

Public Health Committee Minutes
May 8, 2017 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Vince DeLucia; Supervisors Art Johnson, Dick Lucia, Peter Martin and Tim Szczepaniak; Chad Cooke, County Administrator; Catherine Duncan, Public Health; Michael Prezioso, Mental Health & Addition Services.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Szczepaniak, seconded by Mr. Lucia, the minutes of the April 10, 2017 meeting were approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Lucia, seconded by Mr. Martin, to authorize a Multi-Year DOH Children with Special Health Care Needs Grant agreement and contract. Unanimous.

Mrs. Duncan distributed brochures describing their children with special health care needs and physically handicapped children's program. Mrs. Duncan said that this is a three year grant said that the amount is \$30,529 per year. This grant is considered a maternal and child services block grant but is only for children with special health care needs, children between the ages of birth and 21 who would have an identified developmental disability or delay, or a type of chronic illness or disease. The Public Health Department has a part time outreach employee who runs the program. This employee attends health fairs and visits provider's offices to ensure they have the information to provide to parents who need resources. Guidebooks and resources are available online and can also be mailed to those without access to the internet.

Mrs. Duncan said that there is a Physically Handicapped Children's Program and it looks like it will get cut from the Governor's budget this year. The program has 3 children enrolled, they provide items such as hearing aids that are not covered under health insurance and orthodontia for children with severely malformed mouths.

A motion was made by Mr. Szczepaniak, seconded by Mr. Martin, to authorize an Agreement with Health Research, Inc. to accept a \$191,061 NYS Department of Health Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) grant. Unanimous.

Mrs. Duncan said that this is a one year grant agreement. Public Health provides the emergency services regarding medical needs in the event of disasters such as anthrax or small pox attack. Several years ago the Washington County Fairground had a problem with e-coli in their drinking water and the Saratoga County Public Health Department had to run a clinic to provide antibiotics to county residents. The Public Health Department participated in a training drill recently, preparation in the event of an outbreak of a rare flu virus. Many drills are performed in partnership with Capital Region partners. Mr. DeLucia confirmed with Mrs. Duncan that the Office of Emergency Services is also aware of the grant and partnership.

Mrs. Duncan said that she has been reviewing the Tobacco 21 initiative and would like to bring the discussion of raising the minimum age to purchase tobacco up at a future meeting. Albany and Schenectady Counties have already passed the initiative. Mr. Szczepaniak said that he has been talking to the organization Reality Check, and the Town of Ballston has implemented a tobacco free zone in their local park. Mr. Szczepaniak would like to bring some of the people from Reality Check to talk about their programs to the next Public Health meeting in conjunction with the discussion regarding raising the minimum age.

On a motion made by Mr. Lucia, seconded by Mr. Martin, the meeting was adjourned unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Therese Connolly
Deputy Clerk of the Board