

**HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
**MARTINI, FRAZIER, BASILE, BROCKWAY, OLIVER**  
**April 20, 2021 @ 1:00 pm**

This meeting was streamed on Facebook Live and recorded.

Please note the meeting attendance as follows:

Present in person at the Otsego County Office Building Board Chambers,  
197 Main Street, Cooperstown, NY 13326:

Representative Adrienne Martini, Chair

Samantha Augur, Secretary to the Commissioner

Present remotely via video conference:

Representative Richard Brockway

Representative Jill Basile

Representative Clark Oliver

Commissioner Eve Bouboulis

Director Mary Jane Waters

Director Janet Elliott

Fiscal Supervisor Cheryl Sparks

Representative Edwin Frazier and Director Lisa Grampp were unable to attend.

#### RESOLUTIONS

Resolution to declare May 2021 as Foster Family Recognition Month in Otsego County was presented. Representative Oliver motioned to approve. Representative Brockway seconded the motion. Total: 2,036; Ayes: 1,258, absent Frazier-439, Basile- 339; motion carried.

Representative Basile entered the meeting at 1:05pm

Resolution to renew contract with Oneonta City School District for three (3) in-house Caseworkers for term July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 was presented. Representative Brockway motioned to approve. Representative Oliver seconded the motion. Total: 2,036; Ayes: 1,597, absent Frazier – 439; motion carried.

Resolution to amend Resolution No. 85-2007 Indigent Burial Rates Paid by Otsego County Department of Social Services was presented. Representative Oliver motioned to

approve. Representative Brockway seconded the motion. Total: 2,036; Ayes: 1,597, absent Frazier-439; motion carried.

Resolution to contract with Integrated Community Alternatives Network (ICAN) for STSTJP services not to exceed \$66,000 for term October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021 was presented. Representative Basile motioned to approve. Representative Oliver seconded the motion. Total: 2,036; Ayes: 1,597, absent Frazier-439; motion carried.

Resolution to amend Resolution No. 97-20210203 to read as follows: "cost not to exceed \$85,323 annually per worker with billing at actual cost per worker" was presented. Representative Brockway motioned to approve. Representative Basile seconded the motion. Total: 2,036; Ayes: 1,597, absent Frazier-439; motion carried.

Approval to contract with Otsego County Probation Department for STSJP services not to exceed \$12,600 for term October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021 was presented. Representative Basile motioned to approve. Representative Oliver seconded the motion. Total: 2,036; Ayes: 1,597, absent Frazier-439; motion carried.

## FISCAL

Preliminary Expenditure Reports for February 2021 were presented as follows: Welfare Administration: 9.33%; Records Management: 14.5%; Agency Housing: 0% and Programs: 8.59%.

Commissioner Bouboulis informed the committee that we will be seeking ICAN to advertise and fill the remaining two vacant Family Service Coordinator positions as part of their contract with us. There was no objection.

Penny Gentile, Personnel Officer, entered the meeting at 1:29pm

Eve informed the committee the department will be purchasing three (3) EZ Passes for county car use by DSS staff. This is due to admin fees of \$2.00 for NY State Thruway exits that in the past had no toll fees and with EZ Pass still do not have toll fees.

## PERSONNEL

Permission to fill the following vacant funded positions were presented for approval with results as follows: Caseworkers #14, #22, #28 – Grade 14X \$38,959 - \$46,114 [1431] (62/24/14); Senior Caseworker #7 – Grade 16D \$42,605 - \$50,455 [1570] (62/24/14); and Senior Social Welfare Examiner #2 Grade 10E \$32,661 - \$38,526 [1173] (50/12.5/37.5). Representative Oliver motioned to approve all. Representative Brockway seconded the motion. Total: 2,036; Ayes: 1,597, absent Frazier-439; motion carried.

Permission to fill the following temporary positions for up to 6 months upon hire were presented for approval with results as follows: Temporary Clerk up to 6 months upon hire - Grade 5C \$14.7684 per hr (66/16/18); Temporary Caseworker up to 6 months upon hire – Grade 14X \$21.8503 per hr. (62/24/14); Temporary Senior Caseworker up to 6 months

upon hire – Grade 16D \$23.8951 per hour (62/24/14). Representative Basile motioned to approve all. Representative Brockway seconded the motion. Total: 2,036; Ayes: 1,597, absent Frazier-439; motion carried.

Permission to unfreeze and fill Case Supervisor Grade B #5 – Grade 18P \$46,623 - \$55,308 [1737] (62/24/14) was presented for approval. Representative Basile motioned to approve. Representative Brockway seconded the motion. Total: 2,036; Ayes: 1,597, absent Frazier-439; motion carried.

Oliver exited the meeting 1:43pm

Permission to unfund Keyboard Specialist #3 Grade 5H to create, fund and fill Clerk #22 Grade 5C was presented. Representative Basile motioned to approve. Representative Brockway seconded the motion. Total: 2,036; Ayes: 1,249, absent Frazier-439, Oliver - 348; motion carried.

#### OTHER

Staffing: The department continues to have accounting and child support staff working every other day in the office for particular staff. Child welfare staff continue working every other week in the office. All work from home on their opposite weeks and/or days. In the coming month the department intends to try and have supervisors and seniors back in the office more fulltime.

Housing: Our Emergency Solution Grant (ESG) round 1 funding plan was approved. Albany Catholic Charities is heading up the funding distribution to eligible persons. Oneonta Catholic Charities is working with Crossroads, as a subcontractor to them, for emergency shelter outreach prevention and rapid re-housing. The department anticipates approval of our ESG Round 2 plan and those same contracts will remain in place. We also included in the plan funding for OFO Code Blue activities and the warming station.

Representative Martini inquired about the warming station. Commissioner Bouboulis stated it has ended at this point. The station did assist in identifying a few individuals that we are now working with to help access this funding which she feels is a great success.

There will be new Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) funding in the near future. There is currently no determination on what Otsego County's allocation will be and the State is still working on actual guidelines for counties at this time. Funding will be accessed through a portal to the State directly. Counties will not receive the funding directly. The County and area service providers will directly assist clients in accessing the portal to seek funding from the State.

Child welfare is seeing an increase in hotline reports as well as complexity in cases. Commissioner Bouboulis discussed rescheduling the child welfare training for committee members. A zoom invite will be sent to all for May 3, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

With no further business to discuss Representative Brockway motioned to adjourn the meeting. Representative Basile seconded the motion. Total: 2,036; Ayes: 1,249, absent Frazier-439, Oliver - 348; meeting adjourned at 1:50pm.