

**HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**April 4, 2018**

ALLEGANY COUNTY  
BOARD OF LEGISLATORS

**Members Present:** J. Hopkins, J. Burdick, G. Barnes, S. Havey, D. Root, P. Stockin, C. Crandall  
(Absent: D. Decker)

**Others Present:** L. Ballengee, T. Boyde, B. Budinger, W. Dibble, L. Edwards, M. Gasdik, V. Grant, K. Graves, D. Healy, C. Knapp, J. Ricci, B. Riehle, T. Ross, T. Shaw, A. Tinder, M. Washer

**Media Present:** C. Potter – *Wellsville Daily Reporter*, K. Kellogg – *Olean Times Herald*

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Human Services Committee Chair Judith Hopkins at 2:02 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the March 7, 2018, meeting were approved on a motion by Legislator Stockin, seconded by Legislator Root, and carried.

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Public Health Director Lori Ballengee attended the meeting and submitted her monthly report for review. Ms. Ballengee stated that coroner cases have come back to a normal caseload compared to last month's being double what they typically see.

Ms. Ballengee announced a free Rabies Clinic for dogs, cats, and ferrets three months and older will be held on Saturday, April 7, 2018, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the BOCES Center in Belmont, NY. Dogs must be on a leash, and cats and ferrets must be on a leash or in a carrier. Pre-registration of animals can be done by calling 585-268-9250 and selecting option #1 or option #4. Ms. Ballengee noted the clinic is free, but they always welcome donations.

Ms. Ballengee announced a Point of Dispensing (POD) training that will be held on Thursday, April 26, 2018, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Health Department located at the County Office Building in Belmont, NY. Ms. Ballengee encouraged the legislators to attend as they will be allowed to provide feedback during the "hot wash" after the training.

Ms. Ballengee reminded the Board to complete their corporate compliance training if they have not done so, and acknowledged the County's new Corporate Compliance Officer Penny Chuddy.

**OFFICE FOR THE AGING**

Office for the Aging Director Madeleine Gasdik attended the meeting and submitted her monthly report to the committee for review. Ms. Gasdik followed up on a request from last month's meeting as to how many snowbirds she has, stating in January they only had four leave. Ms. Gasdik indicated the main reason their meals are down is due to holidays and snow days. Legislator Fanton stated he has received correspondence from constituents stating they have seen a big improvement in the meals compared to what they received before. Ms. Gasdik stated their customer surveys indicate clients are happy with the meals; however, they do receive the occasional complaint. Ms. Gasdik stated she would like to add an additional route to Meals-on-Wheels. One route is currently over 100 miles, and they would like to shorten it. Ms. Gasdik indicated they do have funds in their current budget to cover the cost and will be factoring it into their 2019 budget. Ms. Gasdik announced a new program with retired Judge Michael Nenno who will be coming to their office once a month and assisting clients with any legal issues and/or

questions they may have. Appointments can be made by calling Office for the Aging at 585-268-9390.

### **2018 Public Hearing and Senior Forum**

Ms. Gasdik announced the 2018 Public Hearing and Senior Forum dates and locations that are as follows:

**Thursday, May 17, 2018**  
Houghton Wesleyan Church  
9712 NY 19  
Houghton, NY 14744

**Thursday, May 24, 2018**  
Wellsville American Legion  
23 Jefferson Street  
Wellsville, NY 14895

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Registration
9:00 a.m. – 10: a.m.	Public Hearing
10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	Break
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 pm.	Avoid, Deny, Defend
12:00 p.m.	Lunch

Reservations are required by calling the Office for the Aging at 585-268-9390. There is a suggested \$3 donated for lunch for anyone 60 years and older. Individuals 60 years and under will have an \$8 charge for their lunch.

### **Request to Amend AIM Independent Living Contract**

Ms. Gasdik requested a resolution to amend the contract with AIM Independent Living Center in Corning, NY, for Consumer Directed Care for the EISEP and III-E grants to include the Alzheimer's Disease Caregivers Support Initiative grant. AIM will act as Fiscal Intermediary, and Office for the Aging will pay AIM \$15.84/hour for aide service which is an increase from \$15.33/hour that was paid in 2017 and has been included in the 2018 Budget. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator Havey, and carried.

### **Prepare Resolution**

### **Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association**

Ms. Gasdik requested a resolution to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association, Inc. d/b/a Alzheimer's Association, Western New York Chapter, to provide care consultation, respite services, and safety services in Allegany County through the Alzheimer's Disease Caregiver Support Initiative grant. The 2018 income for the ADCSI grant is \$115,800 and has been included in the 2018 Budget. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Burdick, seconded by Legislator Havey, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

### **P<sup>2</sup> Collaborative of WNY Memorandum of Understanding and Acceptance of Funding**

Ms. Gasdik requested a resolution to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the P<sup>2</sup> Collaborative of WNY, d/b/a Population Health Collaborative, to deliver the Aging Mastery Program (AMP), an evidence-based 10-week program to promote healthy aging that includes

exercise, sleep, healthy eating and hydration, financial fitness, advance planning, healthy relationships, medication management, community engagement, and fall prevention. The agreement will be effective May 15, 2018, expiring May 15, 2010, and will offer a minimum of two AMP sessions every 12 months for two years up to a maximum of eight sessions for the life of the grant. The operational costs (personnel and administrative) of \$11,800 are fixed, and program costs (curriculum and training materials) of \$18,200 are incremental based on the number of sessions offered. Ms. Gasdik additionally requested that funds in the amount \$7,400.00 for the grant period of May 15, 2018, through December 31, 2018, be appropriated as follows:

<u>Appropriation:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
A6800.101 (Aging Mastery Program – Regular Pay)	\$3,566
A6800.408 (Aging Mastery Program – General Supplies)	\$1,000
A6800.409 (Aging Mastery Program – Fees)	\$1,275
A6800.416 (Aging Mastery Program – Telephone)	\$ 261
A6800.802 (Aging Mastery Program – Retirement)	\$ 357
A6800.803 (Aging Mastery Program – F.I.C.A.)	\$ 273
A6800.804 (Aging Mastery Program – Worker’s Comp.)	\$ 46
A6800.806 (Aging Mastery Program – Hosp/Med)	<u>\$ 622</u>
Total:	\$7,400
<u>Revenue:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
A6800.1989.AMP (Aging Mastery Program)	\$7,400

This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator Stockin, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

### **Heroin & Opioid Ad Hoc Committee Update**

Committee Chair Hopkins stated the next step for the Ad Hoc Committee is to review and approve the transition plan. This plan will be reviewed at the next meeting which will be held on Thursday, April 12, 2018, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Legislative Chambers. (Subsequently, the meeting was cancelled due to the lack of a quorum.)

### **SOCIAL SERVICES**

Social Services Commissioner Vicki Grant attended the meeting and submitted her monthly report to the committee for review. Ms. Grant stated they are slightly down in Temporary Assistance cases, and noted that 31 percent of their placements in foster care are with relatives. Ms. Grant acknowledged employee Heidi Jordan for graduating from Leadership Allegany. Ms. Grant noted during a recent review of their 1017 Placements, the Office of State Comptroller were very impressed.

### **Request to Abolish Public Health Nurse Position**

Social Services Commissioner Vicki Grant requested permission to abolish the Public Health Nurse position in the Department of Social Services. Ms. Grant stated their current Public Health Nurse is moving to the Health Department, and they would like to abolish this position and create a Registered Nurse position as it will be easier to fill. County Treasurer Terri Ross asked if the current employee will be able to come back to this position if they do not like the new job. Ms. Grant stated, yes, the employee will have three months, and they are aware if they choose to come back, it will be to a Registered Nurse title. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Stockin, seconded by Legislator Root, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

### **Request to Create and Fill Registered Nurse Position**

Social Services Commissioner Vicki Grant requested permission to create one full-time Registered Nurse (NYS Nurses Association bargaining unit, Step: Base – Step 6). This position will be responsible for visiting patients in the home to assess health needs including foster care children and their caregivers. This position will also coordinate care for patients with nutritionists, social workers, physical therapists, physicians, and other professional health care workers, and they will also counsel and guide individuals and families in the prevention of illness and prepare and maintain a variety of nursing care records and reports. The annual cost of this position is estimated between \$40,281.48 and \$49,996.09 with the cost of benefits estimated at 48 percent. This position is funded 12.5 percent with County funds, 12.5 percent with State funds, and 75 percent with Federal funds. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Havey, seconded by Legislator Burdick, and carried. **Refer to Personnel to create the position and refer to Ways and Means to fill**

### **Request to Fill Senior Caseworker Position**

Social Services Commissioner Vicki Grant requested permission to fill one full-time Caseworker (AFSCME, Grade 16, Step: Base – Step 7). This position is responsible for ensuring the safety, health, and welfare of children and families. The annual salary of this position is estimated between \$38,588.73 and \$48,142.64 with the cost of benefits estimated at 48 percent. This position is funded 35.57 percent with County funds, 21.89 percent with State funds, and 42.54 with Federal funds. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator Burdick, and carried. **Refer to Ways and Means**

### **Parent Education Program Contract**

Social Services Commissioner Vicki Grant requested a resolution to allow the Department of Social Services to execute a contract with Parent Education Program to provide investigative and therapeutic services for Child Protective Services at the Child Advocacy Center. The cost for this program is \$5,000 and has been included in the 2018 Budget. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Stockin, seconded by Legislator Havey, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

### **Presentation of Unit Information**

Child Protective Services Supervisor Angela Tinder attended the meeting and gave a brief description of CPS and the two track system they follow in the County. Ms. Tinder began by announcing April as Child Abuse Prevention month, and took a toll of who in the room has a child in their life they care about. Ms. Tinder distributed a handout that provides a summary of their two track system and highlighted the following points:

#### **Reports generally assigned to the Family Assessment Response (FAR) Track**

- Inadequate guardianship
- Educational neglect
- Lack of supervision
- Inadequate food, clothing, shelter
- Lack of medical care
- Parent or child drug/alcohol issue
- Excessive corporal punishment without serious injuries

Ms. Tinder stated if any of the above are received, a safety assessment is completed within 24 hours. If children are not in immediate or impending danger, CPS will offer the family

the option of the FAR or Investigative track. If the family chooses FAR, CPS will work with the family to assess strengths, needs, and risks with the goal being to reduce risk of future maltreatment. If the family chooses not to participate in the FAR track, the case will be sent to the investigative track.

### **Reports generally assigned to the Investigative Track**

- Any allegation of abuse
- Licensed facility (daycare)
- Lack of medical care (failure to thrive)
- Children in foster care
- Some cross county cases
- Serious parent drug/alcohol issue
- Serious domestic violence

Ms. Tinder stated when any report referenced above is received, a safety assessment is completed within 24 hours. If children are found in immediate or impending danger, the CPS worker will create a safety plan and will begin investigating the allegations made in the report with the goal being to gather evidence to substantiate or unsubstantiate maltreatment and/or abuse.

Ms. Tinder continued that this two track system is something the County should feel good about because it's changing the system, which has historically been known as scary to parents, into a program that helps the needs of children who are not being harmed, but still need assistance. Committee Chair Hopkins asked how long this program has been in place. Ms. Tinder stated it is used internationally, and the County has been implementing it since 2010. Ms. Grant stated it began as a pilot program with very few participating counties, but currently half of New York State counties are following the Family Assessment Response Program. Legislator Healy asked how we compare to others who are following this program. Ms. Grant stated the clients themselves are the same; however, because NYS defines and looks at reports at a different level, our state ranks higher than other states. Legislator Healy stated that there is a higher rate of welfare in our County as well, and he feels that could be a contributing factor to our state ranking higher in reports received. Ms. Tinder indicated they see more reportings from poorer neighborhoods, and a lot of reports they see in the FAR program are due to financial burdens on the parent(s) (i.e., housing, warm clothing, ability to provide medical care). Ms. Tinder continued that it's a scary thing to have CPS knock on your door, and they are working hard to try and change that and get these families the help they need. Legislator Healy asked if they have enough resources to accomplish that. Ms. Tinder stated they make choices to use their available resources based on what their values are. Committee Chair Hopkins stated it is a more positive approach to fix the problems that are out there.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:53 p.m. following a motion made by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator Barnes, and carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meghan Washer  
Confidential Secretary to Clerk of the Board