

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE MEETING

April 12, 2010 - 2:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Chairman Rowland; Supervisors Collyer, Kinowski, Wormuth, Yepsen; Spencer Hellwig, Mgmt. Analyst; Diane Brown, Maplewood Manor; Terrayne Stortz, Alan Kempf, Public Health; Dale Angstadt, Mental Health; Steve Williams, Daily Gazette

Chairman Rowland called the meeting to order.

Mr. Collyer moved to approve the minutes of the March 8th meeting. Ms. Wormuth seconded. Unanimous.

Mr. Angstadt requested a **resolution to amend the 2009 current contract with Shelters of Saratoga to access 2009 100% State Aid funding that was approved by NYS OMH for programs provided by Shelters of Saratoga. The contract would reflect the following changes:**

- a) **Paragraph 4 is amended to reflect a total net cost of \$39,920.**
- b) **Paragraph 5 is amended to read as follows:**

The County will reimburse the Agency for the cost of services up to, but not exceeding, the following amount(s) from:

NYS OMH (Reinv) \$39,920

**The 2009 Saratoga County budget would reflect the following changes:
NONE.**

**Mr. Collyer moved to approve this resolution. Ms. Yepsen seconded.
Unanimous.**

Ms. Stortz distributed copies of Public Health's 2009 Annual Report and reviewed its highlights:

Successes included a Technical Assistance Review (TAR) by the NYS DOH of their Cities in Readiness Grant that resulted in a score of 97 out of 100; a survey of their Certified and Long Term Home Health Care Programs that showed they continue to provide quality care to their patients and completion of the 2009 Community Health Assessment. The 2010-2013 Saratoga County Community Health Assessment, data executive summary and full six county report are available on line at www.arhn.org.

The greatest challenge faced by the agency in 2009 was the emergence of the H1N1 or swine flu. As an agency, they were able to put their emergency

preparedness plans into place and conduct a successful campaign to immunize a vast number of residents of Saratoga County against the virus.

❖ Preventive Services:

Maternal-Child Services: In October of 2008, they began providing a new service to infants under the age of one who are at risk of developing Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) that is a common cause of bronchitis and pneumonia in these children. In 2009, we continued the program and were able to service a larger number of infants. We continue to focus on providing nursing visits to first time mothers, breast feeding mothers and mothers and infants with health or social concerns. We were able to increase the reimbursement we receive from insurance companies for these visits. Insurances are reluctant to cover preventative visits.

Emergency Preparedness: In 2009, we had our second TAR of our program by the NYS DOH and received a score of 97 out of a possible 100. We continued to conduct drills throughout the County. The emergency of the novel H1N1 or swine flu allowed us to activate our emergency preparedness plans to conduct a mass immunization campaign.

Travel Clinic: We continued to see a demand for our International Travel Program and immunization clinic. In 2009, we provided services to 477 individuals which is down slightly from 2008, but the total number of vaccines increased.

Lead Prevention Program: Education on the hazards of lead exposure continued in light of the numerous recalls of products tainted with lead paint.

Rabies: 2009 saw a decrease in the number of reported animal bites, however, the number of individuals requiring post exposure prophylaxis increased due to two separate encounters with rabid baby raccoons.

Flu: The H1N1 flu pandemic changed our provision of seasonal flu vaccinations in 2009. Production of seasonal flu ceased so manufactures could concentrate on the production of H1N1 vaccine. As a result, we received less than half the doses we ordered limiting the number of clinics we were able to conduct.

Communicable Disease: Lyme disease is now considered endemic in our County, and as such, we now follow up on 20% of the reported cases.

❖ Early Intervention – We again saw an increase in the number of referrals to the EI program; 518 as compared to 475 in 2008.

- ❖ In Home Care - while the number of patients on our census remained consistent with 2008, our number of nursing and therapy visits was down. We feel in large part this is due to the fact that many more individuals, especially seniors, are enrolling in Managed Care Organizations, and these insurances traditionally limit the number of visits a person can receive.

Ms. Wormuth thanked Ms. Stortz for all they do, and she said it is very much appreciated.

Ms. Stortz requested a **resolution to accept COLA funding from the NYS DOH for the Immunization and Rabies Programs and amending the 2010 County Budget for \$5,256 as follows:**

Increase Revenues:

| | |
|-----------|---------|
| 1-40-3410 | \$1,424 |
| 1-40-4411 | \$3,832 |

Increase Appropriations:

| | |
|---------------|---------|
| 1-40-00-8200 | \$1,501 |
| 1-40-000-8520 | \$ 909 |
| 1-40-00-8540 | \$1,422 |
| 1-40-404-8200 | \$ 647 |
| 1-40-404-8520 | \$ 303 |
| 1-40-404-8540 | \$ 474 |

Ms. Yepsen moved to approve this resolution. Mr. Kinowski seconded. Unanimous.

Mrs. Brown stated the Employee Recognition Luncheon will be held Wednesday, April 14th from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Mrs. Brown said the Maplewood Employee Meal Program is being phased out. We now only have six eligible employees, and two of them are interested. She said the cost of \$2.75/meal covers the cost of the meal for another year for these employees. **Ms. Wormuth moved to maintain the cost of these meals at \$2.75. Mr. Kinowski seconded. Unanimous.**

Mrs. Brown distributed copies of Res. 205-09 Establishing Private Pay Rate For Maplewood Manor at \$255 per day for the cost of medical goods, services and care, together with an additional charge of 6% for the New York State cash assessment tax on revenues received from residents at Maplewood Manor for a

total cost of \$270.30, effective 1/1/10. She stated NYASHA recommended that they position themselves where they could increase their rate if need be shortly in the future. She said the Executive Budget is proposing to increase the 6% cash assessment to a 7% cash assessment. That is passed on to our residents, she said. The issue is we have to provide our residents with 30 days notice, she stated. She said if this is approved in the New York State budget, they would not be able to give their residents enough notice. She said she is recommending **amending Res. 205-09 by stating the private pay rate for residents at Maplewood Manor is \$255 per day for the cost of medical goods, services and care, together with an additional charge for the New York State cash assessment** (rather than stating the percentage). She asked if they should send out the notice on May 1st with the idea that they will be increasing the tax effective June 1st, and if it's not done, they would send out another letter. She said this affects 25 people, and the amount to us would be \$2,000/month with this 1% increase. She said the private pay residents get to claim this on their taxes. **Ms. Wormuth moved to approve this amendment and sending the letter. Mr. Collyer seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. Rowland distributed an informational monthly report on ProAct's usage in Saratoga County from 9/09 - 3/10 and copies of a press release on it of March 16th. He said this is being used at no cost to the County. This sets people up for being able to use something if they do not have something else, he stated.

On a motion by Ms. Wormuth, seconded by Mr. Kinowski, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine M. Sodemann