

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
February 7, 2023

The Health & Human Services Committee of the Broome County Legislature met on Tuesday, February 7, 2023 in the Legislative Conference Room, Sixth Floor, Edwin L. Crawford County Office Building, Binghamton, New York.

Members Present: J. Shaw (Chair), M. Hilderbrant, E. Micha (Voting Representative for L. Augostini,) M. Whalen, S. Ryan (Voting Representative for K. Myers)

Members Absent: None

Others Present: R. Weslar, A. Martin, C. Hall, M. Tanzini, J. Scott, Legislature; J. Garnar, C. Wagner, M. Ponticiello, C. Whalen, County Executive; J. Knebel, G. Bucciarelli, OMB; N. Williams, K. White, DSS; K. Saunders, J. Marsh, K. Empett, L. Belock, Mental Health; M. McFadden, Health Department, M. Whitcombe. OFA; J. Schmidt, Resident, V. Gialanella, Resident.

The Health & Human Services Committee meeting was called to order by the Chair at 4:38 PM. Mr. Hilderbrant made a motion to move the agenda, seconded by Mr. Whalen.

The Committee took the following action with regard to the matters before it:

#1 [RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF THE AGREEMENTS WITH VARIOUS VENDORS FOR PERSONAL CARE/HOMEMAKER SERVICES FOR VARIOUS OFFICE FOR AGING PROGRAMS FOR 2023-2024](#)

In response to a question from the Committee, OFA Director Mary Whitcombe stated that aid services are difficult to procure, so more vendors are being made available to meet the need. The rates correspond with various client needs.

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

#2 [RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF THE AGREEMENT WITH SOUTHERN TIER INDEPENDENCE CENTER TO ACT AS FISCAL INTERMEDIARY FOR CONSUMER DIRECTED SERVICES FOR THE OFFICE FOR AGING'S EXPANDED IN-HOME SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY PROGRAM \(EISEP\), UNMET NEED PROGRAM, TITLE III-E FAMILY CAREGIVER PROGRAM, ARPA FCC6 AND VETERANS ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM, GRANTS FOR 2023-2024](#)

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

#3 [RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF THE AGREEMENT WITH HOMEMAKERS OF BROOME FOR HOME HEALTH CARE AIDE SERVICES FOR THE OFFICE FOR AGING FOR 2023-2024](#)

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

#4 [RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF THE HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION AND COUNSELING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM GRANT, ADOPTING A PROGRAM BUDGET AND RENEWING AN AGREEMENT WITH ACTION FOR OLDER PERSONS, INC. FOR 2023-2024](#)

Ms. Ryan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hilderbrant, to amend this resolution to include "Exhibit A."

Amendment carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

Resolution as amended carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0.

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

#5 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGES TO PETTY CASH FUNDS FOR CERTAIN OFFICE FOR AGING SENIOR COMMUNITY CENTERS

In response to a question from the Committee, OFA Director Mary Whitcombe stated that petty cash is used for various reasons, mostly emergency based. Paperwork is filled out to accompany the petty cash use. Mrs. Whitcombe also stated that most of the senior center attendees are self-sufficient and use of petty cash is rare.

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

#6 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF THE AGREEMENT WITH TWIN TIER HOME HEALTH, INC., FOR PERSONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES FOR THE OFFICE FOR AGING FOR 2023-2024

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

#7 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF THE AGREEMENT WITH FOSTER MARTIN ADVERTISING FOR MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES FOR THE COMMUNITY CANCER PREVENTION IN ACTION GRANT FOR THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR 2022-2024

In response to a question from the Committee, Public Health Director Mary McFadden stated that Foster Martin Advertising is used as part of a NYS coordinated media buy, which allows all grant participants to use this advertiser.

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

#8 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO MODIFY A PORTION OF THE HUD LEAD HAZARD REDUCTION PROGRAM FOR 2019-2023

In response to a question from the Committee, Public Health Director Mary McFadden stated that this program is used for lead abatement efforts in home for residents making 80% of the area's median income.

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

#9 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT WITH TIOGA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR SERVICES RELATED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S CREATING HEALTHY SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES GRANT FOR 2022-2023

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

#10 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FOR THE BROOME COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO PROVIDE SERVICE COORDINATION SERVICES FOR THE EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM 2023-2028

In response to a question from the Committee, Public Health Director Mary McFadden stated that the Early Intervention Program Director's initial contact with a family is billed at \$14.90 per fifteen minutes only during the initial visit.

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

#11 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE TIOGA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR SERVICES RELATED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S COMMUNITY CANCER PREVENTION IN ACTION PROGRAM GRANT FOR 2022-2024

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

#12 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION PIPELINE PROGRAM GRANT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ADOPTING A REVISED PROGRAM BUDGET FOR 2014-2017

Mr. Hilderbrant made a motion, seconded by Mr. Whalen, to amend the first RESOLVED paragraph in the third line to add "...and abolishing said trust account..."

In response to a question from the Committee, Public Health Director Mary McFadden stated that the funding is supposed to support any health issues in the community. Traffic Safety funds were becoming restricted, and this funding is able to be used for the Teen Traffic Safety Day program. Regarding the elimination of the trust account, Office of Management & Budget Director Jerome Knebel stated that this is procedural in nature. Mr. Knebel stated that this is a consolidation of funding sources. He stated that trust accounts are kept off the books, but expenditures are being made from the grant, which are on the books.

Amendment carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0.

Resolution as amended carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0.

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

#13 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE FOOD BANK OF THE SOUTHERN TIER FOR FOOD DISTRIBUTION SERVICES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES FOR 2023

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

#14 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH INDUSTRIAL MEDICINE ASSOCIATES FOR PROFESSIONAL SCREENING AND ASSESSMENT SERVICES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES FOR 2023

In response to a question from the Committee, DSS Commissioner Nancy Williams stated that there is an evidence-based tool utilized by the New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports that is used to determine if a client has a substance use disorder. Mrs. Williams also stated that the client will be referred to a local agency and progress will be tracked and an assessment will be made with the case worker. Clients will be given the necessary services needed so they are able to gain employment once treatment is complete.

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

#15 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH SOUTHERN TIER MEDICAL CARE-NY PC FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR THE WILLOW POINT REHABILITATION AND NURSING CENTER AND OTHER BROOME COUNTY DEPARTMENTS FOR 2023-2024

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

#16 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH VARIOUS VENDORS SELECTED BY THE NIDA HEALING COMMUNITIES STUDY REVIEW COMMITTEE THAT MEET THE CRITERIA FOR SERVICES RELATED TO THE PROJECTS SELECED BY THE NIDA HEALING COMMUNITIES STUDY WORKGROUP FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH FOR 2023

In response to a question from the Committee, Mental Health Commissioner Nancy Williams stated that Broome County was selected with other counties within the state to participate in the NIDA Healing Communities Program, which is a research study conducted by Columbia University. The scope of the study is to discover additional methods to prevent and reduce opioid overdose deaths by 40%. "Exhibit A" features agencies that will be eligible for funding to run the programs recommended by the research study. Broome County has entered phase two of the initiative, where programs will be implemented. The study concludes at the end of 2023.

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

The Chair discussed an electronic communication he received related to DSS SNAP applications, temporary assistance applications, staffing and housing residents as part of the Code Blue program.

There being no further business to come before the Committee at this time, a motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Ryan seconded by Mr. Whalen. The meeting adjourned at 5:02 PM.