

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

February 4, 2016

NOT APPROVED

Committee Members Present: K. LaForge, D. Pullen, S. Burt, D. Decker, J. Hopkins, C. Jessup, T. O'Grady, D. Root, C. Crandall

Others Present: L. Ballengee, H. Budinger, K. Dirlam, D. Fanton, V. Grant, K. Graves, D. Healy, L. Hennessy, R. Hollis, K. Hooker, J. Margeson, A. Mattison, T. Miner, V. Pettit, B. Riehle, T. Ross, R. Scott, T. Shaw

Media Present: No media present.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by Human Services Committee Chairman Kevin LaForge.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Legislator Decker, seconded by Legislator Root, and carried to approve the Human Services Committee minutes of January 6, 2016.

Health Department

Corporate Compliance Plan Update

Health Director Lori Ballengee stated they will add language related to Corporate Compliance to the Legislator's job description. Interim County Administrator John Margeson is the Corporate Compliance Officer. She also noted they had no complaints and investigations in December and January.

Accept and Appropriate Performance Incentive Initiative Money for the General Fund

Ms. Ballengee requested a resolution to accept and appropriate Performance Incentive Initiative monies for the General Fund for the 2016 Budget year in the amount of \$13,000. These monies were awarded for increasing the timeliness and completeness of STD and general communicable disease reporting, and must be appropriated and spent on Article 6 eligible activities. The general supplies purchased will be vaccine. The conference expense will fund three staff attending family planning related conferences. The legal advertising will cover the cost of advertising on Facebook for a one-year period. The funds should be appropriated as follows:

Appropriations		
A4010.408	County Health Department - General Supplies	\$ 6,100
A4035.405	Family Planning - Conference Expense	\$ 900
A4035.424	Family Planning - Legal Advertising	<u>\$ 6,000</u>
	Total:	\$13,000
Revenues		
A4010.3450.00	Public Health-State Aid Other	\$13,000

The request was approved on a motion by Legislator Burt, seconded by Legislator Decker, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Accept and Re-Appropriate Women's Health Initiative Grant for Cancer Services

Ms. Ballengee tabled this request until next month.

Accept and Re-Appropriate COLA Money for the Cancer Services Program

Ms. Ballengee requested a resolution to accept and re-appropriate COLA money for the Cancer Services Program for the 2016 Budget year, April 1, 2015, to March 31, 2016, grant year in the amount of \$2,346. Ms. Ballengee noted that this is a re-appropriation of Cancer Services COLA monies that were not expended in 2015. The funds should be re-appropriated as follows:

Appropriations		
A4071.201	Cancer Services Program - Office Equipment	\$1,145
A4071.405	Cancer Services Program - Conference Expense	\$ 306
A4071.408	Cancer Services Program - General Supplies	\$ 53
A4071.424	Cancer Services Program - Legal Advertising	\$ 432
A4071.419	Cancer Services Program - Printing/Microfilming	\$ 320
A4071.422	Cancer Services Program - Gasoline/Oil	<u>\$ 90</u>
	Total:	\$2,346
Revenues		
Acct A4071.3401.00	State Aid	\$ 2,346

Legislator Decker commented it is a cost-of-living adjustment, but they can move the funds to different areas. He believes if it is for a specific area, it should be for that area. The request was approved on a motion by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator O'Grady, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Request Permission to Fill Public Health Technician

Ms. Ballengee requested permission to fill a Public Health Technician (AFSCME, Grade 13, Step Base) position. This position is critical to the operation of the Environmental Health programs. It is a versatile position that can provide clerical support, and perform basic environmental health functions. The salary is covered 100 percent by Article 6 Funding and other grants. The fringe is a County expense. The request was approved on a motion by Legislator Hopkins, seconded by Legislator Pullen, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Request Permission to Fill Medical Records Computer Operator

Ms. Ballengee requested permission to fill a Medical Records Computer Operator (AFSCME, Grade 10, Step Base) position. This position is critical to finding un-insured or under-insured people to receive cancer screenings. The Cancer Services Program provides life-saving cancer screenings, and assists with treatment costs for those diagnosed with cancer. The salary and fringe are covered 100 percent by program and grants. Legislator Burt asked what the requirements are for this position. Ms. Ballengee stated it is a clerical position that requires a high school diploma. The request was approved on a motion by Legislator Decker, seconded by Legislator O'Grady, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Request Permission to Fill Community Outreach Specialist

Ms. Ballengee requested permission to fill a part-time Community Outreach Specialist (Non-union, Grade 4, Step Base) position. This position is clerical support staff for the Cancer Services Program. This position also submits billing for payment to providers of screenings. The Cancer Services Program provides life-saving cancer screenings, and assists with treatment

costs for those diagnosed with cancer. The salary and fringe are covered 100 percent by program and grants. The request was approved on a motion by Legislator Jessup, seconded by Legislator Decker, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Department of Social Services

Monthly Report

Commissioner Vicki Grant pre-filed her monthly report. She said she did not have a report on the staff changes, but will give a report next month. Ms. Grant reported she has been asked to present at the Western New York Trauma Informed Care Panel. She has also been asked to be on the statewide implementation team to look at improving child welfare outcomes statewide. Legislator LaForge commented it speaks highly of Ms. Grant and her department.

Better for Families Pilot Project Statement of Intent

Ms. Grant stated the Better for Families Pilot Project is not really a grant, but more of a program action. She noted they have had Adult Drug Court since 2005. This pilot project deals with family treatment court and drugs. Since they have had collaborations in place, it would be an extension of that. They met with judges, Allegany Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse (ACASA), and community partners to talk about the viability of the project. She added they received approval from the administrative judge. She hopes this project will combat some child welfare cases that include Heroin and other drug issues. Hopefully, individuals will be able to receive services, and reduce the time a child is in foster care. Ms. Grant stated they put in a statement of intent, and are waiting for approval. She said they don't necessarily get money, but OCA and OCFS will provide training and transportation to the training. Legislator Graves asked if this project will be handled by existing staff. Ms. Grant replied yes. Legislator Hopkins asked if they would start in the spring. Ms. Grant said yes. Legislator LaForge noted this is for informational purposes.

Office for the Aging

Monthly Report

Director Madeleine Gasdik pre-filed her monthly report. Legislator LaForge stated Ms. Gasdik's mother passed away so she was unable to attend the meeting. Coordinator of Services Anita Mattison and Accountant Vickie Pettit attended the meeting on Ms. Gasdik's behalf. Legislator Burt asked about the Farmer's Market coupon. Ms. Mattison stated they distribute four \$5 coupons for a total of \$20 to eligible individuals at luncheon sites, the Senior Picnic, and other locations. They can use these coupons at any participating farmer's market. She added it is a federally funded program. Legislator Burt asked if it is income based. Ms. Mattison replied yes, and it goes along with HEAP income guidelines. Legislator Decker asked if there is a limit. Ms. Mattison said one per household.

Request Permission to Apply for Balancing Incentive Program (BIP) Caregiver Support Program

The Office for the Aging requested permission to apply for the Balancing Incentive Program (BIP) Caregiver Support Program in the amount of \$20,000. The grant year is April 1, 2015, to June 30, 2017. This grant will increase offerings and access to non-institutional long-term services and supports such as counseling, support groups, training, and case management to caregivers and their Medicaid-eligible loved ones. The funding will support Powerful Tools for Caregivers training, and enable Medicaid-eligible care receivers to stay at

home and out of institutional care. The request was approved on a motion by Legislator Pullen, seconded by Legislator Jessup, and carried.

Accept & Appropriate Alzheimer's Disease Caregiver Support Initiative Grant

The Office for the Aging requested a resolution to accept a new State grant, the Alzheimer's Disease Caregiver Support Initiative in the amount of \$109,399. This grant was awarded to Catholic Charities of Buffalo, and its eight partners (Alzheimer's Association of Western New York, and Office for the Aging in Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, and Wyoming Counties). The grant is for 5 years, and Allegany County Office for the Aging's share is as follows:

Year 1 - \$109,399

Year 2 - \$110,799

Year 3 - \$112,227

Year 4 - \$113,683

Year 5 - \$119,966

The funding should be appropriated as follows:

Appropriations

A6791.101	Regular Pay	\$ 51,090
A6791.402	Mileage/Transportation	\$ 8,143
A6791.405	Conf. Exp.	\$ 1,256
A6791.474	Respite	\$ 30,000
A6791.802	Retirement	\$ 8,020
A6791.803	F.I.C.A.	\$ 3,450
A6791.804	Worker's Comp	\$ 699
A6791.805	Disability	\$ 212
A6791.806	Hosp/Med	<u>\$ 6,529</u>
	Total:	\$109,399

Revenue

A6791.3722.00	State Aid OFA	\$109,399
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Ms. Mattison stated this grant allows the Office of the Aging to enhance caregiver support services for individuals with Alzheimers or dementia. It will also establish a Savvy Caregiver Program in Allegany County, expand the Powerful Tools for Caregivers, and train a master trainer to train additional staff. Legislator Burt asked about any age requirements. Ms. Mattison said it is for 60 years or older, or caregivers for people 60 years or older. If they have Alzheimers or dementia related symptoms before age 60, they can assist them too. Legislator Graves asked if the program will be covered by existing staff. Ms. Mattison stated they are requesting to create and fill a new position that will be funded 100 percent by this grant. She noted it is a 5-year grant. Legislator Graves asked if the position is eligible for overtime. Ms. Pettit said they will stay within budget. Legislator Graves asked if existing staff can do the work. Ms. Mattison replied no, the staff is at their capacity. Legislator Decker asked for more explanation on respite services. Ms. Mattison said they would provide respite services to caregivers of individuals with Alzheimers or dementia to meet their medical and caregiving needs. Respite will be in-home. The request was approved on a motion by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator Decker, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Request to Create and Fill Aging Services Specialist

The Office for the Aging requested permission to create and fill a full-time Aging Services Specialist (AFSCME, Grade 16, Step 7) position effective March 15, 2016. The New York State Department of Health funded Alzheimer's Disease Caregiver Support Initiative grant allows the Office for the Aging to fund this new position. This position has not been budgeted at the full-time level in the 2016 Budget. This new Aging Services Specialist position will be filled as long as the New York State Department of Health funding is available. This position will allow the Office for the Aging to meet the deliverable for the grant. These are family care consultations and care coordination, education and training programs, respite to offer a temporary reprieve to the caregiver, and support groups. This grant and position will allow caregivers of persons with Alzheimer and other dementia to be self-sufficient, socialize, and thrive while continuing to care for their loved ones in their own homes. The request to create the position was approved on a motion by Legislator O'Grady, seconded by Legislator Pullen, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

The request to fill the position was approved on a motion by Legislator Hopkins, seconded by Legislator Root, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Community Services**Request to Create and Fill Intensive Case Manager**

Dr. Robert Anderson requested permission to fill an Intensive Case Manager (PEF, Grade 7) position. This position is responsible for providing case management services to individuals under the Department of Health Home Program. This position also refers, monitors, and links individuals to services in order to decrease and/or avoid high use of Medicaid dollars. Dr. Anderson said this vacancy is the result of a retirement. The cost of the position is \$57,376. Revenue generated by two staff for eleven months, and one staff for one month equaled \$260,591. Based on communication with the State, Dr. Anderson anticipates revenues to continue at that rate at least through the foreseeable future. There would be no cost to the County. Legislator Decker asked where the funds are generated from. Dr. Anderson said Medicaid and State reimbursements. Dr. Anderson said the Affordable Care Act requires everyone not to just have insurance, but appropriate care. He said they receive about 200 referrals a month. The Intensive Case Managers call the individuals, and offer care management. Legislator Burt asked what is the educational requirement for the position. Dr. Anderson said a Bachelor's degree, but they look for a person with experience or a Master's degree. Legislator Burt asked if the duties can be absorbed by other staff. Dr. Anderson said no. The person retired on Friday, and he has already authorized over time for the staff including the supervisor. The request was approved on a motion by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator O'Grady, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

New Business**Lead Pipes**

Health Director Lori Ballengee introduced Director of Environmental Health Tyler Shaw. Mr. Shaw has researched lead pipe, and gave a brief presentation. Legislator LaForge noted this is important because of the issue in Flint, Michigan, and Hoosick Falls, New York. Mr. Shaw said they currently monitor 113 public water supplies. He said they issue permits for over 400 facilities in the County. Mr. Shaw distributed the EPA Statement on Private Wells in The Town of Hoosick and Village of Hoosick Falls, New York.

Currently the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has a lead and copper rule that requires the County to monitor levels in the public water supply. He said it is a problem across

the State because of the aging infrastructure. Mr. Shaw described the reporting process. He said they report to the State by entering water sample information into the State database. The EPA also monitors that database. Legislator Hopkins asked about the education effort towards children about the dangers of lead and lead paint. Mr. Shaw said the public educators do outreach to children 0-6 years old. He noted this is where they see the most effects of lead. Adults and pets can still get lead poisoning, but they mostly experience gastro-intestinal issues. Legislator Healy asked if children are tested. Director of Health Lori Ballengee said at age 1 and 2.

Legislator LaForge asked Mr. Shaw to elaborate on the Flint, Michigan, problem and how the New York State Department of Health requires corrosive treatment. He noted it was absent in Flint, and that caused the problem. Mr. Shaw said Flint switched the water supply from the Detroit Water Authority to the Flint River based on the emergency manager's decision. They did not do any source water quality analysis. They did not do any sampling of the river for baseline information. New York State doesn't allow someone to change the water source without doing baseline testing. Baseline testing provides parameters to see what is safe for the public and what is not.

Legislator LaForge asked about Hoosick Falls, New York. Mr. Shaw hopes the State is involved in reassuring the public it is being taken care of. Legislator Decker asked what PFOA means. Mr. Shaw stated it is Perfluorooctanoic Acid which is a by-product of plastic. He noted it is not a new chemical, and has been used since 1940.

Mr. Shaw encourages the public if they have any questions about their water source on a public water system, they can send a request. He noted one municipality posts their monthly results on their website. Clerk of the Board Brenda Rigby Riehle asked if they do testing for wells or springs. Mr. Shaw replied yes.

Zika Virus

Director of Patient Services Laurie Hennessy gave a brief update on the Zika virus. Public Health Director noted the situation is changing daily. Ms. Hennessy said the Zika virus is caused by certain mosquitos. The mosquito bites you, and you become infected. You can be asymptomatic or have symptoms. She noted it is dangerous for pregnant women. They are trying to find a way to prevent it because there isn't a vaccine or medication. Ms. Hennessy stated they have alerted the labs because the Governor put out a notice today those pregnant women who are symptomatic and asymptomatic but traveled can have their labs sent to the Wadsworth Center for free. Ms. Hennessy said they put a link on the Health Department website that has a Zika fact sheet and who to call. Legislator Hopkins asked about the area of travel that is of concern. Ms. Hennessy said South America.

Ms. Hennessy said they do not have any confirmed cases in Allegany County. Legislator Burt believes there are 3 confirmed cases in New York State. Ms. Hennessy believes there have been 11 confirmed cases. These individuals had traveled to areas of concern. She added a person in Texas was diagnosed with the virus through sexual transmission. Legislator Decker asked about it being sexually transmitted while the person is infected. Ms. Hennessy said yes, but the recommendation is if you are pregnant and your significant other travels to a country in question, they should use precautions for the duration of the pregnancy. Legislator Burt asked what the symptoms are. Ms. Hennessy said it could be a rash, fever, muscle aches and pains, conjunctivitis, and is rarely fatal. Legislator Graves asked how long it stays in your system. Ms. Hennessy said they are not sure how long. Some say 7 days, others say 21 days. Legislator Graves asked if there are any mutations. Ms. Hennessy said no one has mentioned any mutations.

Good of the Order

Legislator LaForge stated he returned from the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) conference in Albany. He attended the following sessions:

- The Steering Committee for the Department of Health and the Steering Committee for the Department of Social Services.
- Plug in to Broadband.
- Workshop on applying for municipal restructuring funds. The Governor is supposed to make \$150 million available for that purpose.
- Sales tax revenue.
- Legislator LaForge said there was a nice compliment to Allegany County at the livability economy session put on by the AARP about structuring communities where people can live their whole life in the same house. They complimented Allegany County's transportation system, and how innovative it is for a small county.
- Heroin report
- Feed people not landfills.

Legislator LaForge said if anyone is interested, he is willing to talk about his impressions of the conference.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:02 p.m. following a motion by Legislator Burt, seconded by Legislator Decker, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Scott, Secretary to the Clerk of the Board
Allegany County Board of Legislators