

Social Programs Committee Minutes
September 10, 2012 – 3:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman Lucia; Supervisors Barrett, Collyer, M. Johnson, Veitch, Yepsen, Wood and Southworth; Ryan Moore, Mgmt. Analyst; George Martin, Treasurer; Lisa Scaccia, Employment and Training; Brian O'Connor, Auditor; Karen Levison, Public Health; Sandy Cross, Office for the Aging; Wes Carr, Youth Bureau; League of Women Voters.

Chairman Lucia called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

On a motion made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Barrett the minutes of the June 12, 2012 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mrs. Cross requested authorization to allow the Chairman to sign a contract with the VNS of Schenectady and Saratoga Counties for the Community Based Care Transitions Program. She said staff from her office visit the patients in the hospital and explain the program. There is one home visit made with two follow up phone calls. She said the Care Transitions Coach receives \$222 per person. The program began on August 1st with 10 visits for the month.

A motion was made by Mr. Barrett, seconded by Ms. Yepsen to authorize the Chairman to enter into an agreement with the Visiting Nurse Service of Schenectady and Saratoga Counties for the provision of services for the North Eastern New York Community Based Care Transitions Program. Unanimous.

Mr. Carr requested a resolution to purchase a computer software system for the Preschool Special Education program. Approximately \$11.5 million is spent on the program processing over 1,500 STAC forms. As the program continues to grow, especially Medicaid, the requirements have become more burdensome and the need for an automated system has become more critical.

Mr. Carr said presently in the program there is approximately \$5.5 million outstanding that is owed from the New York State Education Department. Those claims go back as far as the 2008 and 2009 school year, he said. The claiming instrument is known as an automated voucher listing (AVL) which is all processed by hand. Twice a year there are large AVL's that take two full weeks of staff time to complete. He said the system will also allow for the claiming of Medicaid, which has not been done for a few years due to staff limitations.

Mr. Carr said the cost of the system is \$50,000 and that expense can be spread out over three years. The annual maintenance and technical support plans are approximately \$25,000, which would include the Medicaid Claiming ability.

A motion was made by Mr. Barrett, seconded by Mrs. Johnson to approve entering into an agreement with James McGuiness & Associates, Inc. to provide a software system to enhance the County's reimbursement for Preschool Special Education at an annual cost not to exceed \$25,000 plus a one-time licensing fee of \$50,000. Unanimous.

Mrs. Scaccia is requesting approval of the Saratoga, Warren and Washington Workforce Investment Board Plan for the program year beginning July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013. The State last month issued a mandate to come up with a plan that is due by the end of September, she said. As a part of the plan different careers have been identified as priorities including nursing, semi-conductor processors, computer support specialist, computer controlled machine operators, and medical support. A summary has also been provided of colleges and different partnerships that have been established. Also as a part of the plan is the WIA Youth Program, continuing to provide services to youth in getting them interested in different types of careers that include science, engineering and math.

A motion was made by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Mr. Barrett to approve the Saratoga, Warren and Washington Workforce Investment Board Plan for the program year beginning July 1, 2012 through July 30, 2013. Unanimous.

Mrs. Scaccia said Employment and Training recently received a grant called the Workforce Innovation Grant. She said the county Workforce Investment Board collaborated with the Capital Region Workforce Investment Board to apply for a grant to try and educate the public regarding STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) careers. She said Employment and Training is looking to partner with schools in the area to try to get adults that have been out of the workforce over their fears of Science and Math. The grant is \$195,000 to be split between the three counties for the current program year. Ms. Scaccia said another component of the grant is to target the youth that are in the summer programs and to work with vendors to come up with a science and technology camp that could go along with the regular summer youth program.

A motion was made by Mrs. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Yepsen to approve a Workforce Innovation Grant in the amount of \$195,000 to be shared with Fulton, Montgomery and Schoharie Workforce Investment Boards. Unanimous.

Chairman Lucia thanked Mr. Christopher for his loyalty and service to the county for more than 30 years.

On a motion made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Barrett the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom