

STEBEN COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES, HEALTH & EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Monday, July 9, 2018

9:00 a.m.

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

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE: Carol A. Ferratella, Chair Hilda T. Lando, Vice Chair K. Michael Hanna
 Steven P. Maio

STAFF: Jack K. Wheeler Mitchell Alger Hank Chapman
 Kathy Muller Lise Reynolds Darlene Smith
 Patty Baroody Alan Reed Cathy Baker
 Vince Spagnoletti

LEGISLATORS: Kelly H. Fitzpatrick Hilda T. Lando Robin K. Lattimer
 John V. Malter Frederick G. Potter

OTHERS: Mary Perham
 Dustin Rogers

ABSENT: Randy Weaver

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Ferratella called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and asked Mr. Alger to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 6, 2018, MEETING MADE BY MR. HANNA. SECONDED BY MRS. LANDO. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

III. DEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS

A. Office for the Aging

1. **ProAction Contract** – Mrs. Baroody informed the committee that ProAction did not spend the full amount of their 2017 Title III C-1 and C-2 contract which covers the Senior Nutrition Program. These are Federal funds that were carried over to 2018. She requested authorization to increase their contract by the amount of those funds which is \$15,634.00. Mr. Wheeler clarified, this is not an increase in the contract, but rather carrying forward the 2017 funds that were not spent.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING TO INCREASE THE CONTRACT WITH PROACTION FOR THE TITLE III C-1 AND C-2 CONTRACT BY \$15,634.00 WHICH REPRESENTS THE 2017 FEDERAL FUNDS THAT WERE NOT SPENT AND WERE CARRIED OVER TO 2018 MADE BY MRS. LANDO. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

2. **Corning Community College Project** – Mrs. Ferratella stated she found the project at Corning Community College to develop a universal grip to be very interesting. Mrs. Baroody stated she was familiar with built up utensils for individuals with arthritis, but this universal grip can be used for anything. The team of students submitted their idea to the NYS Department of Health and is one of 24 semi-finalists out of 74

submissions. In November, they will compete with inventors from other colleges. They have applied for a patent and have plans to make this product widely available for free or low cost to those who need it.

B. Office of Community Services

1. **Budget Adjustments** – Dr. Chapman requested authorization to accept State Aid COLA in the amount of \$7,231.00 from the New York State Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse, and appropriate those pass-thru dollars to Hornell Concern, Family Services Society and Catholic Charities.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES TO ACCEPT STATE AID COLA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,231.00 FROM THE NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND APPROPRIATE TO THE FOLLOWING CONTRACT PROVIDERS: HORNELL CONCERN - \$152.00; FAMILY SERVICES SOCIETY - \$349.00; AND CATHOLIC CHARITIES - \$6,730.00 MADE BY MR. MAIO. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

Dr. Chapman requested authorization to accept State Aid COLA in the amount of \$10,920.00 from the New York State Office of Mental Health and appropriate those pass-thru dollars to Arbor – SCAP, Catholic Charities and Finger Lakes Parent Network. Additionally, due to Medicaid Redesign, they are decreasing State Aid for their contract with Steuben ARC for Psychiatric Rehabilitation. The State has changed the way these services are provided, and now are looking for agencies to collaborate. Since Steuben ARC already collaborates with Chemung ARC, the funding is being reduced.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES TO ACCEPT STATE AID COLA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,920.00 FROM THE NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF MENTAL HEALTH AND APPROPRIATE TO THE FOLLOWING CONTRACT PROVIDERS: ARBOR – SCAP - \$12,061.00; CATHOLIC CHARITIES HOME - \$619.00 AND FINGER LAKES PARENT NETWORK - \$9,844.00; AND DECREASING THE CONTRACT LINE ITEM FOR STEUBEN ARC PSYCHIATRIC REHABILITATION \$11,604.00 MADE BY MR. HANNA. SECONDED BY MRS. LANDO. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

2. **Contracts** –

a. *Pathways* - Dr. Chapman informed the committee that he has a case manager who is leaving. He requested authorization to add \$73,000.00 to the Pathways contract to provide case management services.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES TO ADD \$73,000.00 TO THE PATHWAYS CONTRACT TO PROVIDE CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES MADE BY MRS. LANDO. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA FOR DISCUSSION.

Mrs. Lando commented we pay Pathways a lot of money. Dr. Chapman replied yes. Our contract with them is approximately \$1.2 million. Mrs. Lando asked do we get any kind of a deal because we do so much business with them? Mr. Wheeler added we can provide these services more efficiently through a contract.

Mrs. Lando stated Dr. Chapman has done a good job of saving money. Mr. Wheeler stated with everything happening and the growth of mental health services, there are not enough positions in the County to be able to provide those services ourselves.

VOTE ON PREVIOUS MOTION: ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

b. *Psychiatrist Services* – Dr. Chapman stated our current psychiatrist has been working a reduced number of hours. In an effort to compensate for that, he is looking to contract with Dr. Sampath Neerukonda for an annual amount not to exceed \$85,000. This would essentially give us the equivalent

of one to one and one half days per week. He would recommend entering into this contract and he will continue to build upon this in the future. Dr. Neerukonda's hourly rate would be \$170.00 per hour and we do have money available in the budget.

Mr. Wheeler stated Dr. Chapman has done a great job managing this situation. Being a rural county, this is the most difficult position to recruit for. We are not getting an influx of younger professionals in this field that are interested in working here. Dr. Chapman has been exploring many options and has created great efficiencies, which has been terribly difficult. This is not something that you have a choice in; you have to have a psychiatrist on staff.

Mrs. Ferratella asked how many hours does Dr. Khan work? He works remotely reviewing treatment plans and has been available by phone for consultations as needed. He is hoping at some point that he may be able to be more on-site. Dr. Khan had intended to retire at the end of this year.

Mrs. Lando asked are you continuously looking for psychiatrists? Dr. Chapman replied yes. We have been down the equivalent of one full-time prescriber. Mrs. Lando commented mental health is such a huge issue now.

Mr. Wheeler stated they recently had conversations with Arnot Hospital who is looking to work with Dr. Chapman. They have a young psychiatrist finishing up his residency and the hospital would like to keep him; however, part of that may be that we would be able to contract for some time as well.

Mr. Reed commented the contract with Dr. Neerukonda would be through an LLC. Dr. Chapman commented actually they would be contracting with Western New York Med Psych, PLLC.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH WESTERN NEW YORK MED-PSYCH, PLLC, FOR PSYCHIATRY SERVICES AT AN HOURLY RATE OF \$170.00, NOT TO EXCEED \$85,000 ANNUALLY MADE BY MR. MAIO. SECONDED BY MRS. LANDO. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

c. *Lease Renewal – Canisteo Valley Family Practice* – Dr. Chapman stated last month he had brought the lease renewal to committee for approval, and the committee had recommended increasing the term of the lease to three years. He stated that they did talk with Canisteo Valley Family Practice, however, they indicated that they were not interested in a three-year lease, and wanted to keep it at a one-year lease. They are satisfied with the services; however, he believes this is just a reflection of the uncertainty with Medicaid Managed Care. The renewal would be for one year, with an annual cost of \$12,000 which covers our rent, internet, telephone, and some support staff help. Dr. Chapman commented they have received a number of referrals for mental health services, but not so much for substance abuse services.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES TO RENEW THE LEASE WITH CANISTEO VALLEY FAMILY PRACTICE FOR ONE YEAR FOR AN ANNUAL COST OF \$12,000.00 MADE BY MRS. LANDO. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

C. County Manager

1. **Resolution Supporting Consolidation of Vital Registration Districts** – Mr. Wheeler informed the committee they received a request from the Town and Village of Avoca for the Legislature to support the consolidation of their Vital Registration Districts. Mrs. Smith contacted the State to inquire about this and we were informed that we do need to adopt a supporting resolution. The State is pushing the Towns and Villages to consolidate.

MOTION: SUPPORTING THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE TOWN AND VILLAGE OF AVOCA'S VITAL STATISTICS REGISTRATION DISTRICTS MADE BY MR. MAIO. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. Resolution Required.

2. **COPE and Jail Treatment Program** – Mr. Wheeler informed the committee that the State cut anticipated funding for substance abuse services in the Jails by three-quarters. Only a handful of counties are receiving funds. We voiced our displeasure as we are already ahead of the curve on this. We had discussed that if the State funding did not come through, that we would bring it to the Legislature.

Mr. Wheeler stated there is a vacant, funded Substance Abuse Counselor position. In speaking with Dr. Chapman, there may also be a need for a Case Manager and if so, we can find a vacant position. We will try to ramp the program up over the next few months or so, and if there is a valid need for the Case Manager, we will sign that vacancy as well. One important thing to note is there will not be any reimbursement for this. This is all one hundred percent County cost. As Dr. Chapman had mentioned, the hope is to transition the people in the Jail into follow up services and if they come to us, then we will be able to bill for those services. Dr. Chapman explained it takes 30 days for Medicaid to be reinstated once an individual is released from Jail.

Mrs. Lando commented she does not see how we can do anything else; we have to do it. Mr. Maio stated this is what we voted for. We said we were going to do this. Mr. Wheeler stated he just wanted the sense of the committee. He is authorized to sign vacancies and he will contact Personnel and get the vacancy for the Substance Abuse Counselor signed.

Mr. Hanna asked what is the availability of qualified individuals to fill this position? Dr. Chapman replied we have been able to hire people, but we only get one or two resumes. There are not a lot of people who want to live or relocate to our area. Mr. Wheeler stated another issue is that other organizations pay more.

Mr. Reed stated with Indigent Legal Services, he would anticipate more discussion and that this will be part of our application to the State. This is a vital professional piece. Mrs. Lando asked does this fit in with Raise the Age? Mr. Wheeler replied no, as youth are not supposed to be housed in the Jail. If we have a facility for youth, then mental health counseling is a required component. Mr. Reed explained we can look at alternatives to detention which could possibly include services for youth.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

A. *Park Signs* – Mrs. Lando informed the committee that she and Mr. Spagnoletti have been working on a project for installing “Drug Free Zone” signs for the parks. We have some information and they will be sending a message to the school Superintendents. We are hoping to have everything together before fall.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MRS. LANDO. SECONDED BY MR. MAIO. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted by Amanda L. Chapman, Deputy Clerk, Steuben County Legislature

****NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR**
Wednesday, August 1, 2018
Legislative Committee Room
9:00 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office
NO LATER THAN NOON
Wednesday, July 25, 2018.**