

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Health & Human Services

The regular meeting of the Health & Human Services Committee was held in the Legislative Conference Room, Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at 8:36 AM.

Present: Mr. William Standinger	Chair of the Committee
Mr. Dennis Mullen	Legislator
Mr. Jake Brown	Legislator
Ms. Lori Morgan	Director of Community Services
Mr. Shawn Yetter	Commissioner of Social Services
Mr. Gary Grant	Deputy Commissioner of Social Services
Ms. Heather Vroman	Interim Public Health Director
Mr. Denis McCann	Director of Administrative Services
Guests: Ms. Marte Sauerbrey	Legislative Chair
Ms. Cathy Haskell	Legislative Clerk
Ms. Mickelle Andrews	Director of Administrative Services – DSS
Mr. Peter DeWind	County Attorney

MENTAL HYGIENE

1. Financial
 - Ms. Lori Morgan noted that the 2023 budget is tracking well with no unexpected expenses.
2. Old Business
 - Criminal Psych – Ms. Morgan shared that they have had one person that was determined to be incompetent but have not heard anything further.
3. New Business
 - Waverly School – Waverly school has requested two new contracts for Social Workers. Ms. Morgan is waiting for a firm commitment from the Superintendent that they will pay \$50,000 for each position. She will then bring the resolution to the HHS Legislative Committee.
 - Waverly location – This will be discussed in Executive Session.
4. Personnel
 - Jason Seidel, CASAC starting 5/8/23
5. Resolutions – Legislators approved resolutions to continue
 - Amend Resolution No. 171-23 - Reclassify Records Management Clerk Position
 - Corporate Compliance Program
6. Proclamations
 - None.

PUBLIC HEALTH

1. Financial

- Mr. Denis McCann reported that 2023 is tracking well, with nothing unexpected. El escrow – State applied a credit to escrow account funded by insurance companies resulting in no payments due for the last 6 weeks. Preschool transportation costs continue to increase due to more kids and higher rates from last years' single bid RFP. PH continues to promote areas in their control to reduce costs, including parents transporting their children with mileage reimbursement. There are discussions in Albany regarding school districts possibly being responsible for this program's transportation.

2. Old Business

- Remote Work Update – There are currently 17 people that have been approved for remote work.

3. New Business

- Agency Report for April 2023 forwarded to committee.
- Ms. Vroman noted that Public Health did a Press Release yesterday regarding an increase in overdoses over the weekend, including 2 fatalities. Surrounding counties are also seeing overdose fatalities.
- The PH Open House went well with over 120 people attending including representatives from NYSDOH & NYSACHO. Legislator Standinger complimented Public Health on the great job with their Open House.
- Tioga County ranked 23rd out of 62 New York State counties for Health Outcomes in the 2023 County Health Ranking Report.
- There has been a major increase in the total number of children who tested for elevated blood lead levels (EBLL) through March with even one hospitalization. PH is currently monitoring 24 children for EBLL.

4. Personnel

- Heather Vroman, Public Health Director, appointed effective 4/12/23
- Melanie Miller, Director of Patient Services, new hire effective 4/24/23

5. Resolutions - Legislators approved resolution to continue

- Authorization to Apply for Grant (car seats)

6. Proclamations

- American Stroke Month in Tioga County

Legislator Standinger asked for a motion to approve the April 4, 2023 HHS Committee minutes as written. Motion made by Legislator Brown. Seconded by Legislator Mullen. Motion Carried.

SOCIAL SERVICES

1. Financial

- Mr. Gary Grant reported that Foster Care budget is running slightly under. Safety Net is also under budget. The Title XX budget will be over budget due in part to the unpredictability of domestic violence bills. Medicaid will phase out the enhanced funding over the next two years. The reductions from COVID will possibly phase out this year however Mr. Grant did not budget past March 2023 for these reductions.

2. Old Business

- None.

3. New Business

- Caseloads
During April, Cash Assistance decreased 4 cases, with Family Assistance decreasing 5 cases and Safety Net increasing 1 case.
MA-Only decreased 156 cases.
MA-SSI increased 2 cases.
Total Individuals on Medicaid decreased 268 cases to 3,611. COVID related restrictions ended 5/1/23.
SNAP decreased 62 cases.
Day Care remained flat.
See Caseload Summary and Charts.
- Tioga Career Center report is attached. The Advanced Manufacturing class hosted by TCC was a success. They will continue to work with BCC for other classes to bring to Tioga County.

4. Personnel Changes

- Brandi Wilson, CSW, was promoted to Caseworker, effective 4/5/23
- Megan Gilbert, hired as OS 1 in Employment Center, effective 4/10/23
- Nancy Leonard, hired as PT/CSW in E&TS, effective 4/24/23
- Tyna Eldred, hired as Case Supervisor Grade B for the CAC, effective 4/24/23
- Mickelle Andrews was promoted to Director of Administrative Services effective 4/24/23

5. Resolutions – Legislators approved resolutions to continue

- Approve Funding – 2023 Youth Bureau Program Funding
- Amend 2023 Budget – Tioga Career Center

6. Proclamations

- Elder Abuse Prevention Month (repeat)
- Foster Care Recognition Month (repeat)

ADJOURNED:

Health & Human Services Committee adjourned at 9:00 AM.

Motion by Legislator Brown, seconded by Legislator Mullen to move into Executive Session at 9:01 a.m. for matters pertaining to employees and contract negotiations.

Staff in attendance: Denis McCann, Heather Vroman, Peter DeWind, Cathy Haskell, Lori Morgan, Gary Hammond.

Chair Sauerbrey was also in attendance.

Legislator Standinger motioned to adjourn at 9:28 a.m., seconded by Legislator Brown.

Meeting adjourned at 9:28 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail V. Perdue

Executive Secretary, Social Services