

**HEALTH AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE
STAMMEL, LAPIN, MARIETTA, BROCKWAY, BASILE
JULY 7, 2020
9:45 a.m.**

Under the current COVID-19 emergency/Executive orders, this committee meeting was not physically open to the public at the County Office Building. The meeting was streamed via facebookLIVE.

Members: Representative Stammel- present, via zoom
Representative Lapin- present, via zoom
Representative Marietta- present, via zoom
Representative Brockway- present, via zoom
Representative Basile- present, via zoom

CORONER- CAROL MCGOVERN

Carol McGovern discussed a Coroner log that was submitted for the 2nd quarter that included an initial call charge of \$125 that was not related to a specific Coroner call/case. Mrs. McGovern added that Coroners get paid quarterly on payroll and that she omitted this charge from the pay and was bringing it to the committee for further discussion. After a brief discussion, the committee agreed not to pay this charge due to it is outside the scope of work as it is not related to a specific case.

Representative Marietta and Representative Basile joined the meeting via zoom.

OFFICE FOR THE AGING- TAMIE REED via zoom

Tamie Reed updated the committee on service reductions due to the lack of funding and position cuts as follows:

Transportation- -down to 3 days a week
-reduced shopping
-working with Schenectady County Catholic Charities
as related to a grant and volunteer recruitment. (currently approx. 12 individuals that need shopping assistance)

Medicare Counseling- -lost 2-3 positions that were certified medicare
counselors
-currently being done via phone and hoping that office
will be more efficient vs. in person
-open enrollment is Oct. 15-Dec. 7
-may have to defer individuals to the state

YMCA Senior swim- -permanently cancelled this program

Homemaking- -freezing new homemaking service requests and putting them on a waiting list
-personal care requests are not being frozen

Tamie Reed requested approval to create, fund and fill an Aging Services Specialist position at \$30,664 and unfund a Caseworker position #1. Representative Marietta moved for approval. Seconded, Lapin. Total: 2,154. Ayes: 2,154. Motion carried.

Tamie Reed requested approval to fill a vacant funded TE Senior Aging Services Aide for the HEAP season at \$13.5754/hr. and to fill a vacant funded TE HEAP Examiner for the HEAP season at \$15.4369/hr. Representative Lapin moved for approval. Seconded, Brockway. Total: 2,154. Ayes: 2,154. Motion carried.

Tamie Reed stated that farmer's market coupons will be available this week for seniors through an income based statewide program adding that they will market them at some of the farmer's markets.

COMMUNITY SERVICES- SUSAN MATT via zoom

Susan Matt stated that departmental revenue reports are not finalized yet, therefore she will send them to the committee when completed.

Susan Matt stated that there was an error in the budget modification that she presented last month, therefore requesting approval of the corrected budget modification as follows:

Increase rev. 4449 by \$57,950.80
Increase 4310.4880 by \$50,000
Increase 4310.4100 by \$3,500
Increase 4310.4500 by \$1,200
Increase 4310.4800 by \$500
Increase 4310.4900 by \$2,750.80

Representative Marietta moved approval of the revised budget modification. Seconded, Basile. Total: 2,154. Ayes: 2,154. Motion carried.

Susan Matt updated the committee regarding state aid funding/advances that have been received for 3rd quarter noting that the state aid advance from OASAS was reduced by 31% and the state aid advance from OMH was reduced by 20%. Mrs. Matt stated that agencies that utilize such funding have not been fully operational during the pandemic therefore will have discussions with them regarding the state aid cuts, how it will impact their agency/program and when will the agency see the reduction.

Susan Matt requested an exception to the spending freeze to purchase the following items:

For Mental Health: needles from Cardinal Health-up to \$35, envelopes from Hummels up to \$300, band-aids from Hummels up to \$20

For ARS: envelopes from Hummels up to \$100

Representative Marietta moved for approval. Seconded, Lapin. Total: 2,154. Ayes: 2,154. Motion carried.

Susan Matt requested approval to amend Resolution 25-20200102 with Family Resource Network to include additional funding of \$60,000 (total contract nte \$273,505 annually), to support social and emotional health training for school staff in the Otsego County Schools and an expansion of services to enhance social and emotional development of youth to include peer services, from January 1, 2020-December 31, 2022. Mrs. Matt noted that this contract is contingent on continued funding from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration under the Federal System of Care grant. Representative Lapin moved for approval. Seconded, Basile. Total: 2,154. Ayes: 2,154. Motion carried.

Susan Matt discussed approximately \$40,000 in funding from the System of Care grant that can be used to support a half time staff person in the Early Intervention program to assist with social and emotional health training for pre-school, Head Start and children age birth to 5, thru the end of the year. Heidi Bond stated that she would not be able to utilize existing staff and would have to bring back a Family Services Specialist position. Mrs. Bond added that if such position were brought back, the individual would work half time with System of Care work and half time with DOH work, which the salary would be reimbursable but not the fringe and is concerned that the position is only short term. After further discussion, Representative Marietta moved approval to create, fund and fill a Family Services Specialist position in the Department of Health as presented. Seconded, Brockway. Total: 2,154. Ayes: 2,154. Motion carried.

Representative Stammel asked for an update concerning the pending criminal action charges. Susan Matt stated that she and other counties are working with the Associations attorney and has not connected with the County Attorney yet concerning this. Mrs. Matt added that she is not paying the bill until further notice and that the individual was off parole in April.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH- HEIDI BOND via zoom

Heidi Bond gave department updates but was not limited to the following:

- couple new COVID cases weekly
- busy tracking non NYS travelers as well as NYS residents traveling outside the state

- utilizing New York States virtual contact tracing team to monitor the travelers (approx. 30 travelers are being monitored)
- seeing less severe systems than as in the spring
- still receiving a few complaints about businesses not following guidelines
- Governor made a statement about local enforcement being able to subpoena a business that is not complying, which Mrs. Bond will research further

Heidi Bond requested approval to attend the NACCHO virtual conference that starts this week at a cost of \$200. Representative Brockway moved for approval. Seconded, Lapin. Total: 2,154. Ayes: 2,154. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL- PENNEY GENTILE via zoom

Penney Gentile requested approval to reappoint Heidi Bond as Public Health Director for a 6-year term from August 8, 2020-August 7, 2026. Representative Basile moved for approval. Seconded, Brockway. Total: 2,154. Ayes: 2,154. Motion carried.

There being no further business to discuss, the committee adjourned.