

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Health & Human Services

The regular meeting of the Health & Human Services Committee was held in the Legislative Conference Room, Tuesday, June 4, 2024 at 8:33 AM.

Present: Mr. William Standinger	Chair of the Committee
Mr. Jake Brown	Legislator
Mr. Tracy Monell	Legislator
Ms. Lori Morgan	Director of Community Services
Mr. Chris Korba	Director of Administrative Services (MH)
Mr. Shawn Yetter	Commissioner of Social Services
Ms. Mickelle Andrews	Director of Administrative Services (DSS)
Ms. Heather Vroman	Public Health Director
Mr. Denis McCann	Director of Administrative Services (PH)

Guests:	Ms. Marte Sauerbrey	Chair of Legislature
	Ms. Elizabeth Myers	Deputy Commissioner (DSS)
	Mr. Peter DeWind	County Attorney {Arrived 8:44 AM}
	Ms. Cathy Haskell	Legislative Clerk {Arrived 8:52 AM}

Legislator Standinger asked for a motion to approve the May 7, 2024 HHS Committee minutes as written. Motion made by Legislator Brown. Seconded by Legislator Monell. Motion Carried.

MENTAL HYGIENE

1. Financial

- Mr. Chris Korba noted that the 2024 budget is tracking well with five months of expenses and four months of revenue. The first invoice for the Waverly building project has been received.

2. Old Business

- Criminal Psych – Ms. Lori Morgan shared that two evaluations were done recently, and the individuals were both found to be competent. Several counties are asking their legislatures to pass a resolution clarifying 730 evaluations to county judges.

3. New Business

- Waverly location – Construction is moving along.
- Drug Free Communities Grant (DFC)– The transition was successful. Ms. Morgan thanked Public Health for their assistance.

4. Personnel

- None

5. Resolutions - Legislators approved resolution to continue with change made
 - Authorize Grant Renewal Appropriation of Funds and Amend 2024 Budget – ***This resolution will be updated & resubmitted to read “partnership with TC Public Health”, not Trinity CASA.***
6. Proclamations
 - None

PUBLIC HEALTH

1. Financial
 - Mr. Denis McCann reported that for the 2024 budget, there are no surprises, and everything is tracking well. Starting in June, PH will begin accepting electronic payments. Training for staff is starting this afternoon. Mr. McCann has been working with Mr. Gary Hammond on adding another vehicle to the fleet. They are looking at a light duty truck.
2. Old Business
 - None
3. New Business
 - Agency Report for May 2024 forwarded to committee.
 - Lyme disease has been increasing in Tioga County and NYS over the past three years. Health Educators have completed some outreach presentations on preventing tick-borne related illnesses with an emphasis on the use of permethrin with Buildings & Grounds, the Highway Dept. and NYS DOT.
 - PHD & BOH are working on revising the Rabies Control Order (will modify documentation requirement for tracking potential exposures).
 - Also working with a BOH sub-committee on updating the Sanitary Code (mostly Environmental Health). Recommendations will be presented to the Legislature around the end of summer.
 - There have been some cannabis enforcement law changes which will allow local government to determine how to enforce. We will need a uniform/consistent approach.
4. Personnel
 - Daniel Scherrer, Director of Environmental Health, hired effective 5/20/24
5. Resolutions - Legislators approved resolutions to continue
 - Amend Budget & Appropriate Funds (ASAP CARA)
 - Amend Budget & Appropriate Funds (CHSC)
 - Amend Budget & Appropriate Funds (CPiA)
 - Amend Budget & Appropriate Funds – Public Health Infrastructure Grant
6. Proclamations
 - None

Legislative Chair Sauerbrey asked Ms. Vroman to speak about the homeless meeting. Ms. Vroman reported that she and Mr. Daniel Scherrer went to the location of the homeless encampment in the Village of Owego based on a complaint to code enforcement that “things were getting out of hand.” They observed human garbage, human waste, and old tires that when filled with water are a mosquito breeding ground to name a few issues. In summary, as a Brownfield Site, PH does not feel it is safe for individuals living on the site. There will continue to be more meetings of county officials to address this situation.

SOCIAL SERVICES

1. Financial

- Ms. Mickelle Andrews reported that the admin side of the 2024 budget is tracking under budget due to payroll. On the program side, Foster Care & Day Care are running over budget. She is continuing to track Safety Net closely.

2. Old Business

- None.

3. New Business

- Caseloads

During May, Cash Assistance remained flat.

MA-Only decreased 18 cases.

MA-SSI decreased 11 cases.

Total Individuals on Medicaid increased 13 to 3,320.

SNAP decreased 20 cases.

Day Care decreased 5 cases.

Foster Care placements increased

See Caseload Summary

- Tioga Career Center report is attached. The proposed budget for program year 2024 was received with a 27% decrease. Commissioner Yetter is working with Broome County to address this challenge and he is hopeful of their cooperation so TCC can continue to avoid having a local share.

4. Personnel Changes

- None

5. Resolutions - Legislators approved resolutions to continue

- Authorize Contract with Catholic Charities of Tompkins/Tioga Counties
- Authorize Contract with Tioga Opportunities, Inc.
- Authorize Contract with Berkshire Farms
- Authorize Contract with Catholic Charities of Tompkins/Tioga Counties (Tioga Outreach Center)
- Appropriation of Funds (YB)

Commissioner Yetter shared that DSS is still recruiting for the Summer Youth Employment Program. It starts the week after July 4th and runs for six weeks. Have currently filled only 28 out of 41 slots. DSS & PH will put out the information on their Facebook pages.

6. Proclamations

- Elder Abuse Awareness Month (repeat)

ADJOURNED:

Health & Human Services Committee adjourned at 8:58 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail V. Perdue

Executive Secretary, Social Services