

Public Health Committee Minutes
April 7, 2014 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Kinowski; Supervisors Allen, Collyer, Lent, Tollisen, and Martin; Ryan Moore, Deputy Administrator; Diane Brown, Maplewood Manor; Kathy Duncan, Michele Richardson, Public Health; Steve Dorsey, County Attorney.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Collyer, seconded by Mr. Tollisen the minutes of the February 10, 2014 meeting were approved unanimously.

Ms. Richardson, Fiscal Manager of Public Health gave a brief overview of the ACC Technical Services Agreement. She said a funding grant opportunity was brought forth earlier this year to the committee which was in collaboration with other counties. Within the contract it spoke about the hiring of a vendor to put together special software for the public health electronic billing system for the immunization program. ACC Technical is going to partner with another company, Eligible, which will allow billing directly from the software. She said initially this would be on a trial basis to see if it is beneficial. The costs for design, installation and training is \$12,000; with an additional \$5,000 for the first year maintenance. These costs are 100% federally funded and covered under the immunization billing grant that the Board accepted in January.

A motion was made by Mr. Lent, seconded by Mr. Collier to approve an ACC Technical Services Agreement as outlined. Unanimous.

Mrs. Brown gave a brief overview regarding Corporate Compliance, stating that the biggest thing with Corporate Compliance is that you don't take what doesn't belong to you. She said her office makes sure that what they are using their Medicaid funds for is an appropriate use of funds. There is a Corporate Compliance hotline where you can call in if you feel there is an abuse of the funds.

Mrs. Duncan said the program is really about healthcare fraud, an oversight program that is looking at every individual and where everyone has to be a watch dog. A copy of the Saratoga County Medicaid Corporate Compliance Program was distributed to all committee members for their review and approval.

Mrs. Brown said every year she comes to the Board to request a resolution that will proclaim May 11 through 17th as National Nursing Home Week, recognizing the four nursing homes in Saratoga County, residents and staff. She said this year the theme is "Living the Aloha Spirit".

Mr. Kinowski asked if there was anything that should be added to the resolution as this will most likely be the last year to thank the nursing staff. Mrs. Brown suggested the following: Declaring the week of May 11 thru 17, 2014 as National Nursing Home Week and adopt the "Living the Aloha Spirit" as our call to everyone to visit or contact their loved ones, friends or neighbors in a skilled nursing or post-acute care center as their way to acknowledge their contribution to society, and to lift the spirit of caregivers who value the community's involvement.

A motion was made by Mr. Tollisen, seconded by Mr. Collyer to approve a resolution declaring May 11th through 17th, 2014 as National Nursing Home Week. Unanimous.

Mrs. Brown said there is a revenue contract with CDPHP, where they are offering a 3.5% increase each year for the next two years for daily rates. She said the current level for skilled nursing is \$224 with a proposed increase to \$232 in 2015 and \$240 in 2016. Level 2, which is a more intense therapy, will be going from the current rate of \$259 to \$268 in 2015 and \$277 in 2016; and subacute, high level rehab is currently \$344, going to \$356 in 2015 and \$369 in 2016. She said custodial care will be at the NYS Medicaid Rate.

A motion was made by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mr. Collyer to approve contracts with CDPHP. Unanimous. (Committee Approval Only)

Mrs. Brown said with regard to CHE Services there is currently another vendor that bills the insurance companies themselves. Maplewood Manor has an agreement with them that allows them to come into the facility. The agreement goes through what the responsibilities are for the nursing home and what the vendor's responsibilities are. The current vendor has been in service for 10 years, and it was suggested by the prospective owners, that CHE Services be considered because that is who they use in their other facility. Mrs. Brown is requesting for committee approval only to allow Maplewood to enter into an agreement with CHE Services with a start date of May 1, 2014.

A motion was made by Mr. Collyer, seconded by Mr. Allen to approve an agreement with CHE Services. Unanimous. (Committee Approval Only).

Mr. Kinowski gave a brief update on his role in keeping the employees at Maplewood Manor informed of the progress that is being made with regard to the sale of Maplewood Manor. He said on management's side we can do the best we can to let them know we are thinking of them and that the job announcements that go out that the employees at Maplewood are considered. Mr. Kinowski encouraged any town that had a job opening to consider Maplewood Manor employees for the position. He said he has encouraged employees to update their resumes and seek other employment in the county if that is what they desire. Mr. Kinowski said he has expressed his strong opinion to the employees that Maplewood Manor cannot operate without the existing staff.

On a motion made by Mr. Lent, seconded by Mr. Collyer the meeting was adjourned unanimously.

**Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom**