

Public Health Committee Minutes
February 11, 2013 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Kinowski; Supervisors Raymond, Sausville, Southworth, Veitch, Wood, Wormuth, and Grattidge; Ryan Moore, Mgmt. Analyst; Hans Lehr, Mental Health; Diane Brown, Maplewood Manor; Karen Levison, Public Health; Press.

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

On a motion made by Mrs. Southworth, seconded by Mrs. Wormuth the minutes of the January 9, 2013 meeting were approved unanimously.

Chairman Kinowski announced the appointment of Matt Veitch as Committee Vice Chairman.

Mr. Moore gave an update on the Environmental Health subcommittee stating that there are some concerns about language in the State budget. Legal analyses are being done by the County Attorney, State Senate and NYSAC to see whether we are on the right track or not. Information is forthcoming and may be an item in the legislative program.

Mr. Sausville asked what the issue was. Mr. Moore said that currently environmental health along with a number of other areas in public health are core service areas. There are some counties that are partial service counties that did not provide environmental health. He said the State does it for us and we are being very careful to go through the budget to make sure that the language doesn't change that.

Mr. Kinowski said the members of the Environmental Health Subcommittee include Mr. Kinowski, Mr. Hellwig, Mr. Moore, Supervisor Southworth, Supervisor Raymond and Supervisor Lucia.

Mr. Kinowski said there was a subcommittee established for Maplewood Admittance following some updates that were received in 2010. He said one of the things that has been done with the policy is that it has been put into the core of a resolution, which has locked the committee up with regard to making some principle changes to the policy where they would have to go back through the Board and request it. He said currently there are a couple of different ways to admit people into Maplewood, short term or long term. The policy that has been adopted applies to both limiting the Admittance committee to say they may not be admitted without all the documentation being done. The end result is that patients are lost.

Mr. Kinowski said a resolution would have to be established to make the policy a policy within the committee to be able to change as we see fit.

Mrs. Southworth said she thought that a change would be good as there have been some issues with something as simple as, we have a committee to say that we can accept this person based

on paperwork that is submitted, but there is no guideline for how many of those people have to respond and how many have to be affirmative to take someone in. She said there is no way sometimes for the administrator to know who is on vacation and that is why they are not getting a response. It has made it a lot more confusing and difficult for the administrator to know who she can admit and can't admit, so flexibility would be a good thing.

Mr. Kinowski requested a motion to propose a resolution to allow the admittance policy to be internal to the health committee preview and acceptance.

Discussion took place with suggestions by committee members with regard to the wording of the resolution.

A motion was made by Mrs. Wormuth, seconded by Mr. Veitch to change the Maplewood Admittance Policy subject to change by the Public Health Committee rather than the full Board of Supervisors. Unanimous.

Mr. Lehr requested a resolution to amend the 2013 budget and contract with Transitional Services Association to accept additional Office of Mental Health State Aid in the amount of \$18,570 for 2 supported housing units. This represents a cost of \$9,285/bed, and a 5% increase in State Aid funding.

A motion was made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mrs. Southworth to approve a resolution to amend the 2013 budget and contract with Transitional Services Association to accept additional OMH State Aid in the amount of \$18,570 for two supported housing units. Unanimous.

Mr. Lehr gave a brief overview of the 2012 Annual Report; a copy was submitted to all committee members for their review.

Ms. Levison requested approval of a rabies grant to cover the period of April 1, 2012 through March 31, 2017. She said the total grant award is for \$71,924.50. Annually the grant award is \$14,384.90, which is included in both the 2012 and 2013 budgets.

A motion was made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mrs. Wormuth to accept a Rabies Grant in the amount of \$71,924.50 for the period April 1, 2012 through March 31, 2017. Unanimous.

Ms. Levison said there are two new contracts for Home Care Services. The first is with regard to the Medicaid Long Term Care Program, VNSNY. She said everyone will have to subscribe to the program by April of 2014. The program will eventually take the place of the Long Term Care Program. She said the rates are very good, with the ancillary services rates above 2012 Medicaid rates.

A motion was made by Mrs. Southworth, seconded by Mrs. Wormuth to approve a contract with VNSNY and its affiliate VNS Choice Community Care for the provision of long term care services by the Public Health Nursing Services. Unanimous.

Ms. Levison said the Universal American Progressive Contract is a Medicare managed care company. Recently, the nursing service has had to turn away patients who have switched to this provider as the co-insurance cost of being out of network at 15% was prohibitive. At this point in time, having this contract we will have Medicare allowable charges, she said.

A motion was made by Mrs. Wormuth, seconded by Ms. Raymond to authorize the Chairman to enter into a contract with Universal American Corporation for the provision of Medicare eligible nursing services. Unanimous.

Ms. Levison requested a resolution to approve immunization, Lead and Children with Special Health Care Needs Grants for the period 2012 through 2013 COLA's. She said this year Public Health Nursing consulted with Data Processing and Emergency Services who manages the phone systems for most of the proposed purchases which include the following:

- Under immunization - \$8,760 for new phones for the prevention department to enhance the recent phone system upgrade and an additional vaccine storage unit for the agency.
- Under CSHCNS \$2,118 for a new computer for the program coordinator and upgrades for the program staff to Office 2010, as well as outreach supplies.
- Under Lead \$2,942 for two desktops and Office 2010 for a Lead Nurse and in Clinic rooms.

A motion was made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Sausville to approve additional funds from the NYS Department of Health for the proposed purchases as listed above, and to amend the 2013 budget. Unanimous.

Ms. Levison said Saratoga County has been selected as one of fifteen counties in the United States to have the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey for 2013 through 2014.

Ms. Levison said as Public Health moves forward with Emergency Preparedness they will have their part time health educator going out to work with employers in the county to get them prepared to evacuate and to give vaccinations or medications to their own employees and their families taking some of the burden away from Public Health. She said the goal would be to have the entire county vaccinated within 48 to 72 hours.

Ms. Levison said the Early Intervention Providers as of April 1, 2013 will be required to contract directly with the state of NY. She said Procura is the medical records and billing system used by Public Health and they have agreed to exchange our laptop software applications to office

applications. This will allow better access with less downtime or waiting time by back office staff. There will be no budget impact.

Ms. Levison said an amendment has been requested for CDPHP to comply with definitions and standards as set forth in New York State Insurance Law 3224 regarding equitable claims. There would be no effect on services or payment.

Ms. Levison said there is a new funding opportunity coming through NYSACHO to range from \$10-\$40K to assist counties to put into place policies and processes to support this billing as well as third party billing.

A motion was made by Mrs. Wormuth, seconded by Mr. Sausville to approve applying for prevention billing funding when the RFA is released. Unanimous.

On a motion made by Mrs. Wormuth, seconded by Mr. Veitch the meeting was adjourned to Executive Session for the purpose of personnel matters. Unanimous.

On a motion made by Mr. Sausville, seconded by Mr. Veitch the meeting was Re-opened to Regular Session.

No Action was taken.

On a motion made by Southworth, seconded by Mrs. Wormuth the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom