

**STEBEN COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES, HEALTH & EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

*Wednesday, March 7, 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                      Steven P. Maio  
Randolph J. Weaver

**STAFF:** Jack K. Wheeler                                      Mitchell Alger                                      Patty Baroody  
Christine Towner                                      Hank Chapman                                      Kathy Muller  
Lise Reynolds                                      Darlene Smith                                      Cheryl Crocker  
Bill Caudill                                      Jennifer Prossick                                      Alan Reed

**LEGISLATORS:** Joseph J. Hauryski                                      Kelly H. Fitzpatrick                                      John V. Malter  
Robert V. Nichols                                      Gary B. Roush

**ABSENT:** K. Michael Hanna

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mrs. Ferratella called the meeting to order and asked Ms. Prossick to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 13, 2018, MEETING MADE BY MR. WEAVER. SECONDED BY MRS. LANDO. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

**III. DEPARTMENT REQUESTS**

A. Youth Bureau

1. **Youth Board Dinner** – Mr. Caudill announced the Annual Youth Board Dinner will be held this evening. If you would like to join us, please let him know.

2. **Contract** – Mr. Caudill requested authorization to contract with Jim Gallagher to facilitate the Youth In Government Program, as well as Youth Leadership Program which would include the Youth Summit. The amount of the contract for 2018 is \$15,600 which represents a 20 percent increase from last year due to the added responsibilities of facilitating the Youth Leadership programs. Mr. Wheeler commented in the interest of disclosure, Mr. Gallagher is his father-in-law. Mrs. Ferratella asked is this contract renewable? Mr. Caudill replied yes.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE YOUTH BUREAU TO CONTRACT WITH JIM GALLAGHER TO FACILITATE THE YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT AND YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS FOR AN ANNUAL COST OF \$15,600 MADE BY MRS. LANDO. SECONDED BY MR. MAIO. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

B. Office of Community Services

1. **Memorializing Resolution** – Dr. Chapman requested the committee memorialize the State to support treatment and transition services to individuals with substance abuse disorders incarcerated in county jails. This is being supported and sponsored by the NYS Community Mental Health Directors Association, the

Sheriff's Association and the New York State Association of Counties. This is a collaborative effort where we are asking for \$12.8 million to help support substance abuse services that would be offered in county jails. Dr. Chapman stated 75 – 80 percent of the population in jail have alcohol and/or substance abuse issues. This proposal would give each county \$156,000 to support the addition of staff that would provide these services at the jails.

Mrs. Lando asked is it too late to do this since the Legislature is already in Session? Mr. Wheeler replied he thinks this is good timing. One of the proposals in the budget is an opioid surcharge which is supposed to generate \$120 million in revenue. Mrs. Lando asked how long would you expect this funding to last if approved? Dr. Chapman replied hopefully it would be ongoing.

Mr. Weaver asked would this be used for new inmates, or to augment what we already have? Dr. Chapman replied historically, and in his perspective, we have had a mental health component in the jail. He had recommended and the committee approved this past year the addition of a part-time staff person to do evaluations and limited treatment groups at the jail. He would like to use any additional funding to add staff to that so we could increase the services we are offering.

Mrs. Lando asked would this work with COPE (Comprehensive Opioid Prevention Effort)? Dr. Chapman replied it certainly could.

Mrs. Ferratella asked would this funding fall under your department or under the Sheriff? Mr. Wheeler replied that is yet to be determined. It would be more logical to put it under Mental Health, but ultimately that will be up to the State to decide.

Mrs. Lando commented because of the COPE initiative, more people may be jailed due to enforcement. Mr. Wheeler replied that is yet to be determined, but it is a potential. The 80 percent of the inmates coming in with substance abuse problems will not change, and the need will not go away.

**MOTION: MEMORIALIZING THE GOVERNOR AND THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE TO PROVIDE STATE FUNDING TO SUPPORT THE TREATMENT AND TRANSITION SERVICES TO INDIVIDUALS WITH SUBSTANCE ABUSE DISORDERS WHO ARE INCARCERATED IN COUNTY JAILS MADE BY MRS. LANDO. SECONDED BY MR. WEAVER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. Resolution Required.**

C. Office for the Aging

1. **RSVP Volunteer Recognition Event** – Ms. Towner informed the committee they will be holding their annual RSVP Volunteer Recognition event on May 17, 2018, at the Watson Homestead. They are expecting 150 volunteers and guests. She requested authorization to spend up to \$2,000 on catering.

Mrs. Lando commented last year there were complaints about people not being volunteers and attending the event. Ms. Towner replied they look at it as a type of recruitment effort. If a volunteer brings a guest, perhaps that individual will want to join.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING TO SPEND UP TO \$2,000 TO CATER THE ANNUAL RSVP RECOGNITION EVENT MADE BY MR. WEAVER. SECONDED BY MRS. LANDO. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

D. Department of Social Services

1. **Budget Update** – Ms. Muller distributed a handout highlighting the impacts of the proposed State Budget.

2. **Contract** – Ms. Muller stated with the Raise the Age legislation, counties are required to do a plan. She requested authorization to contract with John Treahy who was the former Executive Director of Glovehouse. He is now retired and has established a consulting business and is working with a number of counties on developing their plans. He has the expertise in the field and she thinks he can work with us to facilitate a good plan, which will enable us to draw down as much revenue as we can.

Mr. Wheeler explained there has been a conversation to have the ten counties in the Finger Lakes Region work together with this consultant. We need to have an operational plan that documents costs. Having help with that is a good idea. On the other side is having a Memorandum of Understanding that the Law Department is reviewing. This would be a non-binding agreement that the counties could work together to look at the potential of building a regional facility. These are two separate issues, but he likes the idea of contracting with the consultant for our operational plan.

Mrs. Ferratella asked does this plan have to be done by the end of October? Ms. Muller replied the new requirement goes into effect October 1, 2018, and the plan needs to be in place on or before April 1, 2018. Mr. Wheeler explained we can submit our plan as soon as April 1, 2018.

Mr. Weaver asked is this a contract to implement the plan? Mr. Wheeler replied the contract is to draft an operational plan and identify the expenses associated with the plan. Mr. Weaver asked what is the cost? Ms. Muller replied the rate is \$120.00 per hour. Mr. Wheeler stated you could put a cap of \$6,000. Ms. Muller replied this contract cost would be 100 percent reimbursable.

Mr. Reed stated the 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial District has a deadline of March 16, 2018, for court operational implementation. They are supposed to have a tentative plan to Judge Doran by March 12, 2018. Anecdotally, Onondaga and Monroe counties are working on an arrangement with each other, but Onondaga has now indicated they are no longer interested in providing housing for any other counties other than themselves. Mr. Wheeler commented for the facilities plan it may end up that we may not be interested, but we need to go through the process. Ms. Muller commented one of the benefits of having a regional placement facility is that the kids will not be mixed in with a different population.

Mr. Maio asked if we do not house locally, it will be difficult for a child's family to visit. It is important to keep the families close. Mr. Reed stated if Onondaga really stays with their position of only providing housing for children in their county, then you could look to see if Monroe would contract.

Mr. Weaver asked what kind of numbers are we looking at? Mr. Wheeler replied the State predicts for specialized secure detention there may be 15 – 20 per year in Steuben. In speaking with lawyers and judges, they are estimating maybe up to 5 per year. Mrs. Crocker commented that we have had four 16 year olds detained from Hornell City Court.

Mr. Wheeler stated the issue is what will happen with the judges and courts. Mr. Reed stated the Office of Court Administration is discussing allowing the District Attorney and law enforcement to pre-charge so that the District Attorney could decide whether to go forward with a felony charge. With a misdemeanor charge, that gives Family Court jurisdiction and the matrix is entirely different.

Mr. Malter asked if Monroe County builds a facility and contracts to house-in youth, what would the county's cost be based per child? Mr. Reed replied it would be based upon what Onondaga is doing. They have been hesitant to say what their policy will be. Mr. Malter asked there is no cost base? Mrs. Reynolds stated currently the cost to house a child in secure detention is \$2,000 per night. Ms. Muller stated the local share cost is \$800 - \$1,000 per night.

Mr. Wheeler stated there has been no discussion of where a regional facility would be located. That is why finding out what other counties are doing is important. Mr. Malter asked would there be an opportunity to have a

multiple county bond? Mr. Wheeler replied right now the proposal from the Dormitory Authority of New York is to bond for those facilities. If there are ten counties, he doesn't think that legally they would all be able to bond. He would think an LDC or authority would need to be created for that purpose.

Mr. Maio commented given the volume we would expect for our county, he doesn't know if building a facility would be cost effective. Mr. Wheeler replied you would build a facility big enough to house in youth, however, you would be depending on the State's promise to reimburse you. Mr. Maio stated that he does not like the idea of building something to make money on and he doesn't think that Law Enforcement is a money making thing.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH JOHN TREAHY TO DEVELOP A PLAN FOR RAISE THE AGE LEGISLATION AT AN HOURLY RATE OF \$120.00 PER HOUR, NOT TO EXCEED \$6,000.00 ANNUALLY MADE BY MR. MAIO. SECONDED BY MR. WEAVER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

E. Public Health

1. **Public Health Emergency Exercise – Meal Approval** – Mrs. Smith requested authorization to spend up to \$1,100 to provide lunch for 110 participants for the mass vaccination exercise. This exercise will be held on April 10, 2018 at Bath Haverling School. The exercise will take place from 1pm – 3pm, with set up to take place in the morning. The cost of the lunch will be paid for using PHEP grant funds.

Mrs. Ferratella asked is this an exercise? Mrs. Smith replied yes, this is a mass vaccination exercise. No actual vaccine will be administered; participants will be given an orange that will be injected. In order to be successful, we will need to run 77 participants per hour through the clinic.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DIRECT OF PUBLIC HEALTH TO PROVIDE LUNCH FOR 110 MASS VACCINATION PARTICIPANTS FOR A TOTAL COST OF \$1,100, TO BE PAID FOR USING PHEP GRANT FUNDS MADE BY MR. MAIO. SECONDED BY MR. WEAVER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.**

F. County Manager

1. **Recovery Awareness Event** – Mr. Wheeler stated the Recovery Awareness Event was held March 6, 2018, in the upstairs foyer. It was a fantastic event with about 30 – 40 people attending. Mrs. Ferratella commented there were some powerful speakers that made an impact and sent a message that it is possible to get through the recovery process. Mr. Wheeler stated this is something that we will plan to do each year on March 6<sup>th</sup> which is Recovery Awareness Advocacy Day.

Mrs. Lando stated Elaine Corwin is a professor at Corning Community College who would like to come in and talk about the Eat Well Recover Well Program.

**IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

A. *Committee Goals* – Mrs. Ferratella stated that one idea she had for this year's goal was to learn from each department how they deal with the opioid crisis and provide statistics each month so that we can track progress.

Mr. Maio stated his suggestion would be to create more "opportunities" for people to get into some type of recovery program. Female clients have to wait a lot longer than male clients to get treatment due to the lack of available beds for females. Additionally, the length of stay in inpatient recovery is dictated by insurance. These are major roadblocks and opportunities for treatment are limited. Mr. Wheeler stated local recovery beds may be reduced in the near future.

Mrs. Lando stated she has a few suggestions:

- Work with the District Attorney and Sheriff to implement COPE
- Work with Mental Health to provide education to youth
- Provide prevention services to youth

Mr. Maio commented Mrs. Lando's suggestions are all dealing with youth, but the opioid crisis deals with a much broader spectrum of the population. Mrs. Lando stated she is focusing on prevention efforts.

Mr. Wheeler stated the Legislators will receive the Department Goals within the next two weeks and you can look to see how those may be incorporated into your suggestions for committee goals. Discussion followed.

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

Respectfully Submitted by

Amanda L. Chapman  
Deputy Clerk  
Steuben County Legislature

**\*\*NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR\*\*  
Wednesday, April 4, 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, March 28, 2018.**