

Public Health Committee Minutes  
August 8, 2011 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Vice Chairman Raymond; Supervisors Daly, Kinowski, Lucia, Richardson, Southworth and Wood; Spencer Hellwig, Administrator; Ryan Moore, Mgmt. Analyst; Hans Lehr, Mental Health; Diane Brown, Sandy Fisher, Maplewood Manor; Karen Levison, Lori Stiles, Public Health; Robert Wilcox, County Attorney; Sam Pitcherelle, Treasurer; Pat Reed, League of Women Voters.

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

**On a motion made by Mr. Lucia, seconded by Mr. Richardson the minutes of the June 13, 2011 meeting were approved unanimously.**

Mrs. Brown cited the following recommended changes to the Public Health Policy and Procedures:

1. The potential resident would have a durable power of attorney in place. The power of attorney would have to reside in New York State or they must have a guardian that resides in New York State. This was a recommendation in case there was a need to pursue any legal action, and also makes it easier if Medicaid were being applied for.
2. If a potential resident doesn't have the private financial resources prior to coming in, then an application for Medicaid along with a copy of everything completed will have to be submitted prior to admission.
3. All the resident's personal income would have to be transferred to come directly to Maplewood Manor. Mrs. Brown said there is a lag in that, but they would sign the paperwork when they are admitted. Generally the lag time is one to two months. In the meantime, the family would be told that they would have to bring in anything that Medicaid had deemed necessary or required. Any money that is overpaid would be sent back to the appropriate party. Mrs. Brown said the issue with this is if there is a spouse in the community and they are depending on that income to help them live, Maplewood Manor would get the money. A check would then be cut fairly quickly, but they would not receive the money on the first day in their bank account.
4. Instead of coming to the committee if there were a potential for a lawsuit, the Public Health Chairman and the Administrator would meet for discussion. This would be only to implement the lawsuit faster.
5. The timeframe for the collection process has been shortened
6. There would be a collection of a late fee on any outstanding charges after the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month at 1.5% per month.

Ms. Raymond said after speaking with Chairman Wright about the policy they agreed that discussions could take place today, but no action would be taken until next months meeting.

Mrs., Southworth said she had concerns with regard to a spouse that is still at home and how it would impact them.

Ms. Raymond said with regard to the application, there is a lot of information that is required by federal law about who and what within five years. There are many circumstances that no matter how hard you try; you may not be able to obtain the information prior to admission.

Ms. Raymond said she wasn't sure if the amount of interest that is charged should be put in the policy. She said she would rather see a policy that talks about it more generically. You don't want to have to change the policy if suddenly interests rates rise, she said.

Ms. Raymond encouraged all committee members to review the policy and to give any comments and concerns to the committee chairman.

Mrs. Brown said the average stay in a nursing home is still less than three years. The following are statistics with regard to Maplewood Manor:

- 22% of the residents have been at Maplewood Manor for less than a year
- 15% of the residents have been at Maplewood Manor for one to two years
- 19% of the residents have been at Maplewood Manor for less than two years

The number of residents that have been at Maplewood Manor for greater than three years is quite large, with one resident having been there for over 25 years. This is the difference between a for-profit and a not for profit non-county type facility.

- 23% or the residents that are admitted to Maplewood Manor are 90 or older
- less than 4% are under the age of 60
- There are 50 male residents and 227 female residents at Maplewood Manor, which is consistent with the industry

Mrs. Brown requested a change in the Blue Shield contract to go from standard levels to Levels 1, 2, and 3. The current level of 0101, which was \$165, is if someone came in as Medicaid only. Blue Shield does not offer that service, but they are obligated to put it in the contract, she said. Level one, which is 0120, is currently \$220 and they are proposing \$242 with no end to the contract. Level 2/0190 is currently at \$250 with a proposal of \$280 with no end to the contract. There would no longer be a service level of 191 or 192; however, there would be a new level three, which would be \$320. All of these rates are above the Medicaid rates and not above the private pay rate, she said. Through negotiations Blue Shield of Northeastern NY has agreed to go to \$260 beginning January 1, 2012 for a level 1, increasing it to \$268 in January 2013. Level 2 would be \$294

beginning January 1, 2012 and go to \$309 beginning January 1, 2013. Level 3 would go to \$336 on January 1, 2012 and \$353 on January 1, 2013.

**A motion was made by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Mr. Kinowski to approve the proposed changes to the reimbursements from Blue Shield of Northeastern New York as described above. Unanimous. (Committee Approval Only)**

Mrs. Brown requested committee approval of a CDPHP Contract Addendum and cited the following changes:

- The agreement would state that no federally appropriated funds have been used to implement officers or employees of companies, a member of Congress or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with any award of federal loans or entering into any cooperative agreement or the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment or modification of any federal contracts.
- A certification would be required regarding lobbying, that states we do not pay out of federal money for lobbying efforts, if CDPHP pays more than \$100,000/yr.

Year to date approximately \$40,000 has been billed, she said.

**A motion was made by Mr. Lucia, seconded by Mrs. Southworth to approve a CDPHP contract addendum as described above. Unanimous.**

Ms. Levison requested approval of a NYSDOH Grant that will be used for the testing of lead in Children. The grant will begin a new five-year cycle, and remain at \$33,225 over the five-year period.

**A motion was made by Mrs. Southworth, seconded by Mr. Kinowski to approve a NYSDOH Grant in the amount of \$33,225 for a five-year period to be used for lead testing in children and education. Unanimous.**

Ms. Levison said all supervisors should have received a copy of a request for the upgrade of the medical record and billing system. Public Health received notification from Progresa on June 15<sup>th</sup> that they would no longer support Oracle 9 as the operating system and that they would need to upgrade to Oracle 11. While working with Mr. Kingsbury in Data Processing, it was noted that the servers would not support Oracle 11 and that a complete server upgrade would have to be done. Oracle 11 is absolutely necessary because of the new requirement January 1, 2012 to go to HIPPA 5010. After working with Data Processing two options were proposed. The first option would be to replace the departmental server and maintain the same kind of software that we have with the same staff and the Data Processing staff, upgrading, updating and rebuilding so everyone could work together. The second option is to go to the hosted model. This would put all of the upgrading and software work on the company and they would be paid to maintain the software in place of all of the current staff doing that. Option two would mean that

there would not be a cost to update the servers, the existing servers would be able to be used for the rest of the applications.

Ms. Levison said the cost of doing an upgrade to the servers would be approximately \$22,000. The estimated costs of upgrading the current system would be approximately \$44,000, plus the one time costs of \$3,000 for the upgrade from the Procura side and Progresia side and the one time agency server upgrade of \$22,000 for a total cost of approximately \$69,000. The option that was approved at the Technology Committee meeting was for the hosted model. The hosted maintenance costs would be approximately \$69,000. Ms. Levison said there was a negotiation for a small decrease for the first year of \$61,000, and then the second year it would go to \$69,000. Ms. Levison said by going with the hosted model, it would relieve the Public Health staff, specifically the physical therapy supervisor who is spending most of her time working on upgrades and updates because the computer servers keep going down. In addition, there are regular updates that are required each quarter, taking approximately two days to complete. This process would be done overnight by the hosted model, she said.

Mr. Hellwig asked how long the agreement was for? Ms. Levison said the agreement would be ongoing. The first year would be \$61,000 and if it were to continue it would be \$69,000 for the next year with the possibility each year thereafter of a 2% increase. Ms. Levison said because this is ongoing we can be out of the agreement within 90 days at any time.

Ms. Raymond said the money is in the Public Health budget, so it will not require any additional funding for this year.

**A motion was made by Mr. Lucia, seconded by Ms. Daly to approve the Hosted Model computer upgrade for Public Health at a cost not to exceed \$61,000 for 2011 and \$69,000 for 2012. Unanimous.**

Ms. Levison said all supervisors should have received a packet and summary of the Policies and Procedures Amendments for their review which included the following eight items:

- High risk medications policy
- Patient specific parameters
- Risk for developing pressure ulcers
- Depression screening
- Multi-factor fault risk assessment
- Standardized maternal health visit
- Human exposure to potentially rabid animals
- Accutrend Plus testing

Ms. Levison said the above items have all gone through the Professional Advisory Committee and have been reviewed by the medical director.

**A motion was made by Mrs. Southworth, seconded by Mr. Kinowski to approve the Public Health Policies and Procedures Amendments. Unanimous.**

Mr. Lehr requested a resolution to amend the 2011 budget and the current contract with Saratoga Bridges NYSARC, Inc to accept 2011 additional 100% State Aid funding that was approved by NYS OPWDD for programs provided by ARC in the amount of \$1,459.

**A motion was made by Ms. Daly, seconded by Mr. Lucia to amend the 2011 budget and the current contract with Saratoga Bridges to accept 2011 additional 100% State Aid funding in the amount of \$1,459. Unanimous.**

Mr. Lehr requested a resolution to amend the 2011 budget with Community Work and Independence, Inc. to accept 2011 additional 100% State Aid funding that was approved by NYS OPWDD for programs provided by CWI.

**A motion was made by Mrs. Southworth, seconded by Mr. Richardson to approve a resolution to amend the 2011 budget with Community Work and Independence, Inc. to accept 2011 additional 100% State Aid funding in the amount of \$109. Unanimous.**

Mr. Lehr requested a resolution to amend the current budget and contract to accept 2011 additional 100% State Aid funding for Franklin Community Center as approved by NYS OASAS for programs provided by Franklin Community Center.

**A motion was made by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Ms. Daly to approve a resolution to amend the current budget and contract to accept 2011 additional 100% State Aid funding for Franklin Community Center in the amount of \$6,829. Unanimous.**

Mr. Lehr requested a resolution to amend the 2011 budget and the current contract with Transitional Services Association, Inc. to accept 2011 additional 100% State Aid funding that was approved by NYS OMH for programs provided by TSA.

**A motion was made by Mr. Lucia, seconded by Mr. Richardson to amend the 2011 budget and the current contract with Transitional Services Association, Inc. to accept 2011 additional 100% State Aid funding in the amount of \$14,733. Unanimous.**

Mrs. Southworth said she has had calls from residents in the county who have said that the price on their prescriptions have jumped in cost. Upon doing some research and contacting someone at corporate it was found that Pro Act had generic drugs discounted up to 90%. Because of this steep discount Walgreen pharmacy was threatening to withdraw from the program, so ProAct decided to re-adjust their pricing. Unfortunately, it went a little too far the other way and they are now trying to stabilize somewhere in the middle. Mrs. Southworth suggested that the county may want to look at other programs to see if this is still the best discount out there now that Pro Act has changed their

reimbursement. Ms. Raymond said the National Association of Counties also has a program that is similar.

**On a motion made by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Mr. Richardson the meeting was adjourned.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Sansom