

Public Health Committee Minutes
November 3, 2011 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Wright; Supervisors Kinowski, Raymond, Richardson and Southworth; Ryan Moore, Mgmt. Analyst; George Martin, Treasurer; Bob Wilcox, Attorney; Hans Lehr, Mental Health; Karin Levison, Public Health.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Mrs. Southworth the minutes of the September 12, 2011 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mrs. Brown said the current private pay rate at Maplewood Manor is \$260 plus the cash assessment for a total of \$278.72. She said she is recommending an increase to \$307/day plus the cash assessment. The cash assessment is currently 7.2% increasing the rate to \$329.04/day. After checking with another nursing home outside the county it was discovered that they charge approximately \$400/day. After checking with two other nursing homes within the county with an average daily rate of \$323/day, Maplewood Manor would continue to be the lowest nursing home in the county. Currently there are 29 private pay residents at Maplewood Manor.

A motion was made by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Ms Raymond to approve a resolution to increase the private pay rate for 2012 at Maplewood Manor to \$307/day plus the cash assessment. Unanimous.

Ms. Raymond said when audited statements are obtained that is when the rates should be adjusted as opposed to the calendar year.

Mrs. Brown said the Speech Therapist plays a critical role in the nursing home. Although they work with residents who have strokes and need to work on their speech, the speech therapist spends more time in the nursing home evaluating residents on what they can eat for choking purposes. The contract with the speech therapist has expired, therefore, a request is being made to enter into a contract with the speech therapist retroactive as of October 1, 2011 until December 31, 2012 at the same rate of \$45/hr. Generally, she works approximately 10 hours per week. Mr. Moore said the budgeted amount is \$23,400/yr.

A motion was made by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Mrs. Southworth to approve a contract for a Speech Therapist for a time period of October 1, 2011 through December 31, 2012 at a rate of \$45/hr. Unanimous.

Mrs. Brown said Maplewood Manor is required by regulation for a pharmacist to come into the nursing home monthly and review all patients' medications. The rate is an

hourly rate that is paid to Royal Care. A request has been made from Royal Care to go a per bed review, so instead of a dollar amount per hour the fee would be \$5.50 per occupied bed per month. Mrs. Brown said after looking at the number of bed turnovers per month it is estimated that the average is going to be that amount or a little over. Generally, there are 100 beds turned over in a year and with the \$5.50 per bed it should be within the budgeted amount, she said.

Mrs. Raymond asked how often is the contract bid? Mrs. Brown said it would be re-bid in 2012.

The committee decided to leave the request at the hourly rate until the contract is re-bid.

Mr. Moore asked when the contract goes to bid when would it take effect? Mrs. Brown said October 1, 2012.

Mrs. Brown the new application and process was implemented on October 1, 2011. She said there have been as many as 14 empty beds, and to date there are 12 empty beds. If the empty beds go above 13 then Medicaid will not pay to hold that bed.

Mrs. Brown said she has received a call from Saratoga Hospital stating that they have 22 people waiting for placement and ten of them would like to come to Maplewood. They have been working on the Medicaid applications with several submitted, but the problem is that Medicaid is backed up and they are not able to look at them in a timely manner. Mrs. Brown said there was an individual who just came to Maplewood and it took him five weeks to be approved.

Mrs. Levison requested an amendment to the CDPHP ancillary provider agreement for \$150/per visit. She said this is to add the actual nursing part that helps keep people in their home.

A motion was made by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Mr. Kinowski to approve an amendment to the CDPHP ancillary provider agreement adding \$150/per visit. Unanimous. (Committee Approval Only)

Mrs. Levison requested an amendment to the MVP Early Intervention Services agreement for services that MVP is now going to be covering. The rates are set by the state. This is an amendment to show what codes are to be used to bill with and that those services can now be billed.

A motion was made by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Ms. Raymond to approve an amendment to the MVP Early Intervention Services agreement to show the codes used for billing purposes. Unanimous. (Committee approval only)

Mrs. Levison requested a resolution to accept a New York State Public Health Emergency Preparedness Grant in the amount of \$191,010.

A motion was made by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Mrs. Southworth to approve a New York State Public Health Emergency Preparedness Grant in the amount of \$191,010. Unanimous.

Mrs. Levison said the 2010 bad debt total is \$751, consisting of three cases.

A motion was made by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Mr. Kinowski to approve the writing off of bad debts in the amount of \$751. Unanimous.

Mr. Lehr said NYS is trying to get the Federal Government to pay 90% of all Medicaid costs and in order to do that they must institute Health Homes. The Health Homes are not a location; it is a network that provides care. The Department of Health has already identified a population of high utilizers of Medicaid services. They have identified them and they know they are going to assign them to these health homes. It is the job of the care coordinators to try to get individuals to engage in treatment and to setup integrated coordinated systems care.

Mr. Lehr said that Saratoga County is one of thirteen counties chosen for phase 1 with an implementation date of January 2012.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom