Committee members: Leslie Church, Ed Bronson, Terry Button Absent, Carlie Chilson, Dick Harper, Bonnie Percy.

Others present: Doug Paddock, Earle Gleason, Pat Killen, Connie Hayes, Emilee Miller, Tim Cutler, Dan Banach, Amy Miller, Sara Christensen, Phil Rouin, George Roets, Steve Hampsey, Nonie Flynn at 3:33 p.m.

Leslie and Ed will sign the audit this month

Minutes from the October meeting were approved as presented.

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Steve Hampsey
Steve reviewed his statistical report which showed 327 active cases.

Steve reviewed the Grant update report.

Steve reported that per ILS the office is not in compliance. ILS will fund a 3rd Assistant Public Defender

Steve reviewed the following resolutions that would be needed. The Committee approved.
- Authorize Public Defender To Fill/Create Position (Assistant Public Defender)

SOCIAL SERVICES: Amy Miller
Amy reviewed the following resolutions that would be needed. The Committee approved.
- Authorize Contract For Client Transportation
- Authorize Contracts With The Following Agencies/Persons (Tonya Nesbit Baker, Crossroads Consulting Services)
- Authorize Contracts With The Following Agencies/Persons
- Authorize Workforce Development Budget Allocations
- Resolution Calling On The Governor To Complete Affordable Care Act Enhanced Federal Medicaid Assistance Percentage Reconciliations That Are Years Overdue And Immediately Release EH Federal Funds Owed To Counties And New York City
- Resolution Urging New York State To Renew Its Commitment To Prevent and Protect Children From Abuse And Neglect By Restoring State Share Funding Levels To 65 Percent Under The Existing Open-Ended Child Welfare Financing Mechanism
- Resolution Urging The State To Prioritize The Distribution Of Federal Emergency Rental Assistance And Clarify Its Homelessness Prevention Goals By Making Permanent Housing The Central Focus

Amy reported the Foster Care numbers have increased over the last several years. The current numbers can be attributed to several different factors that are primarily related to the pandemic. While children were not in school, fewer CPS hotlines were received, but those that they did receive were often from Law Enforcement and had a tendency to be more severe. If you spoke with Law Enforcement and Community Providers, you would probably find that mental health concerns, drug use, and domestic violence have all increased during the pandemic. These increases impact the children and the Foster Care census. The pace of family court has also slowed considerably as a result of the pandemic. There are currently 4 families who have pending court action regarding the termination of parental rights, which would free the children
Amy reported that the official start date of the FFPSA was September 29, 2021. This federal act reforms federal financing to prioritize family based foster care over residential care by limiting federal reimbursement for certain residential placements. Yates County is well positioned for these new regulations. It is our regular practice to be mindful of ensuring that children are placed in the least restrictive environment for foster care. There are currently only 2 children in congregate settings. Unfortunately, this act requires additional evaluations for youth by a qualified Individual (QI). Each county must seek out and contract with its own QIs, these can either be agencies or sole practitioners. For the agencies to become Qualified Residential Treatment Programs (QRTP) there are additional certificates also required, which will likely become an expense that is passed on to the county. The department is also required to enter into new contracts with the QRTP agencies, even though we already have existing contracts with these agencies. There is an increase with the number of documents that the department needs to file with the court, and likely an increase in the number of appearances. Yates County has very few families that qualify for federal reimbursement, however, the county is still required to go through the same procedures for each child, regardless of eligibility. This act applies to Juvenile Delinquents (JD) as well. The Yates County family court placed a JD in the custody of the department on the first day of the act. They were able to have a youth assessed by the QI and they filed the appropriate paperwork in a timely manner. It was determined by the QI that the youth should remain in the QRTP and they are waiting for the judge’s approval.

Amy reported a letter has been sent to area businesses, organizations, and churches regarding warming centers. Amy is hopeful that we will have community support.

Amy reported that the October 26 ERAP report indicates that there have been 79 applications in Yates County for payment of rental arrears/perspective rent and utility arrears. As of October 19th, there have been a total of 17 payments totaling $117,780 for Yates County.

Amy reported that Regular Arrears Supplement benefits (RAS) is a onetime benefit funded with the HEAP appropriation available under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. The department has issued payments for 66 households that were in arrears. There has been $55,312 issued to NYSEG and $6,128 issued to PYMUB.

Amy reviewed the unemployment statistics for the county.

**PUBLIC HEALTH: Sara Christensen**

Sara updated the Committee on the COVID statistics since the Thursday report. As of today there are 13 new cases, total case count 1816, and there are 32 active cases. There are 15 individuals in insolation/quarantine, 4 hospitalized, 1757 recoveries, 27 deaths, and 58,472 negative test results. The 7 day percentage positivity rate based on the CDC is 5.96% keeping us in the CDC transmission level of high. The total case count for the month of October was 279 cases compared to October of last year being 161.

Sara reported that COVID testing is available locally through health care provider offices, Rite Aid Pharmacy, Water Street Pharmacy (adults and children) and Village Drug is offering testing for school age children and school staff.

Sara reported that Public Health continues to help Penn Yan Central School District with their weekly staff testing at the Penn Yan Transportation Garage twice a week and it is going very
well. Dundee Central School has hired a part time nurse to do the weekly testing and we are reimbursing them for the nurse’s time and providing the test kits.

Sara reported that a School Specialist has been assigned to Yates County Public Health that is employed through NYS Contract tracing. The specialist works virtually and assists Public Health with contact tracing on students and staff that test positive. The specialist also provides a daily report to the school administration and nurses which includes the names of individuals under quarantine/isolation and the return to school dates.

Sara reported that there was a rabies clinic held in Dundee on September 19th at the Village Barns. There was a total of 116 animals including 86 dogs and 30 cats that were vaccinated. The last rabies clinic for 2021 will be held on November 6th from 9 to 10am at the Benton Fire Department. They are working on the schedule for 2022.

Sara reported that Rite Aid Pharmacy has held 3 public flu clinics in the County Auditorium on September 30th, October 8th, and October 18th. A total of 30 shots were given. Public Health continues to offer flu vaccines for children 6 months through 18 years of age that are eligible and adults who are uninsured or their insurance does not cover the flu shot. Public Health received its 1st lab confirmed case of the flu for the 2021-2022 flu season.

Sara reported that the CDC and NYS have approved Moderna and J & J booster doses for eligible individuals. Booster doses along with the 1st and 2nd doses are being offered at the weekly COVID-19 vaccine clinics at Gordmans. They anticipate being very busy the first few weeks with Moderna boosters as this was the primary vaccine available the first 4 months of the vaccination efforts. Public Health is also holding clinics at Penn Yan Academy, Penn Yan Middle School, and Dundee Central School for students 12 years and up. They will be looking at holding pop-up clinics again in November and going to different areas of the county to promote boosters and 1st/2nd doses.

Sara reported that local pharmacies are also offering booster doses: CVS is doing Pfizer only, Walgreens is doing Pfizer only, Rite Aid is doing Pfizer & Moderna. Public Health is working with Village Drug to re-distribute the vaccine to them and they will be offering Moderna & J & J boosters in the near future.

Sara anticipates the CDC will approve the Pfizer vaccine for children aged 5-11 years this week. Planning efforts have begun and vaccination clinics will be held at Gordmans and possibly local schools. Public Health highly encourages local health care provider offices to offer COVID-19 vaccinations to this age group.

Sara reported on September 8th, NYS Vaccine for Children (VFC) Program conducted a mandatory visit to Public Health to conduct a compliance check on the program. These are conducted every two years. They looked at Public Health’s eligibility & documentation, storage & handling and inventory. No compliance issues were identified during this visit.

Sara reported on November 10th, NYS will be visiting Public Health to assess Public Health’s implementation of key COVID-19 Vaccination Program requirements and recommendations and to provide educational and technical assistance. This a requirement of the CDC for State Health Departments to conduct at the local level.

Sara reported that Public Health is partnering with the NYS Cancer Services Program and Rochester Regional Health in holding a mobile mammography screening event called “Sister’s Day” at the Himrod Fire Department on November 15th. Mammograms will be offered to
eligible women who are 40 and over. There will also be free colon cancer screening kits for men and women age 50 and over without health insurance available.

Sara reported that work has started on the new 2022-2024 CHA/CHIP with S²AY and Common Ground Health. Common Ground Health is working on comprehensive data collection. Public Health and their Choose Health Yates committee will reflect on their 2019-2021 CHIP during October and November and they will complete the 2021 Annual Reporting Survey that is due to be submitted to NYS in December. In January, the focus area will be engaging stakeholders and identifying community assets.

Sara stated that it is hard to believe we are at our 1 year mark of being nationally accredited. An annual report must be completed and submitted to the National Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). The report is to show continued advancement in quality and performance and ensure the Public Health department remains in conformity with the requirements set by PHAB. The report has been completed and submitted to Ontario County as they submit all reports on behalf of the S²AY counties to PHAB.

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

- Authorize Chairman To Sign Purchase Agreement With Abbott Rapid DX North America, LLC
- Authorize Chairman To Sign Agreement With Dundee Central School District
- Authorize Chairman To Sign Agreement With Penn Yan Central School District
- Authorize Legislature To Ratify Agreement With Penn Yan Central School District

COMMUNITY SERVICES – George Roets

George reported there were 3 reports for the SAFE ACT and 0 were reported to DCJS.

George reported the full time Single Point of Accountability for Children (C-SPOA) started October 18th, 2021. Orientation and training are underway.

George updated the Committee on the following programs: Yates INSYGHT, Crisis Intervention Training (CIT), Columbia University HEALing Communities Study (HCS), Yates County Crisis Services Plan, Transitional Care Management (TCM)/ Adult Single Point of Accountability (SPOA), Children’s Single Point of Accountability (C-SPOA), Yates Substance Abuse Coalition, Mozaic, and Outpatient Behavioral Health Services.

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

- Authorize Contract Renewals With The Following Agencies/Persons

VETERANS: Philip Rouin

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

- Proclaiming November 10th As United States Marine Corps Day In Yates County
- Proclaiming November 11th As Veteran’s Day In Yates County

Phil reported that he attended and spoke on behalf of the Yates County Veteran community at the Keuka Out of the Darkness Walk on October 17th. So far $20,000 has been raised towards the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

Phil reviewed the various trainings completed by the Veteran’s Service Officer and the Veteran’s Service Director.
Phil reviewed his statistical report which showed 609 contacts for the month and 28 veterans transported to medical appointments.

Phil reviewed upcoming Veteran-Related Community Events.

Phil reported the monthly total compensation for VA claims settled this month is $15,719.05. The total monthly compensation and disbursement year-to-date is $209,005.37.

Phil reported the messaging collaboration going on with the DD-214s at the County Clerk’s Office. The Veterans are still being encouraged to visit the Veteran Services Office.

**OFFICE FOR THE AGING: Zachary Housworth**
Zach was unable to attend, but the Committee Members could review his report and contact him with questions.

Ed motioned to go into Executive Session at 4:58 p.m. to discuss the employment history of a particular individual with members of the Committee, Legislators, and County Administrator. Seconded by Carlie.
VOTE: Unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 5:28 p.m.