550.00), AND STACY PHILLIPS – FOSTER PARENT TRAINING (\$550.00) MADE BY MR. WEAVER. SECONDED BY MR. GEHL. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

Mr. Gehl thanked Ms. Muller for all of the work she has done.

Mr. Stachnik stated Ms. Muller has given the committee wonderful presentations all year and has kept us informed. She has cooperated with other departments and thought outside of the box. Thank you for all your hard work.

Ms. Muller thanked the committee for their support.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN REGULAR SESSION AND RECONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO PUBLIC OFFICERS LAW, ARTICLE 7§ 105.1.D. DISCUSSIONS REGARDING PROPOSED, PENDING OR CURRENT LITIGATION MADE BY MR. WALSH. SECONDED BY MR. GEHL. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. GEHL. SECONDED BY MR. WEAVER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Amanda L. Chapman
Senior Stenographer
Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING OF THE HUMAN SERVICES, HEALTH & EDUCATION COMMITTEE
SCHEDULED FOR
Wednesday, January 6, 2010 @ 9:00 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office
NO LATER THAN NOON on Wednesday, December 30, 2009.**