

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Health & Human Services

The regular meeting of the Health & Human Services Committee was held in the Legislative Conference Room, Tuesday, December 5, 2023 at 8:30 AM.

Present: Mr. William Standinger	Chair of the Committee
Mr. Tracy Monell	Legislator
Mr. Dennis Mullen	Legislator
Mr. Jake Brown	Legislator
Ms. Lori Morgan	Director of Community Services
Mr. Chris Korba	Director of Administrative Services (MH)
Mr. Shawn Yetter	Commissioner of Social Services
Ms. Mickelle Andrews	Director of Administrative Services (DSS)
Ms. Heather Vroman	Public Health Director
Mr. Denis McCann	Director of Administrative Services (PH)

Guests: Ms. Marte Sauerbrey	Legislative Chair
Mr. Peter DeWind	County Attorney
Ms. Liz Myers	Deputy Commissioner (DSS)
Ms. Cathy Haskell	Legislative Clerk

Legislator Standinger asked for a motion to approve the November 7, 2023 HHS Committee minutes as written. Motion made by Legislator Monell. Seconded by Legislator Brown. Motion Carried.

MENTAL HYGIENE

1. Financial

- Mr. Chris Korba noted that the 2023 budget expenses are under budget due to vacancies & fringe savings. Both Expenses and Revenues are below target due to vacancies. MH has received one invoice for nine days for one individual in Court Ordered Criminal Psychiatric Care. This person has been discharged, leaving one person still inpatient. MH has determined the amount of additional funding needed to pay this current invoice. There is a resolution to transfer these funds.

2. Old Business

- Criminal Psych – See above.

3. New Business

- Waverly location – Ms. Morgan noted that she is meeting with Hunt Engineering this week. Gary Hammond wants to put out to bid. The lease is on hold,
- Mobile Crisis State Aid Funding – Ms. Morgan has submitted her plan to the state for approval.
- Opioid Abatement – Ms. Morgan shared that MH will be receiving \$224,000 more funds.

4. Personnel
 - Jacklyn Eagan, CSW, started 12/4/23
5. Resolutions – Legislators approved resolutions to continue
 - Transfer of Funds, Budget Modification (Criminal Psych Services)
 - Transfer of Fund, Budget Modification (OASAS State Aid)
6. Proclamations
 - None

SOCIAL SERVICES

1. Financial
 - Ms. Mickelle Andrews reported that all programs are on track to meet budget for 2023. Day Care continues to run high, but she will have enough money to cover until the end of the month. Safety Net is under budget. Overall, the budget is tracking well.
2. Old Business
 - None.
3. New Business
 - Caseloads
 - During November, Cash Assistance increased 3 cases, with Family Assistance remaining flat and Safety Net increasing 3 cases.
 - MA-Only decreased 16 cases.
 - MA-SSI decreased 21 cases.
 - Total Individuals on Medicaid decreased 41 cases to 3,386.
 - SNAP decreased 15 cases.
 - Day Care increased 12 cases.
 - See Caseload Summary
 - There have been increases in Child Welfare reports & Foster Care. We are mandated to try to do a family FC placement.
 - Tioga Career Center report is attached. The unemployment rate in Tioga County continues to remain below the state & federal levels. The Center is continuing to recruit for an Employment Counselor.
4. Personnel Changes
 - Veronica Jules, Caseworker, hired effective 11/6/23
 - Debra Bender, TCC, resigned effective 11/8/23
 - Tracy Hill, SWE, retired effective 11/20/23
5. Resolutions - Legislators approved resolutions to continue
 - Authorize Contract with A New Hope Center
 - Authorization to Sign Contract with Steuben County
 - Authorize Contract with Family & Children's Society of Broome Co. Inc.
 - Authorize Contract with Glove House (In-Home Parenting Education)

- Authorize Contract with Glove House (Waverly school preventive services)
- Authorize Contract with Industrial Medicine Associates
- Authorize Contract with Multiple Foster Care Agencies
- Appoint and Extend Youth Bureau Member Terms
- Appoint New Youth Bureau Member (Application attached)
- Abolish Vacant Part-Time Employment Contract Specialist and Create Part-Time Caseworker (Forensic interviewer for children)

6. Proclamations

- None

PUBLIC HEALTH

1. Financial

- Mr. Denis McCann reported that the 2023 Public Health budget continues to track well, and he expects to have a return at the end of the year. On the preschool side of the budget, costs continue to run over budget and there is a resolution to transfer funds into the program account. Mr. McCann noted the 2024 budget included additional funds in this program.
- Mr. McCann is working with ITCS for PH to purchase computers directly, as there will be State Aid PH reimbursement if done this way.

2. Old Business

- None

3. New Business

- Agency Report for November 2023 forwarded to committee. Nursing staff has been busy with the immunization clinic including flu shots that were offered to County employees.
PH currently has 194 referrals for EI. In 2022 there was 148 referrals. 15 children are waiting for services. Ms. Vroman and Children's Services staff met with the Bureau of Early Intervention to discuss annual performance reports and statewide provider shortage. Providers are leaving the EI field to make more money elsewhere. There is some legislation on the table to give providers a rate increase.
- Environmental Health is finishing up year end inspections. There is a hearing today for a food violation from the Candor Fair.

4. Personnel

- Jason Davis, Assistant Director of Administrative Services; Promotion effective 11/18/23.

5. Resolutions - Legislators approved resolutions to continue

- Authorization to Apply for Grant (Tick-Borne Disease Program)
- Amend Budget and Transfer of Contingency Funds (Preschool))
- Authorize Contracts (All are "Fee for Service" which could reach \$10,000)

6. Proclamations

- None

Committee Chair Standinger asked for a motion to go into Executive Session for a Contract Negotiation Matter. Seconded by Legislator Brown at 8:53 AM.

Legislator Monell motioned to adjourn Executive Session at 9:01 AM. Seconded by Legislator Brown.

ADJOURNED:

Health & Human Services Committee adjourned at 9:01 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail V. Perdue

Executive Secretary, Social Services