



**MINUTES**  
**HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
**Monday, February 8, 2021 at 5:30PM**  
**Live Stream Link: <https://youtu.be/Mn-w97tNILc>**

**CALL TO ORDER:** By Hon. Elane Daly, Chair - **5:33 pm**

**MEMBERS:** Legislators Michael Didio, Ryan Foley, Tricia Kerr, Timothy Lattimore, Heidi Nightengale (Vice Chair), and Mark Strong, Keith Batman, Paul Pinckney, Ben Vitale and Chair Aileen McNabb-Coleman; Rich Graham, Brittany Massi, Lacey Bailey, Lynn Marinelli, Kathleen Cuddy, Brenda Wiemann, Ray Bizzari, Jen Marshall, Brian Schenck, Lindsay Wilkinson.

**MINUTES TO APPROVE:** January 14, 2021. **Motion by Nightengale, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Foley. All in favor.**

**APPOINTMENTS:**

**Board of Health**

Keith Batman, 160 Genesee St., Auburn, NY 13021, Term – 1/1/21 to 12/31/26. **Motion by Kerr, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nightengale. All in favor.**

**Condolences to Legislator Nightengale on the passing of her father.**

**DEPARTMENT UPDATES FOR COMMITTEE:**

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

- The OFA senior nutrition program provided over 75,000 meals for seniors in Cayuga County in 2020, about 4000 more than in 2019. Federal COVID funding covered the cost of the additional meals and related expenses.

**QUESTIONS:** Kerr inquired whether the budget shortfall two years ago for meal on wheels was being covered with COVID stimulus money or if we got an increase in allocation? Wiemann, for 2020 an extra \$40k was budgeted out of county funds to meet the increasing demand, but we did not have to use it due to the additional COVID related funding. She anticipates the same thing with happen in 2021. Daly requested an update on the Boyle Center space. Wiemann, still waiting to hear back from the architect regarding the space.

**Kathleen Cuddy (Health) – Presentation of Supervising Administrator Organizational Flow Chart**

**UPDATE:** on COVID related matters: testing continues EMO in conjunction with State support is providing asymptomatic testing. Drive thru symptomatic clinics are currently being performed by Auburn Community Hospital. Have had several vaccination clinics with a total of 3,648 people vaccinated to date including 3,259 1<sup>st</sup> dose and 389 2<sup>nd</sup> dose. Allocated PWDD doses received and are working to schedule a clinic for that population. Also scheduling a clinic for 1B qualified people. & looking to provide 2<sup>nd</sup> doses for over 2,000 people in the next week. On other matters, they are hoping to fill Engineer position that was authorized last fall. They had a candidate in place but after the hiring freeze, they declined the position. Currently searching for a candidate. Next month resolution coming through for WIC moving to co-locate with PlaySpace and the Child Care Council.

**QUESTIONS:** Lattimore asked what the school district schedules are. Response, each school district has their own module. The focus on getting teachers vaccinated is in part due to the children not yet being eligible and it increases protection for all in the school environment. Kerr wondered about calls back from recipients of 2<sup>nd</sup> shots regarding side effects. Cuddy, some internal personnel had received 2<sup>nd</sup> doses and they have reported mild 24-hour symptoms and a lot felt great. Strong, he and wife both received 2<sup>nd</sup> dose last week with zero side effects. Offered his thanks to whole community for their continued support of this matter. Lattimore asked about the decrease in cases of flu. Cuddy, the protection practices put in place to help protect individuals from COVID have assisted with reducing the number of flu cases as well.

**Ray Bizzari (Mental Health/Social Services) – No updates**

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**OFA:**

2-21-HH-1 Authorizing the Chair of the Cayuga County Legislature and the Director of the Office for the Aging to sign annual contracts with various subcontractors. **Motion by Didio, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kerr. All in favor.**

**HEALTH:**

2-21-HH-2 Authorization to create and fill a Supervising Public Health Administrator Position in the Public Health Department. **Motion by Nightengale, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kerr. All in favor.**

DISCUSSION: Creation of position required a lot of thought. Effort to work within budget and immediate vs long term needs of department this was the logical move. Currently have temp position and person came on and is ready to step back now, but provide the necessary oversight to case investigation and tracing also functions we need support with after COVID. The Health Department has many grant funded programs and this position would be able to assist with organization of these. HD turning away from direct cares, pandemic forced them to focus on nurses doing more clinical and less administrative duties. Role can help with clinical and future needs, including public education for multiple Health Department matters. Job spec available. Not seeking to increase personnel, although if keeping a third nursing position was possible, that would be helpful. Daly, confirmed that one of the 3 nursing positions has been vacant since July and that that was a contributing factor in making the decision surrounding the creation of this position.

QUESTIONS: Kerr, if trade-off, long term operations impact in terms of nursing staff. Cuddy, We are always accepting applications for part-time nurses. 2 full time field staff are wonderful, but they really need 2 teams of 2. Need appropriate staff nurses on the floor in charge in order to get immunization clinics alone accomplished. They also have to look toward resuming services for standard vaccinations clinics, communicable disease, lead poisoning, mandatory maternal health work. Daly inquired whether the current nursing staff is sufficient. Cuddy, with the support the legislators have given in filling part time nursing positions, going forward after COVID, we expect to have sufficient full-time nursing staff. Lattimore, asked about having enough people administering vaccines and whether or not we received money to help with the expense? Cuddy, yes, we did receive some grant money to assist with that. Functioning currently with the staff we have and in conjunction with great partners in performing COVID vaccinations. Strong, asked about the time frame for use of EMTs/Firefighters to help with giving vaccines and is that providing a relief for the nursing staff? Cuddy, many are acting as both vaccinators and EMS responders at the clinics and are critical participants and have made a difference in how the Health Department has been able to roll out the vaccine. They will use them along with their other nursing staff as long as they are available to them. Hoping EMTs will work to be mobile. As it becomes more readily available, the Health Department is looking to set up remote clinics. Batman, is position having dual role that includes public health coordination and contract administration? Cuddy, yes, there was a typist position there as well. Contracts were separated out by divisions but will not be consolidated under one person. Batman also asked about the level of one position and noted that one of the roles would acting as Chief Information Officer for the department but no special qualifications for that are indicated in the job specifications. Cuddy, senior public health educators require a Master's Degree and continued communication education as well. This role includes public outreach and it may be filled promotionally. Another aspect is that it is a smart move for succession planning in the Public Health Director position which requires a Master's Degree.

**Bundle 3&4. Motion by Foley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nightengale. All in favor.**

2-21-HH-3 Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature and the Public Health Director to Enter Into a Contract with Tim DiGiulio to Conduct Administrative Hearings for the Cayuga County Board of Health

2-21-HH-4 Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature and the Public Health Director to renew the contract between Finger Lakes Dog Protection Agency, Inc. and the County of Cayuga

**HUMAN SERVICES:****Bundle 5-10. Motion by Nightengale, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kerr. All in favor.**

2-21-HH-5 Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature and the Director of Community Services to Enter into a Contract with Children's Home of Wyoming Conference for the Recruitment, Training and Retention of Foster Parents

2-21-HH-6 Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature and the Director of Community Services to Enter into Contracts with Cayuga County Employment & Training Department for Provision of Services

2-21-HH-7 Authorizing the Director of Community Services to Fill a Caseworker Vacancy in the Adult Protective Services Unit

2-21-HH-8 Authorizing the Director of Community Services to Fill a Caseworker Vacancy in the Child Protective Services Unit

2-21-HH-9 Authorizing the Director of Community Services to enter into a Support and Maintenance Agreement with Q-matic Corporation for maintenance of software installed in Intake Unit of Department of Social Services

2-21-HH-10 Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature and Director of Community Services to enter into a Contract with Salvation Army Pathway of Hope for Case Management of TANF Clients (100% Funded)

**MENTAL HEALTH:**

2-21-HH-11 Amending the Mental Health Center 2021 contractual budget for HealthConnections interface. **Motion by Nightengale, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Foley. All in favor.**

**Bundle HH-12 & 13 Motion by Nightengale, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kerr. All in favor.**

2-21-HH-12 **(TABLED last month)** Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature to create and the Director of Community Services to fill a Supervisor of Family Behavioral Health Services (CMH) position in the Cayuga County Department of Mental Health.

2-21-HH-13 **(TABLED last month)** Authorize the filling of one vacant full-time Health Home Care Manager position at the Mental Health Center.

DISCUSSION: In total he has eliminated 4 ½ full time positions. Finished up the restructuring that was started a few years ago. Organizational chart is straight forward. Numbers of supervisors are important and not having staff work out of title. Contract management can play a key role in saving the county money. Part of the strategy is to cut positions that are not generating income. He believes this is the most efficient and streamlined way to operate.

**ADJOURNMENT: 6:49 pm. Motion by Didio, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nightengale. All in favor.**