

## **SOCIAL PROGRAMS COMMITTEE MEETING**

**November 3, 2008 – 3:15 p.m.**

PRESENT: Chairman Wormuth; Supervisors Daly, Richardson, Veitch, Wright; Southworth; David Wickerham, Co. Administrator; Mark Rider, Co. Attorney; Bob Christopher, Tina Potter, Social Services; Steve Williams, Daily Gazette

Chairman Wormuth called the meeting to order.

Mr. Veitch moved to approve the minutes of the October 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mr. Wright seconded. Unanimous.

Mr. Christopher said recently, the Contract Administrator issued an RFP looking for a bid on process service. He said the successful bidder is Northway Process Service, and the contract will be for one year beginning November 1 through October 31, 2009 with the option to extend for two additional one year contracts. He said it will be \$30/service; 40 cents per mile; \$15 attempted but failed charge; \$10 for a new address; \$30 per service out of state. He said they have been working on an agreement done by the Public Defender's office. Chairman Wormuth asked what the difference in rates was, and Mr. Christopher said it is exactly the same. Ms. Daly asked what they would be serving. Mr. Christopher said court papers, summons and petitions. Mr. Rider said this is for people outside of the County, as the Sheriff won't go outside of the boundary. Mr. Christopher said they do about 25 per month. Chairman Wormuth asked Mr. Christopher if the money was in his budget, and he said yes. He mentioned \$8,638 was spent last year through the Child Support Unit, and \$1,983 was spent through Child Welfare. **Ms. Daly moved to authorize a contract with Northway Process Service. Mr. Richardson seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. Christopher distributed copies of a handout on Day Care Information. He said he bulleted the questions he had last month:

- Training requirement for regulated Day Care – 30 hours of NYS approved training in a two-year licensure period.
- 47 counties have rollover funds; Saratoga County's amount is \$653,669. Saratoga is currently exceeding its allocation and using rollover funds to cover costs. Expected that allocation will be cut again in the near future, and market rate increases will be made by New York State. The effect will be to potentially create a deficit.
- Waiting lists – It is estimated that 11 counties have waiting lists at this time.

- Sick leave absences – Currently, there are six counties that do not pay for sick leave absences.
- Sick leave – Estimated annual cost \$220,000 based on random sample of current cases.

Ms. Daly asked how many day cares in the County take this population of students. Mr. Christopher said there are 207 providers. Ms. Daly said how many of them requested this. Mr. Christopher said there were two providers. He pointed out day care funding is not stable right now. We are projecting our rollover amount will be seriously compensated and eaten into in the next couple of years, and we will probably run a deficit, he said. If we do, we will have to put constraints on the program, he added. He said they suffered one cutback with 40% of the rollover. In my conversation with State personnel, it looks as if they will do that again, he said. The market rates for day care are expected to go up again, he said. He stated they are looking at much less money. He said he is still recommending that we do not pay for sick leave. Ms. Daly said she agrees with Mr. Christopher. When people are given the opportunity to be educated about the business they are going into, they know there will be good days and bad days, she said. The icing on the cake to me is the fact there is no waiting list currently, and we need to be conservative as we move forward, she said. She mentioned only two of 207 providers brought this issue to us. I do not have a problem staying with the policy as it exists today, she stated.

Mr. Wright asked Chairman Wormuth if she will let those providers know of this decision. Chairman Wormuth said yes, she will follow up with them.

Mr. Wickerham said we need to have all of the responses to the RFP's for the process service. He requested Mr. Christopher to get those to him, and he will get it distributed to all Committee members and to the Law & Finance Committee.

On a motion by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Ms. Daly, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine M. Sodemann