



**MINUTES**  
**HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
**Thursday, January 9, 2020, Chambers – 5:30PM**

**CALL TO ORDER:** By Hon. Elane Daly, Chair at 5:30 PM

**MEMBERS:** Legislators Tricia Kerr, Timothy Lattimore, Heidi Nightengale, Hans Pecher, and Charlie Ripley (Vice Chair)

**EXCUSED:** Michael Didio

**OTHERS: OTHERS:** Assistant County Attorney Richard Graham, Director of Office for the Aging Brenda Wiemann, Public Health Director Kathleen Cuddy, Confidential Secretary to the County Attorney Brittany Massi, Tax Director of Community Services Ray Bizzari, Staff Development Supervisor Jennifer Marshall and Benefits/ Tax Associate Kristy Capone.

**MINUTES TO APPROVE: December 5, 2019, Motion by Ripley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kerr, all in favor.**

**APPOINTMENTS: Motion by Ripley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kerr, all in favor.**

**Community Services Board**

Jean Winne, 59 Mattie St, Auburn, 1/1/20 – 12/31/23 new term – replacing Michael Greene

Stephen Smith, 33 Elizabeth St., Auburn 1/1/20 – 12/31/23 2<sup>nd</sup> term

Shari Weiss, 422 Bishop Avenue, Syracuse 13207 1/1/20 – 12/31/23 new term – replacing Michael Didio

**Alcohol and Substance Abuse Subcommittee**

Timothy Donovan, 23 Chedell Pl, Apt 17, Auburn 1/1/20 – 12/31/23 2<sup>nd</sup> term

JoLynn Mulholland, 19 Hazlehurst Ave., Auburn 1/1/20 – 12/31/23 2<sup>nd</sup> term

**Mental Health Subcommittee**

Deborah Riester, 104 Throop Ave., Auburn 1/1/20 – 12/31/23 2<sup>nd</sup> term

Martin Centers, 15 Myrtle Ave., Apt 1, Auburn 1/1/20 – 12/31/23 2<sup>nd</sup> term

Katie Stott-Dennis, 883 Creager Rd, Union Springs 1/1/20 – 12/31/23 2<sup>nd</sup> term

Theresa Humennyj, 15 Calloway Dr., Auburn 1/1/20 – 12/31/23 2<sup>nd</sup> term

Scott Marshall, 169 Murray St., Auburn 1/1/20 – 12/31/23 (this will be his 2<sup>nd</sup> term)

Jean Winne, 59 Mattie St, Auburn 1/1/20 – 12/31/20 (filling the unexpired term of Heather Paris)

**Brenda Wiemann (Office for the Aging) –**

- The Medicare Health Insurance counselors served 35% more people during the 2019 Medicare Annual Enrollment Period compared to 2018, providing more assistance than ever explaining the differences between “expanded” Medicare Advantage products that are so heavily advertised compared to traditional Medicare.
- About 2 dozen Meals on Wheels and EISEP clients were recipients of Holiday cheer through the generosity of Home Instead’s “Santa for a Senior” and the Cayuga County Support Collection Unit. Several local businesses provided gifts for our volunteer Meals on Wheels drivers.
- A detailed 2020-2024 Office for the Aging programming plan and funding application for approximately \$350,000 was submitted to NYSOFA on 12/6/19. Some aide services funds are being shifted to emergency response pendants and consumer directed aide service due to the significant shortage of agency aides in our area.

**Discussion:**

**Wiemann says the federal funding for the senior nutrition program has been stagnate for the last ten years. She says there has been approval for an increase for the upcoming year but it’s just a small bit that we will see in Cayuga County. She says advocacy will be an area we will need to be focused on and there is a new advocate for New York State Association for the Aging which is a strong advocate for seniors.**

1-20-HH-1 To authorize the Chairman of the County Legislature and the Director of the Office for the Aging to accept additional funding from the NYS Office for the Aging under the Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly Program of the Older Americans Act and amend the Office for the Aging 2020 budget. **Motion by Ripley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kerr, all in favor.**

1-20-HH-2 Authorizing the Chairman of the County Legislature and the Director of the Office for the Aging to sign contracts with various annual subcontractors for Aging services utilizing appropriations approved in the Cayuga County budget for the year 2020. **Motion by Ripley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kerr, all in favor.**

**Kathleen Cuddy (Health) –**

- Community Health Assessment review
- New Lead Grant through Homsite

**Discussion:**

Cuddy says what we are doing in Cayuga County with Auburn Community Hospital the priority fall under preventing chronic disease with healthy food eating and food security and these have been health issues. She says we are not only going to promote healthier food options by so trainings by physicians' offices, there is a particular plant base diet. She says in Rochester they have some specialists that will try to facilitate some continuing education credits and they have to evidence based programs. Cuddy says we will also be working with WIC and some of our other organizations and if you have a particular interest I would be pleased to talk more about it or you may also look on our website too. She says the other category falls under promoting healthy infants & children with a focus on adolescent health including children with special needs with a focus on oral care. Cuddy says it is not a secret to anyone who lives in our community or has looked at our community health assessments that oral care is a significant issue particularly for people who do not have private insurance. She says there are lot of visits that go to the emergency room for infection or pain for tooth extraction because people aren't able to link in with a dentist. She says one of the proposed ideas is to educate the community about options that can be done such as fluoride varnish and we are going to try to work with Summit Pediatrics to start that with their pediatric population. Cuddy says East Hill Family Medical is looking to expand their dental services and they are working on an application thru some district innovation funding to hopefully fund some of that work because they have quite a backlog of client who have interest in seeing a dentist. She says they also operate our school based dental program so are going to work on getting a task force together along with some education campaigns to talk about things you can do as an individual to improve oral health care in pregnant women and children as a particular focus.

Cuddy says what is also beneficial is the current round of district funding thru the innovation grants mandate that the grant applications go either thru a mental health organization or if they are not behavioral health related they come thru the local health department and they have to coordinate with your county's CHIP. Kerr asks when are those applications due. Cuddy responds I actually starting reviewing them today, there are six of them but two of them belong to the mental health side. She says two of them I have commented on and the other two I have not yet, one of them is very clearly aligned with dental and the other is tobacco cessation.

Cuddy says we received a letter about hepatitis is on the rise in the state and nation and the letter states whenever you have a hepatitis case within any of your facilities you must involve the local health department. She says it appears that most of our cases are related to drug use, homelessness and all of the other associated behaviors. She says one of the big approaches that we have is trying to encourage people to get vaccinated so you are less likely to develop the disease if you are exposed to it.

1-20-HH-3 Authorizing the Public Health Director to accept the award of \$8,710 from New York State in relation to Article 6 State Aid Year 6 Performance Incentive Program activities completed by the Health Department. **Motion by Ripley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nightengale, all in favor.**

1-20-HH-4 Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature and the Public Health Director to enter into contracts with Cayuga Medical Associates for tuberculosis consultation and care. **Motion by Ripley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nightengale, all in favor.**

1-20-HH-5 Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature and the Public Health Director to enter into a contract with East Hill Family Medical, Inc. & Finger Lakes Community Health for the provision of STD Services. **Motion by Ripley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nightengale, all in favor.**

- 1-20-HH-17 Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature and the Public Health Director to enter into a contract with Homsite Fund Inc. and to create and fill a sanitarian position to perform services under the grant. **Motion by Kerr, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ripley, all in favor.**
- 1-20-HH-18 Authorizing the Public Health Director to create and fill a Public Health Engineer position in the Health Department. **Motion by Ripley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nightengale, all in favor.**

**Ray Bizzari (Mental Health/Social Services) –**

**Highlights:**

- The issue regarding parents that refuse services/assessment/evaluation when a student makes a threat has been resolved and the Department and BOCES attorney plan to issue guidance to schools on this matter which paves the way for uniform policies/procedures on handling threats.
- The RFP for adult respite yielded 2 solid proposals and we will bring a resolution next month to contract with the organization selected to provide the service.
- The Alliance for Economic Inclusion Allocations Committee made its funding recommendation to the full AEI Board and those recommendations are now with the Governor’s Office for final approval before awards are announced.

**Stuff to Pay Attention To:**

- We continue to discuss the question of oversight for the jails behavioral health programs.
- Continue to work on CFCO (this might be delayed), Family First, next phase of Raise the Age readiness/implementation
- Continue to work on Value Based Payment readiness/implementation
- The motels have asked for rate increases that will substantially increase the spending for emergency housing. Additionally, they now consult with each other and sometimes refuse to house individuals which puts DSS staff under enormous strain to find housing. Emergency Housing Code Blue regulations make it impossible to sanction anyone so no matter what an individual’s behavior, we must find housing for them. Would hope the nursing home could be considered again for both fiscal and programmatic reasons

**FYI:**

- We are writing a second SAHMSA System of Care grant
- CNY Directors Planning Group submitted its white paper on creating an emergency/crisis services for kids and adults with developmental disabilities that get marooned in jails, ER’s or in hospitals.
- NY Public Welfare Association Winter Conference week of January 20
- Would like to discuss the succession plan for the departments. Some decisions need to be made regarding the two positions currently held by the DCS and the 2021 budget should reflect those changes as well as the timing of recruitment **and hire.**

**Motion by Ripley to bundle HH-6-HH-9, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nightengale, all in favor**

- 1-20-HH-6 Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature and the Director of Community Services to enter into a contract with Booker T. Washington Community Center Inc.
- 1-20-HH-7 Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature and the Director of Community Services to enter into a contract with Catholic Charities for provision of Homeless Coordinator Services
- 1-20-HH-8 Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature and the Director of Community Services to enter into a contract with Catholic Charities to provide SSI Maximization for Safety Net Assistance (SNA) and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)
- 1-20-HH-9 Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature and the Director of Community Services to enter into contracts for Day Care Services

**End bundle**

**Motion by Kerr to bundle HH-10-HH-12, HH-15, HH-16 HH-19, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nightengale, all in favor.**

- 1-20-HH-10 Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature and the Director of Community Services to enter into a contract with State of New York to accept 100% funded STEHP (Solutions To End Homelessness Program) Grant
- 1-20-HH-11 Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature and the Director of Community Services to enter into a contract with ABC Cayuga Inc. for services at Play Space

- 1-20-HH-12 Authorizing the Director of Community Services to fill 1 part-time Case Work Aide position in the Children & Family Services Unit
- 1-20-HH-15 Authorizing the Director of Community Services to fill a Caseworker vacancy in Child Welfare Unit
- 1-20-HH-16 Authorize the filling of one vacant full-time Health Home Care Management position at the Mental Home Care Management position at the Mental Health Center due to a resignation
- 1-20-HH-19 Authorize the Chair of the Cayuga County Legislature and the Director of Community Services to fill a vacant Community Mental Health Professional at the Mental Health Center

**End bundle**

- 1-20-HH-14 Authorizing the Director of Community Services to fill 2 Sr. Account Clerk positions in the Child Support Unit of the Department of Social Services due to the reclassification of 2 Account Clerk positions by the Cayuga County Civil Service Commission. **Motion by Ripley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pecher, all in favor, except Kerr abstains.**
- 1-20-HH-13 **(PULLED)** Authorizing the Director of Community Services to fill a Human Services Examiner position (100% funded) in the Medicaid Unit of Social Services

**Discussion:**

**Bizzari says we having been talking about this business of kids struggling to harm student in schools or themselves and we get that every year and there is a big concern surrounding that. He says some people did some research around what is the best practice and we landed on that FBI research on the Columbine shooting which is really the best research that has been done on any school shootings and it is really more about time evaluations like when a kid comes in on Monday and says to the psychiatrist I don't have access to any weapons and he wasn't serious, then the kid goes home and two months later he meets new friends they have shot guns. Bizzari says this is the kind of thing that happens, so we had a meeting with the school districts and some legal questions came out of it and there are three kind of cases that come out of it. He says one is that the treat is serious enough that law enforcement gets involved and they can make an arrest, now someone is paying attention to the case. He says then you get the kid that they cannot arrest because it has not reached that level but the family cooperates. Then the third is when the family does not cooperate and we do not know what happens to that kid. He say Randy Ray, the attorney for BOCES and Lisa Blair, the Social Services attorney has resolved the legal issues around how to get kids the evaluation whether the parents agree or not and how we would track them. He says this is all getting drafted up light a county/ school district wide policy for all districts that have students in Cayuga County and Randy will provide training because it seems like when something like this happens, no one knows what to do.**

**Motion by Ripley to adjourn at 6:55 PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nightengale, all in favor.**