

**HEALTH AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE
STAMMEL, LAPIN, MARIETTA, BROCKWAY, BASILE
AUGUST 11, 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- absent

Also present: Board Chair Bliss in the Board Chambers

OFFICE FOR THE AGING- TAMIE REED via zoom

Tamie Reed requested approval to fill a vacant funded Caseworker position. Representative Marietta moved for approval. Seconded, Brockway. Total: 2,154. Ayes: 1,467; Absent: 687- Lapin, Basile. Motion carried.
Tamie Reed reviewed the 2021 proposed budget.

Representative Lapin arrived via zoom.

Tamie Reed stated that she has negotiated a reduction in cost with Trinity related to the Senior Meals contract during the pandemic, recognizing approximately \$6,000 in savings per month from April through September.

Tamie Reed updated the committee concerning congregate dining sites. Mrs. Reed stated that a survey went out last month to seniors who participated in the congregate meals program from January thru March to see what their future needs would be and if they would return to their congregate meal site post COVID. Mrs. Reed stated that there are many factors in deciding whether congregate meal sites will open or not in the future as well as the number of sites may be limited.

Tamie Reed updated the committee that the Oneonta office move to 242 Main Street is supposed to happen next week, noting that that office will primarily be closed temporarily during the move.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH- KIM SCHLOSSER ON BEHALF OF HEIDI BOND via zoom

Kim Schlosser gave the following updates:

-free COVID testing sites- testing has already occurred at two sites: Exeter- 64 people were tested. Worcester-80 people were tested and working on setting one up at the end of the week

-continue to work with colleges and school Superintendents about re-opening plans

COMMUNITY SERVICES- SUSAN MATT via zoom

Susan Matt reviewed departmental revenues. (approx. 3% ahead in rev. projections)

Susan Matt gave the following department updates:

- visit volume has increased via telehealth
- ARS staff currently working 2 days a week remotely and 3 days a week in person
- MH staff currently working 3 days a week remotely and 2 days a week in person
- clinic has to be open to see walk in's or conduct in person visits

Susan Matt informed the committee that OASAS restored the third quarter advance funding resulting in a 20% overall reduction in funding vs. a 31% reduction.

Board Chair Bliss left the meeting.

Susan Matt stated that she is working on the 2021 budget, noting the need to have a dedicated nursing services for ARS clinic. Mrs. Matt explained that in the past a nurse was shared between DOH and ARS and during the pandemic, the nurse was needed in DOH 100%.

Susan Matt requested approval to purchase medication from Cardinal Health for MH up to \$5,100, reimbursable by Medicaid. Representative Brockway moved for approval. Seconded, Lapin. Total: 2,154. Ayes: 1,815; Absent: 339-Basile. Motion carried.

Susan Matt requested approval to purchase five (5) laptops with remote signature pads not to exceed \$10,000, utilizing System of Care funds. Representative Lapin moved for approval. Seconded, Brockway. Total: 2,154. Ayes: 1,815; Absent: 339- Basile. Motion carried.

Susan Matt requested approval to pay for shredding services of medical records up to \$600. Representative Lapin moved for approval. Seconded, Marietta. Total: 2,154. Ayes: 1,815; Absent: 339-Basile. Motion carried.

Susan Matt requested approval to bring back a laid off Account Clerk Typist position in ARS to replace a Keyboard Specialist position being vacated due to retirement. Representative Brockway moved for approval. Seconded, Lapin. Total: 2,154. Ayes: 1,815; Absent: 339- Basile. Motion carried.

Susan Matt stated that NHSC has given 3 new awards for loan forgiveness and 1 renewal, with an overall total of 7 staff currently receiving loan forgiveness.

Susan Matt stated that she is having blended family issues adding that her staff flexes hours year round to help accommodate clients. Mrs. Matt added that currently there is one public access point to enter the building which is working well. Mrs. Matt explained that the security at the 242 Main Street building may have to be modified to cover hours other than regular building hours when clients return to "in person" visits.

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION- DON SMYERS via zoom

Don Smyers gave the following updates but was not limited to:

- continues to send detailed quarterly reports to the board
- will possibly add an executive summary in the future
- how CCE is providing pandemic response

Representative Stammel informed Mr. Smyers that the county continues to face fiscal issues and asked that he reach out to the Treasurer concerning the 2021 budget.

Representative Marietta asked Mr. Smyers to be proactive as we look to 2021 and the future on how we can leverage/share CCE resources and find opportunities for growth in Ag development and Ag business even though we continue to see a decline in dairy production in the county.

CORONER

Representative Marietta asked for an update concerning the Coroner log submitted that was discussed at last month's meeting. Representative Stammel stated that he reached out to the Coroner in question and that the Coroner understands the reasoning for non-payment and that the issue has been resolved.

OTHER

Representative Lapin reiterated constituent concerns about the lack of visual charts/graphs information in the press releases containing COVID data.

There being no further business to discuss, Representative Brockway motioned to adjourn. Seconded, Lapin. Total: 2,154. Ayes: 1,815; Absent: 339-Basile. Motion carried.