

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
September 4, 2019

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

Others Present: R. Anderson, L. Ballengee, P. Curran, W. Dibble, V. Grant, K. Graves, B. Harris, D. Healy, E. Kayes, C. Knapp, D. Lavery, A. Mattison, D. McDonnell, J. Ricci, B. Riehle, T. Ross, T. Shaw, M. Washer

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Human Services Committee Chair Judith Hopkins at 2:44 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator Havey, and carried to approve the August 7, 2019, minutes.

A motion was made by Legislator Burdick, seconded by Legislator Stockin, and carried to approve the August 26, 2019, minutes.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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

Rabies Report

Ms. Ballengee stated they had a cow from the Town of Hume that recently tested positive for rabies, and they are now up to three animals for the year. Committee Chair Hopkins asked if the cow came from the same farm as the two previous animals. Ms. Ballengee stated, no, and they are also not related in any way.

Clinical Medical Services

Ms. Ballengee stated they have seen a significant increase in communicable diseases, noting their July 2019 investigations are at 67 compared to 28 at this time last year. Ms. Ballengee indicated there has been no specific outbreak; they are just running a gamut and unfortunately, they are not quick investigations. Committee Chair Hopkins asked what types of diseases they are seeing. Ms. Ballengee stated they have seen salmonella, pertussis, and giardia. They also had a possible measles and tuberculosis case, but fortunately, both ended up negative. Legislator Graves asked if there is anything these diseases can be attributed to. Ms. Ballengee stated summertime when people are traveling on vacations and in contact with different people as well as attending picnics where food may have been left out too long.

Coroner/Medical Examiner

Ms. Ballengee stated that while the coroner's numbers remain down compared to last year, she expects to see an upcoming spike due to the fatal accident that happened in July as all of the autopsies went to Monroe County.

Request to Transfer Funds

Ms. Ballengee requested permission to transfer funds in the amount of \$19,250 from the Health Department's regular pay account to the Lead Poisoning Prevention Program equipment account. These monies will be utilized to purchase an x-ray fluorescence (XRF) analyzer and are available within the Health Department's personnel account as two health department positions

remain vacant. The cost of the XRF analyzer will be funded 100 percent through the Lead Poisoning Prevention grant.

<u>From:</u>	<u>To:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
A4010.101 Regular Pay	A4037.206 Health Equipment	\$19,250

Legislator Decker asked if this equipment can be found on state bid. Ms. Ballengee indicated that there was originally the possibility that the NYS Department of Health would enter into a contract with a provider; however, they decided at the last minute not to do that, and counties were left to purchase them on their own. Ms. Ballengee continued that they did receive bids from two companies that make the machine they want, and they will take the lowest bid. 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 Public Health Educator Position

Ms. Ballengee requested permission to fill one full-time Public Health Educator (AFSCME, Grade 17, Step: Base – Step 7). This position is responsible for the education, outreach, and recruitment for the family planning/reproductive health, lead, immunization, and children with special health care needs programs. The annual salary of this position is estimated between \$40,611 and \$50,989 with benefits estimated between \$17,361 and \$21,798. This position is funded 100 percent with State funds. Legislator Decker asked if there is anyone else who can pick up the work until January and save those funds for the remainder of the year. Ms. Ballengee stated she only has a supervising educator who is in PEF, and with this position being in AFSCME, she prefers not to go down that road. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator Havey, and carried. (Opposed: D. Decker) **Refer to Ways and Means**

OFFICE FOR THE AGING

Office for the Aging Director Anita Mattison attended the meeting and submitted her monthly report to the committee for review. Ms. Mattison briefly discussed her monthly report and noted that they tried a new outreach event with ACCORD Mobile Food Pantry Farmers Market Distributions where they reached 28 new clients, 18 new members to the farmer's market coupons, and 11 new clients to the Office for the Aging.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Social Services Commissioner Vicki Grant attended the meeting and submitted her monthly report to the committee for review. Ms. Grant introduced her successor Edna Kayes to the Board. Ms. Grant stated that she recently had staff present at the Homefinding Summit that was held in Albany, NY, noting they received an email saying their efforts were appreciated, and they also have the potential to present at the New York Public Welfare Association (NYPWA) Policy Forum.

Request to Fill 2 Employment Specialists

Ms. Grant requested permission to fill (2) Employment Specialists (AFSCME, Grade 12, Step: Base – Step 7) and all subsequent positions including hiring from the outside. This position is responsible for verifying employability of Jobtrak clients and assigning duties based on abilities and any medical restrictions. The annual salary of this position is estimated between \$35,411 and \$42,255 (\$70,822 and \$84,510 for both positions) with benefits estimated at 42.75 percent. These positions are funded 30 percent with County funds, 10 percent with State funds, and 60 percent with Federal funds. Legislator Decker asked if there is anyone who can pick up the work and wait

to fill the positions in January. Ms. Grant stated they only have four Employment Specialists, and with the volume of cases and caseload size, it will be hard losing two for the remainder of the year. Legislator Decker asked if they could just fill one of the positions. Ms. Grant reiterated that the caseload sizes would make it very difficult to not be at full staff. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Stockin, seconded by Legislator Havey, and carried. (Opposed: D. Decker) **Refer to Ways and Means**

Community Services

Dr. Robert Anderson attended the meeting and submitted his second quarter reports to the committee for review. Committee Chair Hopkins thanked Dr. Anderson for the reports and commented they have a lot of good information.

Request to Accept and Appropriate Additional State Aid

Dr. Anderson requested to accept and appropriate additional state aid revenue in the amount of \$44,712 received for the Allegany Council Substance Abuse 2019 Budget year. The funds should be appropriated as follows:

<u>Appropriation:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
A4220.456 (Council on Alcoholism & Substance Abuse – Cont. Exp.)	\$44,712

<u>Revenue:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
A4220.3486.00 (Council on Alcoholism & Substance Abuse – State Aid)	\$44,712

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

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m. following a motion made by Legislator Decker, seconded by Legislator Havey, and carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meghan Washer
Confidential Secretary to Clerk of the Board