

Public Health Committee Minutes  
December 9, 2013 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Kinowski; Supervisors Raymond, Sausville, Southworth, Veitch, Wood, Tollisen, and Grattidge; Ryan Moore, Mgmt. Analyst; Diane Brown, Maplewood Manor; Cathi Duncan, Public Health; Hans Lehr, Mental Health; Patrick Southworth, Ballston Resident; Peter Martin, County Clerk.

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

**On a motion made by Ms. Raymond, seconded by Mr. Veitch the minutes of the October 7, 2013 meeting were approved.** Mrs. Southworth and Mr. Tollisen abstained.

Mrs. Duncan said the uncollected amount of unpaid bills to the Department of Public Health totals \$2,593.95. Several attempts have been made to collect these debts.

Ms. Raymond suggested that the higher amounts owed of \$579.78 and \$565.00 be taken to small claims court for collection.

Mr. Kinowski said a mechanism needs to be implemented whereby the clients get placed on a list that is looked at prior to services, so that it isn't repeated. He said he would like to have an opportunity to work with the County Attorney to see what the county policy is and then make a suggestion to the committee.

**A motion was made by Ms. Raymond, seconded by Mrs. Southworth to Table the above request for writing off Uncollectibles upon review from the County Attorney. Unanimous.**

Mr. Lehr requested a resolution to amend the 2013 budget and the current contract with Transitional Services Association, Inc. to access 2013 additional 100% State Aid funding that was approved by the NYS OASAS in the amount of \$2,645.

**A motion was made by Ms. Raymond, seconded by Mr. Veitch to approve amending the 2013 budget and the current contract with Transitional Services Association, Inc. in the amount of \$2,645. Unanimous.**

Mr. Lehr requested a resolution for renewal of Mental Health provider contracts for a term of one year, which are set to expire on December 31, 2013. The new contracts would commence January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014 with the following agencies:

- The Alcohol & Substance Abuse Prevention Council of Saratoga, Inc. \$532,218
- Burnt Hills-Ballston Spa Community Human Services Corporation \$22,661
- Community Work & Independence, Inc. \$29,318
- Franklin Community Center, Inc. \$49,356

• Mechanicville Area Community	\$11,121
• The Workshop Inc. T/A Northeast Career Planning	\$27,184
• Northeast Parent and Child Society, Inc.	\$18,473
• Saratoga Bridges NYSARC, Inc.	\$299,503
• Saratoga Center for the Family, Inc.	\$18,615
• Shelters of Saratoga, Inc.	\$37,510
• Transitional Services Association, Inc.	\$1,407,509
• United Cerebral Palsy of the Tri-Counties, Inc.	\$10,264
• Unlimited Possibilities, Inc. d/b/a Unlimited Potential	\$843,733

The New Contract Totals for 2014 are \$3,307,465, with the county share of \$195,086.

**A motion was made by Ms. Raymond, seconded by Mr. Veitch to move the above Mental Health provider contracts on to the Law and Finance Committee upon review from the County Administrators Office. Unanimous.**

#### **Private Pay Rate**

Mrs. Brown said the last private pay rate increase was in August of 2012. She said she is requesting a private pay rate increase by 5% for both private and semi-private rooms. This would raise the semi-private room rate from \$322 to \$338; and the private room rate would go from \$342 to \$359. Mrs. Brown said after checking with other facilities, the average rates for a semi private room were \$336 and private rooms were \$360.

Mrs. Brown said currently there are 19 residents who are private pay. If the rate increase is approved, it would become effective February 1, 2014.

**On a motion made by Ms. Raymond, seconded by Mr. Veitch the above private pay rate increase was approved unanimously.**

#### **Physical Therapy Contract**

Mrs. Brown said there is currently a contract with Thomas Nicolla Consulting Services, PLLC for Physical Therapist Services, and they have agreed to the same hourly rate again for 2014. The current hourly rate has been effective since January 2009 at a cost of \$46.48/hr. They provide the therapist full time and the money is in the 2014 budget.

**On a motion made by Ms. Raymond, seconded by Mr. Veitch that above Physical Therapy Contract was approved unanimously.**

#### **Speech Pathology Contract**

Mrs. Brown said currently there is a speech therapist that averages between 8 to 12 hours per week and she has agreed to keep the same hourly rate of \$45/hr. The money is in the 2014 budget.

**On a motion made by Ms. Raymond, seconded by Mr. Veitch the above Speech Pathology contract was approved unanimously.**

### **Dental Services Contract**

Mrs. Brown said the contract with DentServ expires at the end of December. An RFP was sent out with two responses. The RFP requested Dental Services 48 weeks a year, with 5.5 hours a week. DentServ responded with the needed hours; the other RFP responded with four hours in-house and then additional as needed. Since it is strongly felt that 5.5 hours is needed as per the RFP, a decision was made to stay with DentServ. The rate is \$4,177.29/mo. and \$50,127.48/yr. The money is in the 2014 budget.

**On a motion made by Ms. Raymond, seconded by Mr. Veitch the above contract with DentServ was approved unanimously.**

Mrs. Brown said she has been approached by Omnicare, the current Pharmacy Consultant Service, regarding an increase in 2014. The rates will increase from \$6.10 per occupied bed per month to \$6.40 per occupied bed per month effective January 1, 2014. There will also be a charge for infusion in-service programs to \$75 per participant with a minimum of 8 participants. She said she didn't see a need for the infusion in-service this year as many of the nurses have already been trained on how to provide that service. If there is a need for additional pharmacist consultant time, it will be at a rate of \$65/hr. which is unchanged from the current agreement and additional nurse's time will be at a rate of \$55/hr. which is also unchanged. The money is in the 2014 budget.

**A motion was made by Ms. Raymond, seconded by Mr. Veitch to have the County Attorney make sure that the contract that has not been signed is amended to be good until December 31, 2013 at the current rate of \$6.10 per occupied bed per month, and that the new contract, which will be signed simultaneously, will begin January 1, 2014. Unanimous.**

Mrs. Brown said the Department of Health has reviewed the service agreement between The Community Hospice and Maplewood Manor with the following change requested:

The signed amendment states: The nursing facility shall immediately notify Hospice if: there is a need to transfer the residential hospice patient from the nursing facility. The new amendment adds: and Hospice makes arrangements for, and remains responsible for, any necessary continuous care or inpatient care necessary related to the terminal illness and related conditions.

The signed amendment states that the nursing facility shall immediately notify Hospice if there is a significant change in a residential hospice patient's physical, mental, social or emotional status. The new amendment makes a new monitoring section where Hospice and the nursing facility agree to notify each other of any identified change in the condition of the residential hospice patient which requires supplementation, modification or alteration of the plan of care, including but not limited to, changes in medications.

**On a motion made by Mrs. Southworth, seconded by Mr. Tollisen the above described amendment to the Hospice Agreement was approved unanimously. (Committee Approval Only)**

**On a motion made by Mr. Wood, seconded by Mrs. Southworth the meeting was adjourned unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Sansom