

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

June 5, 2019

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

Others Present: R. Anderson, L. Ballengee, T. Boyde, W. Dibble, D. Fanton, K. Francisco, M. Gasdik, K. Geffers, V. Grant, K. Graves, D. Healy, G. James, C. Knapp, A. Mattison, J. Ricci, B. Riehle, T. Shaw, M. Washer

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Human Services Committee Chair Judith Hopkins at 2:50 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator Stockin, and carried to approve the May 1, 2019, minutes.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Public Health Director Lori Ballengee attended the meeting and submitted her monthly report to the committee for review.

Department Highlights

Ms. Ballengee noted that the coroner numbers are drastically down from April of last year as well as year to date.

Retail Marijuana Webinar

Mr. Shaw briefly highlighted the following eight important takeaways from the Retail Marijuana Webinar that was held with the Colorado Health Department:

- Funding for surveillance
- Inter-agency collaboration
- Product packaging and labeling
- Laboratory standards for quality control
- Product placement
- Legislative rather than Constitutional implementation
- Community Education
- Regulations of home growing and vehicle traffic laws

Mr. Shaw noted that the tax rate on retail and excise was 15 percent. Legislator Graves asked if they received any sense of frustration or anger towards the change. Mr. Shaw indicated they were pretty even keeled. Committee Chair Hopkins stated that they see it as their job to provide the structure and enforcement as well as figuring out to how to deal with all of the different factors involved, adding what an astronomical cost it is to the state to try and figure all of these things out. Legislator Root asked what advice was given on how to handle the eight takeaways Mr. Shaw highlighted. Mr. Shaw indicated those are things they are still working through. Legislator Decker asked what their opinion was on legislative guidelines. Mr. Shaw stated if they could do it all over again, they would have gone the legislative route as it is not as difficult to change. Committee Chair Hopkins stated there are also studies being done on the THC levels in both children and pregnant women. Two concerns she has is the fact that the rate in children and pregnant women is rising significantly and transferring to the unborn fetus. Chairman Crandall stated one thing they have to be mindful of are the projections of revenue. Massachusetts is

looking at \$400/ounce and while Washington was also in that range, they now have stockpiles and production has far exceeded the use, and they are now down to \$40/ounce. Committee Chair Hopkins stated the legislature is nearing the end of their session, and there is concern that there will be a blanket decision made with no preparation, adding they need both law enforcement and health departments figuring out how to deal with it before it's passed.

Lead Poisoning Prevention Program Changes

Ms. Ballengee stated that New York State is lowering the lead poison level from 15 to 5. This change will likely triple their workload as it involves both a public health nurse and sanitarian intervening. Ms. Ballengee continued that change is not coming with any funding, and she has been told that the state is not willing to budge.

Transfer of Funds – Nurse Practitioner

Ms. Ballengee requested permission to transfer funds in the amount of \$33,600 from the Health Department's Regular Pay account to Family Planning Fees. These monies will be utilized to fund the costs of contracting a Nurse Practitioner for the Family Planning Program through the year-end and are available as the full-time budgeted Nurse Practitioner position remains unfilled. Please note that \$16,800 of these fees will be funded through the Family Planning grant with the remaining fees covered by Article 6, General Public Health Works, funding. The transfer is as follows:

<u>From:</u>	<u>To:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
A4010.101 (Health Dept - Regular Pay)	A4035.409 (Family Planning – Fees)	\$33,600

This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Decker, seconded by Legislator Havey, and carried. **Refer to Ways and Means**

NMS Agreement

Ms. Ballengee stated that she received a letter from Monroe County ME (MCME) Office last year indicating that due to "extremely high volume of cases for both forensic pathology and toxicology services," MCME no longer includes the lab/toxicology fees into their fees and now requires them to contract directly with NMS Labs. Ms. Ballengee requested a resolution renewing their contract with NMS Labs. They have a locked in rate through April 30, 2020, that has not and will not increase since May of 2018. This is a year-to-year contract because they get a discounted rate renewing it annually compared to a multi-year contract. Ms. Ballengee noted that they have forged an excellent working relationship with NMS and have encountered no problems. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Stockin, seconded by Legislator Havey, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

Request to Fill WIC Nutritionist

Ms. Ballengee requested permission to fill one full-time WIC Nutritionist (AFSCME, Grade 15, Step: Base – Step 3). Currently there is only one other WIC Nutritionist on staff to meet a caseload of 1,150 participants as well as covering 9 WIC sites (8 temporary sites), and she is going on maternity leave in July. Often, two clinics run concurrently in the smaller towns as well as Wellsville as staffing allows. One WIC Nutritionist would not allow for coverage during these clinics or to cover time off. The NYSWIC policy requires that a qualified Nutritionist be available to see high risk patients. The annual salary of this position is estimated between \$38,361 and \$42,390 with benefits estimated between \$16,399 and \$18,122. This position is funded 100 percent with State funds. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator Burdick, and carried. **Refer to Ways and Means**

Request to Fill Public Health Nurse Position

Ms. Ballengee requested permission to fill one full-time Public Health Nurse (NYSNA, Step: Base – Step 6). Currently there is only one Public Health Nurse on staff, and the Lead Program requires case management which must be done by a minimum Bachelor's Degree prepared nurse. Immunizations, communicable disease, and tuberculosis programs are also mandated activities under Public Health Law. The annual salary of this position is estimated between \$43,737 and \$54,212 with benefits estimated between \$18,698 and \$23,176. This position is funded 100 percent with State funds. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Decker, seconded by Legislator Stockin, and carried. **Refer to Ways and Means**

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 noted that the EISEP and Caregivers waiting list is currently at 83.

Tax Assistance Program

Ms. Gasdik stated they filed 390 tax returns and received refunds totaling \$249,941.

Acceptance and Appropriation of NY Connects Expansion and Enhancement Grant Funds

Ms. Gasdik requested a resolution to accept and appropriate additional revenue in the amount of \$9,368 from the New York Connects Expansion and Enhancement (NYCEE) grant. The Office for the Aging budgeted \$222,222 in the 2019 County Budget but will be receiving \$231,590 in State funding. The additional funds should be appropriated as follows:

<u>Appropriation:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
A6790.101 (Balancing Incentive Program – Personnel)	\$ 3,500
A6790.806 (Balancing Incentive Program – Health Insurance)	\$ 2,000
A6790.405 (Balancing Incentive Program – Conference)	\$ 868
A6790.407 (Balancing Incentive Program – Office Supplies)	\$ 1,000
A6790.402 (Balancing Incentive Program – Mileage)	<u>\$ 2,000</u>
Total:	\$ 9,368

<u>Revenue:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
A6790 3772.6790 (Balancing Incentive Program – NY Connects E&E)	\$ 9,368

This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator Decker, and carried. **Refer to Ways and Means**

Request to Fill Part-Time Typist Position

Ms. Gasdik requested permission to fill one part-time Typist (Non-union, Grade 4, Step: Base). This position is responsible for telephone and office reception as well as clerically supporting the whole agency. If other employees are asked to do these tasks, the County would be paying higher wages for typist duties. The annual salary of this position is \$12,977 with benefits estimated at \$1,365. This position is funded 20 percent with County funds, 57 percent with State funds, 10 percent with Federal funds, and 13 percent with "other" funds. Legislator Harris asked how long this position has been vacant. Ms. Gasdik stated approximately two weeks; however, by the time they get done with advertising and interviewing, it will have been vacant at least a month if not more. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Decker, seconded by Legislator Stockin, and carried. **Refer to Ways and Means**

Acceptance and Appropriation of Unmet Needs Grant Funds

Ms. Gasdik requested a resolution to accept and appropriate \$111,753 in State Funds under the Unmet Needs Grant. This funding is part of a State initiative to reduce wait lists and support OFAs in meeting the needs of older adults in the community. This grant is 100 percent state funded with no County match required. The funds should be appropriated as follows:

<u>Appropriation:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
A6792.101 (OFA Unmet Needs Grant 2019 – Regular Pay)	\$ 58,096
A6792.201 (OFA Unmet Needs Grant 2019 – Equipment/Other)	\$ 2,500
A6792.402 (OFA Unmet Needs Grant 2019 – Mileage)	\$ 3,162
A6792.422 (OFA Unmet Needs Grant 2019 – Gas/Oil)	\$ 1,500
A6792.408 (OFA Unmet Needs Grant 2019 – General Supplies)	\$ 2,500
A6792.409 (OFA Unmet Needs Grant 2019 – Fees)	\$ 1,500
A6792.474 (OFA Unmet Needs Grant 2019 – Contractor-Homecare)	\$ 16,663
A6792.475 (OFA Unmet Needs Grant 2019 – Contractor Legal)	\$ 1,000
A6792.476 (OFA Unmet Needs Grant 2019 – Contractor-PERS)	\$ 1,000
A6792.802 (OFA Unmet Needs Grant 2019 – Retirement)	\$ 3,860
A6792.803 (OFA Unmet Needs Grant 2019 – F.I.C.A.)	\$ 4,445
A6792.804 (OFA Unmet Needs Grant 2019 – Worker’s Comp.)	\$ 895
A6792.805 (OFA Unmet Needs Grant 2019 – Disability)	\$ 222
A6792.806 (OFA Unmet Needs Grant 2019 – Hosp/Med)	\$ 14,410
Total:	\$111,753

<u>Revenue:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
A 6792.3772.00 (State Aid – OFA – Unmet Needs Grant)	\$111,753

Ms. Gasdik noted there is no County match required with this grant. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Burdick, seconded by Legislator Root, and carried.

Refer to Ways and Means

Request to Abolish Part-Time Aging Services Technician Position

Ms. Gasdik requested a resolution abolishing one part-time Aging Services Technician position in the Office for the Aging. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Stockin, seconded by Legislator Havey, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

Request to Create and Fill Full-Time Aging Services Technician Position

Ms. Gasdik requested permission to create and fill one full-time Aging Services Technician (AFSCME, Grade 13, Step: Base) position. This position has direct client contact that provides assistance accessing information and programs to assist older adults and their families including HEAP, housing assistance, home repair, Meals-on-Wheels, and insurance counseling. This position also performs in-home assessments to determine needs and eligibility for various programs as well as maintaining case records. The annual salary of this position is \$36,065 with benefits estimated at \$21,271. This position is funded 100 percent with State funds. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator Burdick, and carried. **Prepare Resolution to create the position and refer to Ways and Means to fill**

Request to Fill Community Services Worker Position

Ms. Gasdik requested permission to fill one part-time Community Services Worker (AFSCME, Grade 11, Step: Base). This position completes the initial intake to collect necessary information to determine programmatic eligibility as well as the needs of the individual and/or

caregiver. This position also assists with the growing Transportation Program to ensure older adults have access to necessary services throughout the County. The annual salary of this position is \$19,348 with benefits estimated at \$3,923. This position is funded 100 percent with State funds. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Decker, seconded by Legislator Havey, and carried. **Refer to Ways and Means**

Request to Fill Coordinator of Services Position

Ms. Gasdik requested permission to fill one full-time Coordinator of Services (PEF, Grade 7, Step: Base – Step 5). This position assists in developing and conducting training for employees and volunteers, supervises the activities of all office staff, agency employees, and volunteers. This position also serves as Deputy Director of the Office for the Aging. The annual salary of this position is estimated between \$43,612 and \$50,269 with benefits estimated at 42.75 percent. This position is funded 8 percent with County funds, 63 percent with State funds, 23 percent with Federal funds, and 6 percent with “other” funds. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Stockin, seconded by Legislator Havey, and carried. **Refer to Ways and Means**

Senior Picnic

Ms. Gasdik stated the Senior Picnic will be held on Wednesday, August 14, 2019, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the County Fairgrounds in Angelica. The cost per person is \$10 and reservations can be made by calling 585-268-9390 by August 5. Ms. Gasdik noted that the rain date is Thursday, August 15, 2019.

Acknowledgement – Office for the Aging Director

County Administrator Timothy Boyde thanked Ms. Gasdik for her years of service and dedication to our County residents stating she has been a wonderful role model to the aging population in our community. Mr. Boyde continued that he is pleased to announce Anita Mattison as the new Office for the Aging Director. Ms. Gasdik reminded the Board that her last date is July 30, 2019.

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 down slightly in temporary assistance cases and saw a jump in non-family assistance Medicaid cases due to people losing jobs and needing insurance coverage.

Healthy Families Advisory Council

Ms. Grant stated that the Healthy Families Advisory Council recently met with the State and praised Allegany County for participating and that we're one of the best in the state.

The QUICKIE Report

Ms. Grant distributed The QUICKIE Report that highlights Allegany County's Early Childhood Trauma presentation that dispelled Child Protective Services myths.

Request to Fill Account Clerk Typist Position

Ms. Grant requested permission to fill one full-time, permanent Account Clerk Typist (AFSCME, Grade 7, Step: Base – Step 7). This position is responsible for waiting on customers at the window, taking payments and building cases, as well as clerical support for all aspects of

the Child Support Collection Unit. The annual salary of this position is estimated between \$30,594 and \$35,817 with benefits estimated at 42.75 percent. This position is funded 66 percent with Federal funds, and the remaining is offset by Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) collections. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator Stockin, and carried. **Refer to Ways and Means**

Acknowledgement – Social Services Commissioner

Mr. Boyde also thanked Ms. Grant for her efforts and years of service. Mr. Boyde announced Edna Kayes as the new Social Services Commissioner who will begin to shadow Ms. Grant in September and is confident they have selected wisely for her replacement.

Acceptance and Appropriation of NYS Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS) Revenue

Community Services Director Dr. Robert Anderson requested a resolution to accept and appropriate additional revenue received from the NYS Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS) in the amount of \$54,000. The funds should be appropriated as follows:

<u>Appropriation:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
A4220.458 (Council on Alcoholism & Substance Abuse)	\$54,000

<u>Revenue:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
A4220.3486.00 (Council on Alcoholism & Substance Abuse – State Aid)	\$54,000

This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator Decker, and carried. **Refer to Ways and Means**

Clarity Wellness

Committee Chair Hopkins indicated that Allegany Rehabilitation Associates is changing their name to Clarity Wellness Community. Dr. Anderson noted they have seen a lot of agencies changing their name. Ms. Hopkins added that it helps reduce the stigma from participating in the particular organization.

Bail Reform

Legislator Healy asked Dr. Anderson to comment on the Governor's new initiative for no bail. Dr. Anderson indicated that he has his concerns, adding that he is also concerned about the new proposal that a prisoner be eligible for parole once they reach the age 55 even if they are serving a life sentence. Dr. Anderson expressed concern over what will happen with these individuals as most who are serving a life sentence develop mental health issues. Dr. Anderson added that we are lucky to have our Sheriff and Jail Administrator who are keeping on top of things. Legislator Healy noted that even their hands are going to be tied come first of the year.

Board of Health Appointments

The Board of Health requested to re-appoint Judith D. Hopkins and Dr. David Brubaker to the Board of Health for a new six-year term, effective July 8, 2019, and expiring July 7, 2025. Ms. Ballengee noted that Dr. Brubaker has indicated he would be happy to serve another six-year term. A motion was made by Legislator Decker, seconded by Legislator Stockin, and carried to allow Committee Chair Hopkins to abstain from voting. The request to re-appoint Legislator Hopkins and Dr. Brubaker was approved on a motion made by Legislator Stockin, seconded by Legislator Decker, and carried. (Legislator Hopkins abstained) **Prepare Resolution**

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:44 p.m. following a motion made by Legislator Decker, seconded by Legislator Burdick, and carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meghan Washer
Confidential Secretary to Clerk of the Board