

**HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
AUGUST 5, 2015**

**** NOT APPROVED ****

Committee Members Present: K. LaForge, D. Pullen, S. Burt, D. Decker, C. Jessup, C. Crandall (Absent: T. O'Grady)

Others Present: M. Alger, L. Ballengee, P. Curran, D. Fanton, K. Francisco, M. Gasdik, V. Grant, K. Graves, D. Healy, T. Hopkins, K. Hooker, C. Knapp, J. Nelson, R. Reynolds, B. Riehle, D. Root, T. Ross, C. Santora

Media Present: No media present

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Human Services Committee Chairman Kevin LaForge.

Amendment & Approval of July 1, 2015, Minutes

Social Services Commissioner Vicki Grant noted that there had been an error in the July 1, 2015, minutes:

Under DSS Monthly Report:

When asked, Ms. Grant explained that managed long-term care is for people who need assistance, whether in a nursing home or at home for **20** days or more. So now, special managed care companies will take over long-term care, and some of that work will be taken away from DSS.

That should actually read 120 days.

A motion was made by Legislator Burt, seconded by Legislator Decker, and carried to approve the Human Services Committee minutes of July 1, 2015, as amended.

Approval of July 27, 2015, Minutes

Before the July 27, 2015, minutes were brought forward for approval, Legislator Burt requested permission to abstain from the vote as he was not present at that meeting. A motion was made by Legislator Burt, seconded by Legislator Decker, and carried, allowing Mr. Burt to abstain. Subsequently, a motion was made by Legislator Pullen, seconded by Legislator Jessup, and carried to approve the Human Services Committee minutes of July 27, 2015.

Health Department

Renewal of Transportation of Pre-School Children with Handicapping Conditions Contracts

Public Health Director Lori Ballengee told the Committee that the Preschool Children with Handicapping Conditions Contracts need to be approved. She noted that we are mandated to provide this transportation, and if we contracted with a private bus company, it would cost us much more than we pay now because these contracts relieve the County of having to hire private companies to transport the children. In fact, she said, other counties often call for pointers on how to do this. She added that there have been no changes to the contracts; this is simply a renewal of what we've been doing for several years. The schools include Alfred-

Almond, Andover, Arkport, Belfast, Bolivar-Richburg, Canaseraga, Canisteo-Greenwood, Cuba-Rushford, Fillmore, Friendship, Genesee Valley, Livingston-Wyoming NYSARC, Portville, Scio, Wellsville, and Whitesville. Approval to enter into these agreements was granted on a motion by Legislator Decker, seconded by Legislator Pullen, and carried. ***Refer to Ways & Mean***

Budget Transfer

Ms. Ballengee also requested the following \$40,000 budget transfer to cover SEIT costs for the remainder of 2015:

From:	To:	Amount:
2960 Special Education/Phc A2960.421 (Education Contracts-Tuition)	A2960.441 (Education Contracts-SEIT)	\$40,000
	Total	\$40,000

Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator Pullen, seconded by Legislator Jessup, and carried. ***Refer to County Treasurer***

WNY Inter-municipal Agreement

Ms. Ballengee also requested permission to renew the Inter-municipal agreement which allows for providing (and/or receiving) mutual aid from other counties in the event of a public health problem. In such a situation, a county may determine that its county health department is unable to provide all of the public health services needed in its county to respond to the problem. In such an event, the chief elected official in that county may make a request for public health mutual aid to the chief elected official of one or more of the WNY counties. The services may include, but are not limited to administering points of dispensing clinics, performing patient triage, dispensing or administering medications, performing health services in population shelters, receiving reports of communicable diseases, interviewing contacts of cases of communicable disease, performing health education, supervising patients in isolation or quarantine, assessing environmental proems, collecting environmental samples, or directing environmental remediation activities. There is no fiscal impact unless the need arose to invoke this agreement. Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator Jessup, seconded by Legislator Decker, and carried. ***Refer to Ways & Means***

Following the approval of Ms. Ballengee's action items, there was a brief general discussion about blue-green algae.

Department of Social Services

Monthly Report

Social Services Commissioner Vicki Grant noted that her monthly report reveals no glaring anomalies. Because no other comments or questions arose about the report, the Committee moved on to Ms. Grant's action items.

Request to Fill Community Service Worker

Ms. Grant requested permission to fill a Community Service Worker (AFSCME, Grade 11, Step: min) position which became vacant as the result of a retirement. This position is in the TA unit and is responsible for enrolling and dis-enrolling clients from managed care, tracking and entering any third-party health insurance, and addressing and logging complaints regarding these programs. The position is funded 50 percent by federal funds, 25 percent state funds, and

25 percent local funds. Approval to fill the position was granted on a motion by Legislator Decker, seconded by Legislator Pullen, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Request to Fill Social Welfare Examiner Position

Ms. Grant also requested permission to fill a Social Welfare Examiner (AFSCME, Grade 11 Step: Min.) position which became available due to a termination. The position is in the TA unit and is responsible for interviewing clients, determine eligibility, and administering the appropriate benefits. the position is funded 50 percent federal dollars, 25 percent state dollars, and 25 percent local dollars. Filling this position will allow DSS to meet state and federal requirements. Approval to fill this position was granted on a motion by Legislator Jessup, seconded by Legislator Pullen, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Office for the Aging

Monthly Report

Office for the Aging Director Madeleine Gasdik informed the Committee that OFA would not be receiving the Ombudsman Grant after all. She has asked for a debriefing to try to discover why this occurred. It has been awarded to AIM in Corning, NY. [AIM Independent Living Center is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping individuals with disabilities lead independent lives. AIM promotes an inclusive community by offering supports and services to people with disabilities, their families and friends, and the businesses that serve them. (from the web site)] She went on to tell the Committee that OFA is working with Ardent Solutions to offer programming on financial decisions for seniors, Friday, August 28, at the Genesee Valley Central School. Topics include "Shedding Light on Avoidable Pitfalls;" "Substituted Decision Making and WNY Coalition Pooled Trusts–Legal Services for the Elderly, Disabled, or Disadvantaged of Western New York;" "Introduction to Medicare;" "Estate Planning 101;" and "Financial Planning for Alzheimer's and Dementia Care." Pre-registration is required by Monday, August 24, 2015, by calling 585-593-5223, ext. 17. She also thanked Legislators and others who helped at the Senior picnic.

Approval of Contract with Fidelis Care New York

OFA requested permission to enter into a contract with Fidelis Care New York to supply Home Delivered Meals to their long-term care clients in 2015 at a price of \$10 per meal and congregate meals at a price of \$8 per meal. No additional funds are anticipated as the 2015 OFA Budget already include meals for (now DSS) long-term care clients. Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator Decker, seconded by Legislator Burt, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Request to Amend Agreement with KVR Services

OFA also requested permission to amend the existing agreement between the County of Allegany and KVR Services, LLC, dated July 24, 2012, to increase the price per meal by 15 cents for 2016, from \$4 per meal to \$4.15 per meal. This increase has been included in the proposed 2016 Budget. There was some discussion regarding the rise in food costs. Subsequently, approval was granted on a motion by Legislator Jessup, seconded by Legislator Decker, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Request to Amend Agreement with Home and Health Care Services (Hornell)

OFA requested permission to amend the existing agreement between the County of Allegany and Home and Health Care Services, Inc., dated January 1, 2015, to increase the price for home care services for the elderly for both EISEP and Respite as below;

Level I Care (Housekeeping) from \$22.36/ hour to \$22.56/hour

Level II Care (Personal Care) from \$22.68/hour to \$22.88/hour.

Because there are currently only two Allegany County clients receiving services from Home and Health Care Services, the increased cost for the year is \$55. Ms. Gasdik also noted that OFA uses this organization to cover the northern part of the County as Jan & Bev's has a difficult time getting personnel in that area. Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator Decker, seconded by Legislator Pullen, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Approval to Apply for Alzheimer's Disease Caregiver Support Initiative Grant

OFA requested authorization to apply for Alzheimer's Disease Caregiver Support Initiative, a collaborative effort with Catholic Charities (Lead Agency), Alzheimer's Association, Erie County OFA, Niagara County OFA, Chautauqua County OFA, Cattaraugus County OFA, Wyoming County OFA, and Genesee County OFA. This grant will provide support to caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias through Care Consultations, Support groups, Education and Training, Respite, and other services. The total grant is for \$1.5 million; The Allegany County share is to be determined, but will include funds for an Aging Services Specialist, \$6,000 for clerical support, as well as respite, transportation, mileage and conferences, technology, locator services, advertising, and volunteer incentives. The grant fiscal year runs from January 1, 2016, through December 31, 2020. There is no local county share. Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator Decker, seconded by Legislator Jessup, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m. following a motion by Legislator Decker, seconded by Legislator Burt, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Santora, Secretary to the Clerk of the Board
Allegany County Board of Legislators