

**WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE  
MARCH 9, 2015**

**\*\* NOT APPROVED \*\***

**Committee Members Present:** C. Jessup, P. Curran, K. Graves, D. Healy, T. Hopkins, LaForge, D. Pullen, C. Crandall (Absent: D. Fanton, D. Root)

**Others Present:** L. Ballengee, H. Budinger, J. Budinger, S. Burt, D. Decker, V. Grant, L. Gridley, R. Hollis, L. Kaminski, T. Miner, K. Monroe, B. Riehle, T. Ross, C. Santora, N. Ungermann, R. Whitney, C. Whitwood

**Media Present:** No media present

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Ways & Means Committee Chairman Charles Jessup.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Legislator Graves, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried to approve the Ways & Means Committee minutes of February 23, 2015.

**Approval of Audit**

Committee members reviewed the March 9, 2015, audit of claims in the amount of \$4,466,541.20 (including prepaid bills). A motion was made by Legislator Hopkins, seconded by Legislator Graves, and carried to forward the audit to the full Board for approval of payment.

**Tax Bill Correction**

Real Property Tax Director Joseph Budinger requested a resolution approving the following tax bill corrections providing for refunds:

**Alma Rod & Gun Club**

--Alma Rod & Gun Club #288.-1-5.2  
Current Tax \$2,818.05  
Correct Tax \$0.00  
Amount of Correction/Refund \$2,818.05  
--Alma Rod & Gun Club #302.-1-59  
Current Tax \$3,744.46  
Correct Tax \$0.00  
Amount of Correction/Refund \$3,744.46

The request was approved on a motion by Legislator Pullen, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

**Bolivar Manor**

--Bolivar Manor  
#260.17-1-16  
Current Tax \$9,715.35  
Correct Tax \$6,815.61  
Amount of Correction/Refund \$2,899.74

The request was approved on a motion by Legislator Hopkins, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

### **New Routes for Ardent Solutions**

Mobility Management Planner Larry Kaminski wanted to update the Committee on changes in routes and services that Ardent Solutions would be providing as a result of the Arc's withdrawal. He explained that Ardent Solutions is going through transitions as a result in the change in the Allegany ARC's program structures. They are, he said, transforming their programs to be more oriented in a home setting rather than community settings which is the way they have operated in the past. As a result, they have fewer mass transportation obligations on their part, so they have chosen to withdraw from operating as a public service provider within our Access Allegany. He went on to say that Ardent Solutions has made some updates to its routes, and he wanted to give the Committee some assurance with regard to those updates. He added that they took a very close look at what the public has been very dependent upon as far as the operations are concerned and have incorporated some of the services they (ARC) were providing. He went on to say that they have had to make some sacrifices, but without any additional changes to our contract with no additional cost to Allegany County. He added that he is not anticipating any changes in allocations from the DOT (Department of Transportation) for 2015, although what the future holds is unknown at this time. It is too early to tell if the DOT will make any adjustments. He said that he will let the Committee know as soon as he knows. Mr. Kaminski also said that they will be making a Public Service Announcement with updates on timetables, schedules, and routes. Finally, he said, he looks at the situation as a positive opportunity to improve efficiency without additional costs.

### **Governor Cuomo's IDA Budget Proposal**

Legislator Hopkins noted that it is imperative that the Board take action in supporting a resolution opposing Part W of Governor Cuomo's Proposed 2015 Budget as soon as possible because the state is currently in negotiations to enact it. Should the state take over complete control of the IDAs, he said, it could possibly put them out of business and economic development would become a cumbersome process. It was noted during the discussion that all projects may have to be referred to the Regional Commission for approval which would result in undue delay. Subsequently, a motion was made by Legislator Hopkins, seconded by Legislator Graves, and carried to sponsor a resolution opposing Part W of Governor Cuomo's Proposed 2015 Budget which would severely restrict the ability of Industrial Development Agencies (IDAs) to respond to the needs of businesses by removing home rule decisions and placing certain incentive decisions with the Regional Economic Development Council and Empire State Development. This resolution will come off the floor at today's Board meeting. **Prepare Resolution**

### **STAR Exemptions**

County Treasurer Terri Ross and Real Property Tax Director Joseph Budinger brought to the Committee's attention that there is currently in the NYS Budget a proposal to convert the STAR real property tax exemption to a Personal Income Tax (PIT) credit which will result in confusion to local property owners who have been under the assumption that they would be eligible for the exemption since they applied with their local assessor. He added that if this proposal is passed, the applications of those who have submitted their applications for the STAR exemption will be denied. The Committee agreed to support a resolution postponing the implementation of the change in STAR exemption to a PIT on a motion by Legislator Healy, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

### **Bioprocessing Education Research & Development Center (BERDC)**

The Resource Management Committee requested a resolution authorizing a three-year contract with the Seneca Trail Resource Conservation and Development Council for assistance with the County's forests and authorizing a transfer of \$25,000 from A1990.429 (Contingency) to A8710.499 (County Reforestation-Contractual) to finance the cost of that agreement on a motion by Legislator Graves, seconded by Legislator Hopkins, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

## **REFERRALS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES**

### **HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE/Health Department**

#### **Request to Create & Fill Positions**

The Health Department has enjoyed a harmonious working relationship with Cornell Cooperative Extension with respect to contracting staff of select Health Department programs for the past 15 years. It has saved the County significant grant dollars, allowing those funds to be expended on program supplies and clients. Cornell is desirous to end this relationship, effective March 23, 2015. After guidance and due diligence from the Human Services Committee, Public Health Director Lori Ballengee requested that the following positions be added to the Health Department staff. There will be no County dollars involved in this transfer, except the \$3,270 already being spent on our 10 hours per week Quality Assurance Coordinator's fringe benefits. This particular position is mandated under our Licensed Home Care Services Agency, and fringe costs are ineligible, so that expense will be there, regardless. The Registered Nurse for the Cancer Services Program works the 10 hours per week as QA Coordinator and performs Cancer Services duties the other 25 hours per week. Please see the attached Request to Fill Forms for specific information about each position.

- Cancer Services (3)=Registered Nurse, Community Outreach Specialist and Medical Records Computer Operator
- Women, Infants and Children (WIC) (9)=Program Coordinator, Registered Nurse, Outreach Specialist, Nutritionist, 2 Clerks and 3 part-time Peer Counselors
- Emergency Preparedness (1)=Emergency Preparedness Specialist
- Public Health (1)=Public Health Educator

#### **Cancer Services**

Public Health Director Lori Ballengee requested that the following positions be created and filled in the Cancer Services area:

--*Registered Nurse* (NYSNA, Step 6) This position was a Cornell Cooperative Extension position. CCE has ended our contractual relationship so staff needs to come under the County's control. The Cancer Services Program provides life-saving cancer screenings and assists with treatment costs for those diagnosed with cancer. One hundred percent of the salary and fringe benefits will be covered by program and grants and/or Article 6 Funding as needed. This position provides a source of income for screening providers and allows those who are un- or under-insured the opportunity to get cancer screenings and help with treatment. The cost of this position will be in the 2015 Budget once transfers are made. Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator LaForge, seconded by Legislator Pullen, and carried. **Notify Human Resources**

--*Community Outreach Specialist* (AFSCME, Grade 4, Step Base) This position was a Cornell Cooperative Extension position. CCE has ended our contractual relationship so staff needs to come under the County's control. The Cancer Services Program provides life-saving cancer screenings and assists with treatment costs for those diagnosed with cancer. One hundred percent of the salary and fringe benefits will be covered by program and grants and/or

Article 6 Funding as needed. This position provides a source of income for screening providers and allows those who are un- or under-insured the opportunity to get cancer screenings and help with treatment. The cost of this position will be in the 2015 Budget once transfers are made. Because this is a part-time position, the incumbent will not actually be a member of the union. Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator LaForge, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried. **Notify Human Resources**

--*Medical Records Computer Operator* (AFSCME, Grade10, Step Base) This position was a Cornell Cooperative Extension position. CCE has ended our contractual relationship so staff needs to come under the County's control. The Cancer Services Program provides life-saving cancer screenings and assists with treatment costs for those diagnosed with cancer. One hundred percent of the salary and fringe benefits will be covered by program and grants and/or Article 6 Funding as needed. This position provides a source of income for screening providers and allows those un or underinsured the opportunity to get cancer screenings and help with treatment. The cost of this position will be in the 2015 Budget once transfers are made. Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator LaForge, seconded by Legislator Graves, and carried. **Notify Human Resources**

### **Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)**

Public Health Director Lori Ballengee requested that the following positions be created and filled in the WIC area:

--Program Coordinator (PEF, Grade 7, Step 7) This position was a Cornell Cooperative Extension position. CCE has ended our contractual relationship so staff needs to come under the County's control. The WIC Program cannot exist without these staff, required by the state. One hundred percent of the salary and fringe benefits will be covered by program and grants and/or Article 6 Funding as needed. The WIC Program distributes over \$1,000,000 in checks that are used at local grocery and drug stores. An additional \$15,000 in checks is given out annually to support local farmers in Farmer's Market checks. The cost of this position will be in the 2015 Budget once transfers are made. Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator LaForge, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried. **Notify Human Resources**

--*Registered Nurse* (NYSNA, Step 3) This position was a Cornell Cooperative Extension position. CCE has ended our contractual relationship so staff needs to come under the County's control. The WIC Program cannot exist without these staff, required by the state. One hundred percent of the salary and fringe will be covered by program and grants and/or Article 6 Funding as needed. The cost of this position will be in the 2015 Budget once transfers are made. The WIC Program distributes over \$1,000,000 in checks that are used at local grocery and drug stores. An additional \$15,000 in checks is given out annually to support local farmers in Farmer's Market checks. Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator LaForge, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried. **Notify Human Resources**

--*Outreach Specialist* (AFSCME, Grade 11, Step 4) This position was a Cornell Cooperative Extension position. CCE has ended our contractual relationship so staff needs to come under the County's control. The WIC Program cannot exist without these staff, required by the state. One hundred percent of the salary and fringe benefits will be covered by program and grants and/or Article 6 Funding as needed. The cost of this position will be in the 2015 Budget once additional requested grant monies are received. The WIC Program distributes over \$1,000,000 in checks that are used at local grocery and drug stores. An additional \$15,000 in checks is given out annually to support local farmers in Farmer's Market checks. Approval was granted on

a motion by Legislator LaForge, seconded by Legislator Graves, and carried. **Notify Human Resources**

--*Nutritionist* (AFSCME, Grade 15, Step Base) This position was a Cornell Cooperative Extension position. CCE has ended our contractual relationship so staff needs to come under the County's control. The WIC Program cannot exist without these staff, required by the state. One hundred percent of the salary and fringe benefits will be covered by program and grants and/or Article 6 Funding as needed. The cost of this position will be in the 2015 Budget once additional requested grant monies are received. The WIC Program distributes over \$1,000,000 in checks that are used at local grocery and drug stores. An additional \$15,000 in checks is given out annually to support local farmers in Farmer's Market checks. Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator LaForge, seconded by Legislator Hopkins, and carried. **Notify Human Resources**

--*Women's, Infants and Children's (WIC) Clerks (2)* (AFSCME, Grade 4, Step 7) This position was a Cornell Cooperative Extension position. CCE has ended our contractual relationship so staff needs to come under the County's control. The WIC Program cannot exist without these staff, required by the state. One hundred percent of the salary and fringe benefits will be covered by program and grants and/or Article 6 Funding as needed. The cost of this position will be in the 2015 Budget once additional requested grant monies are received. The WIC Program distributes over \$1,000,000 in checks that are used at local grocery and drug stores. An additional \$15,000 in checks is given out annually to support local farmers in Farmer's Market checks. Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator LaForge, seconded by Legislator Pullen, and carried. **Notify Human Resources**

*Peer Counselors (3, PT)* (AFSCME, Grade 4, Step Base)

These positions were Cornell Cooperative Extension positions. CCE has ended our contractual relationship so staff needs to come under the County's control. The WIC Program cannot exist without these staff, required by the state. One hundred percent of the salary and fringe benefits will be covered by program and grants and/or Article 6 Funding as needed. The cost of this position will be in the 2015 Budget once additional requested grant monies are received. The cost of this position will be in the 2015 Budget once additional requested grant monies are received. The WIC Program distributes over \$1,000,000 in checks that are used at local grocery and drug stores. An additional \$15,000 in checks is given out annually to support local farmers in Farmer's Market checks. Because this is a part-time position, the incumbent will not actually be a member of the union. Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator LaForge, seconded by Legislator Graves, and carried. **Notify Human Resources**

### **Emergency Preparedness**

Public Health Director Lori Ballengee requested that the following positions be created and filled in the Emergency Preparedness area:

--*Emergency Preparedness Specialist* (AFSCME, Grade 13, Step 3) This position was a Cornell Cooperative Extension position. CCE has ended our contractual relationship so staff needs to come under the County's control. We are mandated to have an Emergency Preparedness position, by State DOH. One hundred percent of the salary and fringe benefits will be covered by program and grants and/or Article 6 Funding as needed. The cost of this position will be in the 2015 Budget once transfers are made. Preparing for outbreaks, disasters and other emergencies is integral for a coordinated, comprehensive response. This position insures all staff have proper and complete training needed to accomplish this. Approval was

granted on a motion by Legislator LaForge, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried. **Notify Human Resources**

### Public Health

Public Health Director Lori Ballengee requested that the following positions be created and filled in the Public Health area:

--*Public Health Educator* (AFSCME, Grade 17, Step Base) This position was a Cornell Cooperative Extension position. CCE has ended our contractual relationship so staff needs to come under the County's control. We are required as part of our Reproductive Health Program to have an Educator on staff. Our goal is to reduce teen pregnancies and all transmission of sexually transmitted diseases. This position plays a vital part in meeting the goals. One hundred percent of the salary and fringe benefits will be covered by program and grants and/or Article 6 Funding as needed. The cost of this position will be in the 2015 Budget once transfers are made. Preventing teen pregnancies and disease transmission will help lower health care costs and prevent needless suffering. Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator LaForge, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried. **Notify Human Resources**

### Accept & Appropriate COLA monies

DOH requested a resolution to accept and appropriate COLA money for the WIC program for the 2015 budget year.

Appropriations (\$23,147)	
A4190.407 (Office Supplies)	\$ 200
A4190.408 (General Supplies)	\$ 1,459
A4190.410 (Maint in Lieu of Rent)	\$ 200
A4190.414 (Rentals: Real Property)	\$ 2,306
A4190.424 (Legal Advertising)	\$ 500
A4190.427 (Electricity)	\$ 400
A4190.428 (Natural Gas)	\$ 250
A4190.456 (Health Contracts)	<b><u>\$17,832</u></b>
Revenues (\$23,147)	
A4190.4452.00 (Federal Aid –WIC 4482)	\$23,147

The request was approved on a motion by Legislator LaForge, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

### Transfer of Funds

The Health Department is requesting that appropriations on the 2015 County budget be transferred to fund both wage and fringe benefit expenses associated with the Cornell Contracted Staff becoming County employees. It was the goal of the Health Department to ensure that, with the exception of fringe benefits for one individual who is performing mandated QA services for 10 hours per week, no local tax dollars were used to cover these personal service expenses. To achieve this, it was necessary to reduce some grant funded program services. If it is subsequently determined that these program services are needed it may be necessary to re-appropriate the original \$29,697 payroll deposit that was paid to Cornell Cooperative Extension on December 14, 2009. Also, please note that there will be two additional MOE's coming at a later date which will provide funding for the WIC personnel services. Those two MOE's are an increase in the WIC grant amount of \$30,000 as well as

\$16,617 of WIC's performance improvement grant. The monies should be appropriated as presented below:

From:	To:	Amount:
A4010.456	Health Contracts	\$ 24,047.00
A4035.456	Health Contracts	\$ 29,299.00
A4056.456	Health Contracts	\$ 350.00
A4071.409	Fees	\$ 26,631.00
A4071.456	Health Contracts	\$ 66,359.00
A4072.456	Health Contracts	\$ 3,421.00
A4189.456	Health Contracts	\$ 30,458.00
A4190.456	Health Contracts	<u>\$ 268,555.00</u>
From Total		\$ 449,120.00

A4010.101	Regular Pay	\$ 296,498.00
A4035.802	Retirement	\$ 6,318.00
A4035.803	F I C A	\$ 2,603.00
A4035.804	Workers Comp	\$ 528.00
A4035.805	Disability	\$ 85.00
A4035.806	Hosp/Med Ins	\$ 7,408.00
A4056.802	Retirement	\$ 1,042.00
A4056.803	F I C A	\$ 429.00
A4056.804	Workers Comp	\$ 87.00
A4056.805	Disability	\$ 14.00
A4056.806	Hosp/Med Ins	\$ 1,222.00
A4071.802	Retirement	\$ 11,528.00
A4071.803	F I C A	\$ 4,749.00
A4071.804	Workers Comp	\$ 962.00
A4071.805	Disability	\$ 154.00
A4071.806	Hosp/Med Ins	\$ 13,515.00
A4072.802	Retirement	\$ 572.00
A4072.803	F I C A	\$ 236.00
A4072.804	Workers Comp	\$ 48.00
A4072.805	Disability	\$ 8.00
A4072.806	Hosp/Med Ins	\$ 671.00
A4189.802	Retirement	\$ 4,169.00
A4189.803	F I C A	\$ 1,717.00
A4189.804	Workers Comp	\$ 348.00
A4189.805	Disability	\$ 56.00
A4189.806	Hosp/Med Ins	\$ 4,887.00
A4190.802	Retirement	\$ 33,293.00
A4190.803	F I C A	\$ 13,715.00
A4190.804	Workers Comp	\$ 2,779.00
A4190.805	Disability	\$ 448.00
A4190.806	Hosp/Med Ins	\$ 39,031.00
	To Total	\$ 449,120.00
	Net Transaction Total	\$ 0.00

The request was approved on a motion by Legislator LaForge, seconded by Legislator Graves, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

#### **Grant Applications to Assist with Electronic Medical Records Costs**

Public Health Director Lori Ballengee requested permission to apply for grant funding from the Allegany County Area Foundation. The following is the rationale: As of March 27, 2015, all health-related facilities will be required by the state to administer all prescriptions electronically. There will be no more paper scripts. DOH will face fines if it is not in compliance. DOH has found an EMR (Electronic Medical Record) Company to accomplish this and would like to submit a grant application to the Allegany Area Foundation to assist DOH in purchasing the equipment, training, and implementation of this new system. Should the applications for funding fail, DOH would have to pay for this out of its Article 6, General Public Health Work grant money. After any grant funding expires, there will be an on-going monthly service charge for the software and technical support. Again, these costs will be covered by the Family Planning and Article 6 grant monies. Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator LaForge, seconded by Legislator Pullen, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

#### **Request to Fill PT Early Intervention Services Coordinator Position**

Ms. Ballengee also requested permission to fill a PT Early Intervention Services Coordinator Position (non-union, Grade 16, Step Base). NYS passed a law to comply with Federal regulations. As of September 2010, DOH is required to have two EI Service Coordinators in place at least 20 hours per week each to be in compliance with that law. EI Service Coordinators ensure that only children meeting the regulation guidelines receive services and those services are delivered in the most cost-effective, efficient manner possible. The majority of these services are billable, which will generate revenue to fund the salaries. Salaries will be covered by billable units generated and Article 6, General Public Health Work grant funds. Without this position, there would be a loss of control in ensuring that the quantity of provided services are as cost-effective and efficient as they can possibly be. Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator LaForge, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried. **Notify Human Resources**

#### **HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE/Department of Social Services**

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

Department of Social Services Commissioner Vicki Grant requested permission to fill a Senior Caseworker (AFSCME, Grade 17, Step Min.) position. This position resides in the Services Unit and does child protective investigation and safety assessments to ensure the health, welfare, and safety of children. Without this position, DSS would not be able to meet state and federal requirements. This position is funded 50 percent federal dollars, 25 percent state dollars, and 25 percent County dollars. Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator LaForge, seconded by Legislator Hopkins, and carried. **Notify Human Resources**

##### **Request to Fill Social Welfare Examiner Position**

Ms. Grant also requested permission to fill a Social Welfare Examiner position (AFSCME, Grade 11, Step Min.). This position resides in the Temporary Assistance Unit and is responsible for interviewing clients, determining eligibility, and administering the appropriate benefits. Without this position, DSS would not meet state and federal requirements. Funding is provided with 50 percent federal dollars, 25 percent state dollars, and 25 percent County dollars. Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator LaForge, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried. **Notify Human Resources**

**HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE/Office for the Aging**

**Contract with VNA Home Care for Home-Delivered Meals for Their Long-Term Care Clients**

Office for the Aging Director Madeleine Gasdik requested permission to enter into a contract with VNA Homecare Options, LLC, 1050 W. Genesee Street, Syracuse, NY, to supply home-delivered meals to its long-term care clients at a price of \$6.50 per meal. No additional need for funding is anticipated as the OFA 2015 Budget already includes meals for (now DSS) long-term care clients. Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator LaForge, seconded by Legislator Graves, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE/Sheriff's Office**

**Request to Fill Full-time Cook Position**

Undersheriff Kevin Monroe requested permission to fill a Full-Time Cook position (the Local 3989 Council 82 bargaining unit, Step Base). This position became vacant due to a retirement. Filling this position keeps the Jail in compliance with NYSCOC Minimum Standards. Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator Curran, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried. **Notify Human Resources**

**Accept & Appropriate \$607 in User Fees from the ACTII Batters Program**

Sheriff Whitney also requested a resolution to accept and appropriate \$607 in user fees from the ACT II Batters Program. The sum of \$607 should be placed in Account A 3117.449 with a like sum placed in Revenue Account A.3117.2260.00. Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator Curran, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

**Old Business**

Legislator Decker inquired about any updates on the status of County IDA PILOTS. He was told there was nothing to report at this time.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m. following a motion by Legislator Graves seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried.

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