

Health & Social Services Committee Minutes
January 8, 2020 – 2:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman Dick Lucia; Committee Members Darren O'Connor, Sandra Winney, Tom Wood, Benny Zlotnick; Supervisors Tara Gaston, Ed Kinowski, Mo Wright; Chad Cooke, County Administrator; Steve Dorsey, County Attorney; Cathi Duncan, Public Health.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Wood, seconded by Mr. O'Connor, the minutes of the December 4, 2019 meeting were approved. Supervisors Winney and Zlotnick abstained from voting.

Mr. Lucia announced the appointment of Mr. Wood as the Committee Vice-Chair.

A motion was made by Mr. O'Connor, seconded by Mr. Zlotnick, to authorize the acceptance of a grant from the New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports in the amount of \$50,000 for a jail-based medication assisted treatment program and amending the budget in relation thereto. Unanimous.

Mr. Cooke said that jail-based medication assisted treatment program is for inmates that suffer from opioid abuse disorder. The jail-based physician would prescribe the medication and there is also a therapy portion coordinated with the Mental Health Department.

A motion was made by Mr. Wood, seconded by Mrs. Winney, authorize the acceptance of a grant from New York State and the American Association of Retired Persons in the amount of \$80,000 and amending the budget in relation thereto. Unanimous.

Mrs. Duncan said that this grant comes from the Office of the Aging and AARP and will allow for the planning and development of an Age Friendly county. The planning phase is a 2 year timeframe and the majority of the funds will be used for staff. An advisory committee will be created by the Public Health planner. The advisory report will be sent to the Board by December 31, 2022. This is an opportunity to open up more funding avenues to develop plans. Grant funds will also be used to purchase GIS software to be used by the Public Health Department which will allow data to be layered.

A motion was made by Mr. O'Connor, seconded by Mrs. Winney, to authorize the acceptance of a Medical Reserve Corps Operational Readiness award from the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) in the amount of \$2,500 and amending the budget in relation thereto. Unanimous.

Mrs. Duncan said that this operational readiness award was applied for and received from NACCHO. Mrs. Duncan said that the Medical Reserve Corps in Saratoga County currently has approximately 90 volunteers. Some of these volunteers participate in the annual public health drills, participate in trainings and assist in Public Health projects. The Public Health Department

relies on these volunteers during any public health emergencies to supplement their needs. The award will be used to actively recruit and engage the volunteers and strengthen the unit response.

Mr. Kinowski addressed the committee and said that for the past year he has studied and coordinated with the local public health office and the Department of Health regarding local boards of health. He found that it is required by law that each township, village and city have their own board of health. Some towns elected to have their town board members do it and others have a fixed board. Stillwater has a consolidated board made up of elected officials, paid volunteer and secretary. The board meets monthly is funded via taxes, in Stillwater it runs approximately \$3 per year per household. Funds are also used for emergency management purposes, cots for shelter in place, cost of vaccinations, etc. Mr. Kinowski said that their procedures were updated in 2006 and approved by the Department of Health. Mr. Kinowski said that he can provide a package including the current laws regarding local health boards, the procedures and budget from Stillwater to any Supervisor that is interested in them.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Therese Connolly
Deputy Clerk of the Board