

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 24, 2020

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Clary, Skellie, Ferguson, Losaw, Ward, Wilson

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Campbell

SUPERVISORS: Hall, Henke, Fedler, Shaw, Hicks, O'Brien, Haff, Griffith

Debra Prehoda, Clerk

Roger Wickes, County Attorney

Al Nolette, County Treasurer

AGENDA AS PRESENTED IN COMMITTEE NOTICE:

1) Call to Order

2) Accept Minutes – October 28, 2020

3) Department Reports/Requests:

A. Mental Health

1) 2020 Budget Amendment Request – Forensic Mental Health Expense

2) Equipment Purchase with DSRIP Funds

B. Youth Bureau

1) Funding Update

2) Permission to Sign Contract with WAIT House

C. Department of Social Services

1) Department Updates

D. Public Health

1) Recognize DSRIP Funding

2) Miscellaneous

4) Other Business

5) Adjournment

Chairwoman Clary called the meeting to order at 10:50 A.M.

A motion to accept the minutes of the October 28, 2020 meeting was moved by Mr. Losaw, seconded by Mr. Wilson and adopted.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS/REQUESTS:

MENTAL HEALTH – Rob York, Director, addressed the following item with the committee:

- 2020 Budget Amendment Request – Forensic Mental Health Expense – This is a mandated county expense. A motion to amend the 2020 budget to allow for payment of court-ordered psychiatric expenses in the amount of \$112,470 and forward to the Finance Committee was moved by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Ferguson and adopted. The Treasurer stated fund balance will be used to offset this expense.
- DSRIP Revenue – Anticipate receiving DSRIP funding. Due to COVID, equipment purchases were deferred to future years. He is proposing to use this DSRIP funding to replace some equipment – six (6) laptops for remote work. A motion to approve use of DSRIP funds for the purchase of laptops was moved by Mr. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Skellie. Discussion. The Treasurer stated he will draft a budget amendment for Finance. The total cost for the six laptops is \$3,708 at \$618 each and Washington County's cost is \$1,854 and Warren County paying the other half. The motion to approve use of DSRIP funds for the purchase of six laps and forward to the Finance Committee was moved by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Skellie and adopted. Mr. Wilson recommended looking into a replacement plan to avoid replacing all these at the same time in the future.

YOUTH BUREAU – Mike Gray, Director, addressed the following item with the committee:

- Funding Update – Notified of the allocation for the youth development funding used for recreation programs and community-based organizations that serve the youth in our county. Received a 10% cut to this allocation of about \$5,000 and also the State is going to enact a 20% withhold. He hopes to get the contracts with the allocated amounts out to the towns next week. If the State does change the withhold to a cut, he will be asking for a refund from the town or municipality for that amount out of the grant.
- Runway Homeless Youth Funding – Dollars that the County receives as a pass through to the Wait House. The Wait House is located in Glens Falls and serves Warren and Washington Counties youth. Annually serve about 40 youth from Washington County and it is a valuable asset to have. Their funding was reduced significantly to \$11,408. A motion to approve pass through of state dollars to Wait House and permission to pass through additional funding if approved for homeless youth was moved by Mr. Ward, seconded by Mr. Skellie and adopted.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES – Commissioner DeLorme addressed the following items:

- Department Updates:
 - Filed plan for the use of \$259,000 of COVID related housing assistance money and close to receiving final approval for use of that funding.
 - Submitted Code Blue budget request to the State – Vast majority of our code blue placements are at the Open-Door Mission and Code Blue Shelter.
 - Recruitment through Berkshire Farms for additional foster families and particularly looking into the respite program she spoke about last month and will soon start producing recruitment materials and get people interested to attend training.
- Condensed Outline of Entitlement Benefits – explained attached handout on a typical case receiving benefits.

PUBLIC HEALTH – Patty Hunt, Director of Public Health, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Recognize DSRIP Funding – A motion to amend budget to recognize \$3,064.90 in DSRIP funding was moved by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Ferguson and adopted.
- Miscellaneous:
 - Petty Cash – In March, the County Administrator provided Public Health with a visa debit card that they have been using for people that we have to quarantine and isolate related to COVID. When we do those quarantines, we are responsible for making sure the individuals who we are confining to their homes have adequate provisions by way of required medications, food, staples, etc. using the debit card to provide for those items. They have receipts for all the expenditures to date. They started with \$500 on the card and the balance is down to \$130. Would like to continue to use. Due to the increased volume of cases, she is looking to replenish the funds either on the visa debit card or through petty cash. The department has \$175 in their petty cash account and requesting to increase to \$400 specifically for this purpose. She would like to plan for additional funds prior to getting to zero on the visa debit card. The visa debit card has worked well and that would be their

- preference. The original \$500 came out of the COVID funds. The only concern with doing another visa debit card is paying the sales tax and if all the money is not expended it is left on the card. The Treasurer stated if the committee supports this in theory then send this to Finance so he has a chance to talk to the Public Health Director about some strategies. A motion to send Public Health request for additional funds for COVID related provisions to the Finance Committee was moved by Mr. Skellie, seconded by Mr. Wilson and adopted.
- Bookkeeper Backfill Due to Retirement – Requesting approval to promote a Sr. Account Clerk in the department to the Bookkeeper position and then replace the Sr. Account Clerk with an Account Clerk. This would be a change in the staffing pattern. A motion to move request to backfill Bookkeeper due to a retirement and the corresponding backfill created by this move to the Personnel Committee was moved by Mr. Skellie, seconded by Mr. Wilson and adopted.
 - Chairwoman Clary announced it was Public Health Day and expressed appreciation for the Public Health Director and all her staff.

OTHER BUSINESS:

OFA/ADRC-Gina Cantanucci-Mitchell, Director, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Revenue loss due to COVID-19 pandemic and the NYS Division of the Budget began withholding 20% of local aid payments. They had been held harmless until last week. Last week they were notified by NYS OFA that 20% of their claims will be withheld as of November 1st. The directive this week stated they were going to be adjusting their allocation schedule and withholding 20% of that and paying us full on our claims. She will keep the committee updated on any new information. Will get the figure on the 20% withhold of allocation.
- DSRIP Funding – Notified by AHI that they will be receiving \$2500 in DSRIP funding. Once receipt of funding is confirmed, she will plan for the use of those funds and bring it forward to the committee.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Skellie and adopted. The meeting adjourned at 11:24 A.M.

Debra Prehoda, Clerk
Washington County Board of Supervisors

Condensed Outline of Entitlement Benefits

Household Composition	1 Adult, 2 children (10 y/o & 8y/o)	
Employment/ Additional Income/Resource	Part Time, 15 hrs/wk @ \$11.80/hr \$50/wk Child Support \$700 in personal checking account	
Monthly Expenses	Rent @ \$650/m + heat & electric Car payment @ \$200/m Car insurance @ \$100/m Cable/internet @ \$150/m Phone @ \$45/m Garbage removal @ \$23/m	} Eligibility Disregards
Eligibility Exemptions	\$200/m child support Car valued under \$12,000. Bank Account under \$2,000.	
Benefit Entitlements	\$444/m Temporary Assistance, Cash \$383/m Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program \$706 season in Heating Eligibility Assistance Program Potential emergency HEAP grant Potential Daycare Assistance	

Average Monthly Assets

\$ 567 earnings
 \$ 200 child support
\$ 444 Temporary Assistance Grant
 \$1211

\$ 43 balance
 + SNAP benefit

Average Monthly Expenses

\$ 650 rent
 \$ 200 car payment
 \$ 100 car insurance
 \$ 150 cable/internet
 \$ 45 phone
\$ 23 garbage removal
 \$ 1168

Consider other reasonable expenses: household items (i.e. toilet paper, dish soap, shampoo, soap, bedding, lightbulbs), laundry costs; gas; clothing; uncovered heat and electric; uncovered daycare costs; car repairs; kids activities, etc.

*COVID SNAP Supplement increases monthly benefit to maximum amount for HH of 3 to \$535. The SNAP benefit is restricted to the purchase of food.