

HEALTH & EDUCATION COMMITTEE
STAMMEL, LAPIN, MARIETTA, BROCKWAY, BASILE
April 14, 2020
11:30am

Please note the meeting attendance as follows:

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

Board Chair Bliss
Representative Kennedy
Representative Brockway

Present via phone conference: Tamie Reed, Director of Office for the
Aging

Present remotely via video conference:

Representative Stammel
Representative Lapin
Representative Marietta
Representative Basile
Representative Farwell
Heidi Bond, Public Health Director
Lorry O'Brien-DuBois, Administrative Aide

OFFICE FOR THE AGING—TAMIE REED via phone conference

Tamie Reed, Director of Office for the Aging, via phone conference, gave the following updates, including but not limited to: the Office for the Aging is currently providing only essential services to seniors such as home delivered meals, prescription and grocery delivery, some transportation, and weekly well checks. Ms. Reed noted there are no congregate dining sites open currently as related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Tamie Reed, prior to the meeting, emailed the Committee copies of a resolution proclaiming May 2020 Older Americans Month. Representative Basile motioned in support of proclaiming May 2020 Older Americans month. Seconded, Brockway. Roll call vote. Total: 2,154. Ayes: 2,154. Motion carried.

Tamie Reed and the Committee discussed potential changes in the Office for the Aging budget, including possible budget cuts and transfers, and/or possible additional funding through the federal or state government for services for seniors during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Representative Stammel inquired regarding the department's staff, and Ms. Reed reported they have personal protective equipment and are taking the necessary precautions to prevent the spread of the virus, and they are doing a great job. The Committee thanked Ms. Reed and her staff for their services.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH—HEIDI BOND via video conference

Heidi Bond, Public Health Director, gave the following updates, including but not limited to: as of the morning of Tuesday, April 14, 2020, there have been 45 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Otsego County, the department has been conducting contact tracing and as well as daily check-ins with quarantined individuals, the department is providing support to quarantined individuals in the form of grocery shopping, and providing masks and thermometers (when available).

Heidi Bond reported there was one positive rabies case in the County involving a skunk, and one individual is receiving post exposure treatment.

Heidi Bond said the department is working with the Susquehanna SPCA on a possible collaboration to complete rabies clinics later this year, and details are still to be determined.

The Committee and Ms. Bond continued discussion on various topics as related to COVID-19. The Committee thanked Ms. Bond and her staff for their services.

The Committee did not set a date for their next meeting, and was in consensus that the date would be determined at a later time. The Committee adjourned.