

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Health & Human Services**

The regular meeting of the Health & Human Services Committee was held in the Legislative conference room, Tuesday, April 3, 2018 at 8:30 AM.

Present:	Mr. William Standinger	Chair of the Committee
	Ms. Loretta Sullivan	Legislator
	Ms. Lori Morgan	Director of Community Services
	Mr. Chris Korba	Director of Administrative Services - MH
	Mr. Shawn Yetter	Commissioner of Social Services
	Mr. Gary Grant	Deputy Commissioner of Social Services
	Ms. Lisa McCafferty	Director of Public Health
	Mr. Denis McCann	Director of Administrative Services – PH
Guests:	Ms. Marte Sauerbrey	Chair of the Legislature
	Ms. Rita Hollenbeck	Chief Accountant – Treasurer’s Office

Unable to approve March minutes as there are not enough Legislators present for a quorum.

**MENTAL HYGIENE**

1. Budget Status
  - Mr. Chris Korba shared that for 2017 MH will have a return of \$103,702 to local share. The 2018 budget is on target.
2. Personnel
  - None.
3. Critical Issues/Topics
  - Ms. Morgan noted that there will be some grant money coming to fund a worker in the jail. We already have a CASA worker in the jail through another grant.
  - Christina Olevano from Trinity is applying for a grant for \$125,000/year for ten years. Must re-apply in five years.
4. Resolutions
  - Reappointing Member Christine Schweitzer to the Community Services Board.
  - Reappointing Member Denise Brown to the Community Services Board.
5. Proclamations
  - None.

## PUBLIC HEALTH

Ms. Lisa McCafferty presented personnel, highlights and resolutions.

1. Budget Status
  - Mr. Denis McCann shared that 2017 has been closed out. As previously reported, PH had a small return of local share, in addition to fringe savings. In 2018, an adjustment was made from 2017 which decreases 2018 revenue by \$300,000 in current reports, yet will be offset with revenue as the year goes on. There are no negative indicators so far in 2018, although continuing to monitor the Early Intervention escrow account.
2. Personnel
  - No change.
  - PH is proposing a change to County Policy #44 regarding benefits for part-time employees. They would like to add Dentists to that list to assist in the recruitment and retention of the hard to fill part-time Dentists. Tioga is a federally declared shortage area for Dentists. PH is required to have a Dentist to perform or bill for any Dental services. PH will make resource allocations to cover the cost, and are not seeking additional funds from the County. Ms. O'Rourke will bring this to her Committee this week and the plan is that she will present the resolution to change the policy in May.
3. Program Comments
  - Agency Report for March 2018 was forwarded to the Committee.
4. Resolutions
  - None.
5. Proclamations
  - Public Health Week.
  - Earth Awareness Week.

## SOCIAL SERVICES

Commissioner Yetter discussed caseloads, programmatic highlights, and personnel changes.

1. Budget
  - Mr. Gary Grant reported that DSS came in \$524,000 over budget for 2017 with most of that due to the Foster Care high cost placements. The 2018 program lines are looking good so far; keeping an eye on JD's & Safety Net. The Medicaid weekly share decreased slightly and will amount to a savings of around \$75,000 this year.
2. Caseloads
  - During March, Cash Assistance caseloads increased 3 cases, with Family Assistance increasing 2 cases and Safety Net increasing 1 case.
  - MA-Only decreased 45 cases.
  - MA-SSI increased 1 case.
  - Total Individuals on Medicaid decreased 54 to 3,605.
  - SNAP cases decreased 6 cases.
  - Day Care decreased 8 cases.
  - Services decreased 10 cases. – Hot line reports remain up.
  - See Caseload Summary.

Legislator Standinger asked how the new software was working. Commissioner Yetter shared that the training process has concluded. A download is needed from the State. Staff is using it out in the field and it is improving maximization of their time. The increase in hotline reports are related mostly to substance abuse, domestic violence and education neglect from the schools.

### 3. Programmatic Highlights

- TEC Report – In packet. Tioga County's Annual Job Fair had another successful year. 105 employers and 440 job seekers attended.
- Raise the Age – Commissioner Yetter explained that Ms. Joy Bennett, Probation Director, is looking into the process of creating a MOU with Hillbrook to cover the temporary placements. Commissioner Yetter is working on a MOU with a regional (Finger Lakes Region) group that involves ten counties that would hire a consultant who would locate a secure detention facility that meets the child's needs. The 16-year-olds start 10/1/18, with 17-year-olds starting on 10/1/19.
- State Budget – Commissioner Yetter noted that we did not get hit negatively. There is a new homelessness mandate that requires us to do an outreach plan to identify homeless - law enforcement & caseworkers already do this. The Deep Well and the Sunrise Motel are used initially. Then we have staff that work with the homeless towards a permanent solution even though affordable housing in Tioga County is hard to find.

### 4. Personnel Changes

- Abigail Canzler hired as part-time Mail Clerk effective 3/19/18.
- Cheri Zlinsky resigned as Caseworker effective 3/30/18. She moved to TC Probation.

### 5. Resolutions

- Recognize Kimberly A. Clark for her 33 Years of Dedicated Service.
- Appropriate of Funds – Youth Bureau. \$30,000 was received that is required to go toward sex trafficking outreach, advertising and a contract with A New Hope Center. Mr. Grant wanted to clarify that out of the \$14,000 local share budgeted for Youth Bureau salary, we will save between \$10,000-\$11,000 this year.

### 6. Proclamations

- Child Abuse Prevention Month. There will be blue ribbons and pinwheels throughout the County.

## **ADJOURNED:**

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Gail V. Perdue*

Executive Secretary, Social Services