

Public Health Committee Minutes
October 10, 2017 – 4:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman Vince DeLucia; Supervisors Phil Barrett, John Collyer, Dick Lucia, Peter Martin, Tom Richardson and Tim Szczepaniak; Chad Cooke, County Administrator; Michael Prezioso, Carol Lyte, Mental Health; Cathi Duncan, Public Health.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Szczepaniak, seconded by Mr. Martin, the minutes of the September 11, 2017 meeting were approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Szczepaniak, seconded by Mr. Lucia, to authorize Community Mental Health renewal contracts for 2018. Unanimous.

Mr. Prezioso said that all of the agreements have been incorporated into their 2018 budget request.

A motion was made by Mr. Szczepaniak, seconded by Mr. Richardson, to authorize a five-year contract with TenEleven Group, Inc. for an electronic medical records system in the amount of \$379,815 and amending budget in relation thereto. Unanimous.

Mr. Prezioso said that the current system does not comport with the federal requirements. An RFP was done and meetings with potential vendors were held. There was excess revenue available from OASAS (NYS Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services) and also additional funds available from NYS Office of Mental Health for transportation, between both funds they were able to get permission to reallocate the funds into 2017 to cover the cost of the new electronic records system. The maintenance costs are also \$10K less per year than the current system.

A motion was made by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Szczepaniak, to authorize a contract with Capital District Respite, Inc. to provide respite services for the early intervention program at a rate of \$28.50 per hour. Unanimous.

Mrs. Duncan said that Capital District Respite, Inc. is a local Ballston Spa company. Under NYS health regulations respite services must be provided to families if they cannot find respite services on their own. Mrs. Duncan said that they have not had an agency willing to provide the service for a long time. Families were previously reimbursed at a rate of \$6.50 per hour when they found their own provider. The company is cleared through a lot of different agencies such as the State Central Registry, the justice center for sex offenders at all three levels and they have CPR and first aid. Normally families are limited to 17.5 hours per month if needed however specific criteria must be met in order to qualify. The severity of the child's disability and needs are taken into consideration, potential risk of out of home placement for the child, a lack of access to informal support such as family and friends, or if respite cannot be found elsewhere.

The NYS department of Health will cover 50% of the cost of respite services annually, currently the allotment is \$17,353.13. The agreement is for a 14-month period starting November 1, 2017 through December 31, 2018 with a renewal option of two additional 1 year terms. In 2016 \$2,208 was spent and in 2017 \$4,104. At this point in time there is no one waiting for respite services. Mrs. Duncan said that referrals come from early intervention, schools, WIC, Headstart and physicians' offices. Children covered are from birth to age three.

On a motion made by Mr. Szczepaniak, seconded by Mr. Richardson, the meeting was adjourned unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Therese Connolly
Deputy Clerk of the Board