

## HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

January 7, 2019

Committee members: Ed Bronson Chair, Leslie Church, Vice Chair, Terry Button, Carlie Chilson, Bonnie Percy

Others present: Nonie Flynn, Elden Morrison, Tim Cutler, Doug Paddock, Earle Gleason, Dan Banach, Jim Multer, Tim Dennis, Rick Willson, Connie Hayes, Deb Minor, Zack Housworth, Amy Miller, Phil Rouin.

Ed and Leslie will sign the audit this month

Minutes of the December meeting were approved as presented.

Public Comment:

Mrs. Brechko stated with regards to the possibility of the mental health facilities closing at the hospital that she would hope that the beds could be used for other purposes.

**VETERANS:** Philip Rouin

Phil reported a social work student intern, Rachael Restivo will be starting on January 28<sup>th</sup>.

Phil reviewed the following resolution that was needed. The Committee approved.

- Requesting Our State Legislators To provide Funding For The Establishment Of The PFC Joseph Dwyer Peer-To-Peer Support Program for Yates County

Phil reported on the projects and Veteran Outreach efforts.

Phil reviewed the statistics, 404 services were provided and 21 transports were done for medical appointments.

Phil reported on upcoming Veteran events and the claims settled.

**OFFICE FOR THE AGING:** Zachary Housworth

Zach reported on the WIC outreach/Weatherization Outreach program.

Zach reported on the annual evaluation report that was received. He is working on the response to the management letter.

**SOCIAL SERVICES:** Amy Miller

Amy reviewed the following resolutions that would be needed. The Committee approved.

- Allocate WFD Funding
- Enter into contract with Safe Harbors of the Finger Lakes
- Authorizing the Chairman to sign MOU for Life Guard funding for municipalities

Amy reviewed a position review form for a Child Support Investigator. The Committee approved the refilling of the position.

Amy reported on Code Blue that started in the fall for the homeless. The plan was submitted to the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance for approval. Last year there were 316 overnight stays for 23 different cases. The cost for last season was \$13,895 which was reimbursed by NYS.

As of 1/3/19 there have been 12 cases with 142 nights at a cost of \$9,706.

Amy reported on able bodied adults without dependents (ABAWD). ABAWDs are food stamp applicants that do not have dependents, and do not work at least 20 hours a week. Work requirements also do not apply to individuals over 60 or any family with children under 6 where at least one parent is working.

Amy continues to place SNAP recipients who are employable into the employment programs. At the end of December, DSS had only 5 applicants who qualified as ABAWDs.

Amy reported as of 1/3/19, 524 applications have been processed for HEAP. There are 29 applications pending, and there are no late applications.

Amy reviewed a summary of the Sexual Exploited Youth Program for the 2018 year.

**PUBLIC DEFENDER:** Katie Martens-Henderson  
Katie's stats were reviewed that showed 174 active cases.

Katie reported she is working with Indigent Legal Services (ILS) on a new grant that is coming out. Katie would like to have a meeting with ILS, Penn Yan Police Department, Committee Members, the Chairman, and the Acting County Administrator. Katie will contact ILS for dates for possible meetings and work with Nonie on getting the meeting set up.

Tim Dennis asked that Katie to come up with a plan on how the grant will be administrated.

Leslie expressed her concerns regarding the inability to fill the Assist. Public Defender position. Katie reported she did talk to someone that Nonie recommended and right now because of the time constraints, he will think about it, but he is not on board at this time. Katie feels that as of now she has exhausted all of her options. Personnel has re-advertised but Katie has not received any applications in the last month and a half. Katie proposed 2 options to the Committee. The first being sending out every 3<sup>rd</sup> case to the conflict defender to lighten the load on the office. The second would be to increase Katie and 1<sup>st</sup> assistant public defender's salaries as they are obviously spending more time than a part time job. Katie explained as a temporary solution she is suggestion that the compensation be increased like it was previously when Keith Lord and Katie were the only two public defenders.

Katie reported she hired Greg Bonney to help with Counsel at First Arraignment (CAP) because as they have to be available up to 5 hours a day and with the Town courts and County courts and just two people it's difficult.

Elden questioned how the Counsel at First Arraignment works, which Katie explained.

Katie asked if this meeting could be scheduled on a different date as she can't always make the meeting because of court. Ed stated that the Committee would have to think about this.

**PUBLIC HEALTH:** Deb Minor

Deb reported the Yates Transit Service, Inc. held their Board meeting on December 20<sup>th</sup>. The Board members reviewed ridership through November 2018 noting no public passengers using the Village of Penn Yan routes.

Deb reported she met this afternoon with a group of 4 licensed Certified Nurse Midwives. They are interested in helping support the Community. They do not want unattended births, they want safe births and healthy babies and healthy moms. They were going to meet with a representative from the Mennonite Community. The hope is that maybe a joint meeting with representatives from the Mennonite Community can be set up once it's known if the community is going to be accepting of their proposal.

Deb reviewed a position review form for a part-time Public Health Program Coordinator (Emergency Preparedness), the Committee approved the filling of this position.

Deb reviewed the following resolution that would be needed. The Committee approved.

- Appoint S. Christensen, Deputy Director of Public Health as Early Intervention Official Designee
- Amendment to Resolutions No. 351-18, 352-18 and 353-18 authorizing contracts

Deb reported on the Keuka Lake School (KLS) terminating their contract with NYSDOH Bureau of Early Intervention effective 12/31/18. KLS will continue to provide services to children 3 to 5 years of age that

qualify for Preschool Supportive Services, but will be limiting their center based services to full day program only.

At the time of the notification, KLS was serving 5 Yates County children in Early Intervention (EI). Staff have sent appropriate notification to the parents and have found alternate providers for continuation of services as outlined in each child's IFSP. We anticipate however that the loss of KLS as an EI provider will result in longer waits for evaluations, additional travel for families if the evaluations are completed by Happiness House, and increased difficulty in finding providers to accept new cases within the 30 day time frame required by NYSDOH BEI.

Deb was asked if there was any feedback on the Smoking Policy that went into effect January 1<sup>st</sup>. Deb explained that it was posted on facebook and there have been just as many positive comments and negative comments. Connie will prepare a resolution designating Deb Minor or her designee as the enforcing officer.

Deb reviewed the following resolution. The Committee approved.

- Authorize signature of contracts

Deb reported there were 4 reports received with regards to the SAFE Act and 1 was reported to DCJS.

Deb reported there is 1 current case for AOT.

Deb reported Youth Mental Health First Aid and Mental Health First Aid courses will be offered during 2019.

Deb reported the Suicide Prevention Coalition of Yates County has been engaged in strategic planning for 2019 and beyond. Talk Saves Lives training for community members has been offered twice at the Library and will be scheduled during the year. Other activities for 2019 include another Out of Darkness Walk and Survivors day program.

Deb reviewed the programs that Safe Harbors of the Finger Lakes provides.

Bonnie moved to enter executive session to discuss the financial history of a particular corporation with Committee Members, Legislators, the Acting County Administrator, George Roets, Deb Minor and representatives from S&S Memorial, and the employment history of particular persons, seconded by Terry.

VOTE: Unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 6:55p.m.