

Health & Social Services Committee Minutes
November 7, 2018 – 2:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Dick Lucia; Supervisors Vince DeLucia, Tara Gaston, Tom Richardson and Sandra Winney; Chad Cooke, County Administrator; Steve Dorsey, County Attorney; Michael Prezioso, Mental Health & Addiction; Sandi Cross, Office for the Aging; Catherine Duncan, Public Health; Tina Potter, Department of Social Services.

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

On a motion made by Mr. DeLucia, seconded by Ms. Winney, the minutes of the October 10, 2018 meeting were approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Ms. Winney, to authorize Community Mental Health renewal contracts for 2019. Unanimous.

Dr. Prezioso said that these are housekeeping annual agreements. The agreements are set to expire at the end of this calendar year. The resolution will also give the committee the authority to approve COLA increases up to 10%.

A motion was made by Mr. DeLucia, seconded by Mr. Richardson, to authorize a contract with VNA Homecare Options, LLC for the reimbursement of County costs for meals for managed long term care clients in the amount of \$8.75 per meal. Unanimous.

Ms. Cross said that VNA Homecare Options is a managed long term care agency paid by Medicaid. This is a reimbursement through Medicaid for meals.

A motion was made by Mr. DeLucia, seconded by Ms. Winney, to authorize an amendment to Resolution 255-2017 to increase the contract amount for Lena's Adult Day Services from \$10,000 to \$20,000 and for Bright Horizons Adult Day Services from \$20,000 to \$30,000. Unanimous.

Ms. Cross said that Bright Horizons is in Clifton Park and Lena's is in South Glens Falls. They took over the services previously provided by Wesley. The contracts go through April 2019 and these amendments will provide funding necessary until the new contracts take effect.

A motion was made by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Mr. DeLucia, to authorize 2019-2020 annual implementation plan and 2019 subcontracts for the Office for the Aging. The motion passed. Ms. Gaston was recused.

Ms. Cross distributed a handout detailing the providers and funding. They are housekeeping annual agreements, some begin in January and some in April. Ms. Cross said that the RFPs for the two transportation contracts are due back tomorrow. A special meeting of the Health & Social Services committee will be scheduled prior to the Law & Finance meeting this month for approval of those agreements.

Ms. Cross said that the Office of the Aging has been selected by Hannaford in the City of Saratoga Springs as recipients of part of the proceeds from their re-usable bag sales. Each re-usable bag that is sold during the month of December will provide 50 cents to the meal/nutrition program.

Mrs. Duncan gave a brief update and provided a handout listing the policies and procedures that have been approved and adopted during the past year by the Quality Assurance and Professional Advisory Committees. Copies of the full policies are available upon request.

Mrs. Duncan reported that arboviral diseases saw a significant decrease in the 3rd quarter of this year from last year (July – Sept). Decrease in Anaplasmosis, Babesiosis and Lyme disease cases. There were 2 cases of West Nile Virus in September.

There is a measles outbreak downstate in Rockland and several areas of Brooklyn. Mrs. Duncan said that the Health Emergency Operation Center (HEOC) was opened on October 15th to take precautionary measures for those that may have been to the downstate area or traveled recently to Israel.

Mrs. Potter gave a brief overview of the HEAP Program which opens Tuesday, November 13 and will be open through March 2019. There are several components, regular benefit, furnace repair and replacement, emergency replacement, and clean and tunes. Benefit amount are the same as last year, Oil/kerosene \$675, wood and pellet \$525, electric \$350. The income guidelines have increased slightly, for example a family of four can earn approximately \$4,598/month. Households who are in receipt of temporary assistance and/or SNAP as of September 15 will automatically receive the HEAP benefit. Applications can be mailed, faxed, delivered in person or via the website. Packages with full details of the benefits have been placed in all Supervisors mailboxes.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Therese Connolly
Deputy Clerk of the Board