

**Public Health & Social Services Committee  
Regular Meeting Minutes**

**DATE & TIME:** May 3, 2021 – 5:00 PM  
**LOCATION:** Powered by Zoom Meeting by Dialing (646) 558-8656,  
Meeting ID: 951 7412 9085  
**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Chair Craig Lopez  
**LEGISLATIVE STAFF:** Nettie Tomshaw  
**PRESENT:** Legislators Criswell, Bruno, Petit, Uchitelle  
**ABSENT:** None  
**QUORUM PRESENT:** Yes

**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Vice Chair Tracey Bartels, Deputy County Executive Marc Rider

Chair Lopez called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM.

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**Motion No. 1:** **Moved to Approve Minutes & Transcript of the April 5, 2021 meeting**  
**Motion By:** Legislator Criswell  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Uchitelle  
**Discussion:** None  
**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Lopez, Criswell, Bruno, Petit, Uchitelle  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 5  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Minutes/Transcripts APPROVED**

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**Resolutions for the May 18, 2021 Session of the Legislature**

**Resolution No. 195:** Confirming Appointment Of A Member To The Community Services Board

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution confirms the appointment of Terrence Conklin to the Community Services Board

**Motion No. 2** **Moved to Discuss and Adopt Resolution No. 195**  
**Motion Made By:** Legislator Uchitelle  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Bruno

**Discussion:** See attached transcript.

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Lopez, Criswell, Bruno, Petit, Uchitelle  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 5  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Resolution adopted.

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**Resolution No. 196:** Confirming Appointment Of A Member To The Community Services Board

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution confirms the appointment of Amanda O’Neill to the Community Services Board

**Motion No. 3** **Moved to Discuss and Adopt Resolution No. 196**  
**Motion Made By:** Legislator Bruno  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Criswell

**Discussion:** See attached transcript.

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Lopez, Criswell, Bruno, Petit, Uchitelle  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 5  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Resolution adopted.

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**Resolution No. 197:** Confirming Appointment Of A Member To The Community Services Board’s Mental Health Subcommittee

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution confirms the appointment of Amanda O’Neill to the Community Services Board Mental Health Subcommittee

**Motion No. 4** **Moved to Discuss and Adopt Resolution No. 197**  
**Motion Made By:** Legislator Criswell  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Uchitelle

**Discussion:** See attached transcript.

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Lopez, Criswell, Bruno, Petit, Uchitelle  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 5  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Resolution adopted.

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**Resolution No. 230:** Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Intermunicipal Agreement With The Town Of New Paltz For Administration Of A Naloxone Training Website And Delivery Of Narcan To Ulster County Residents – Department Of Health

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution authorizes the Chair of the UC Legislature to execute an intermunicipal agreement with the Town of New Paltz for the administration of a naloxone training website and delivery of narcan to Ulster County residents. \$5K

**Motion No. 5**                    **Moved to Discuss and Adopt Resolution No. 230**  
**Motion Made By:**            Legislator Bruno  
**Motion Seconded By:**        Legislator Uchitelle

**Discussion:**                    See attached transcript.

**Voting In Favor:**              Legislators Lopez, Criswell, Bruno, Petit, Uchitelle  
**Voting Against:**                None  
**Votes in Favor:**                5  
**Votes Against:**                 0  
**Disposition:**                  Resolution adopted.

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**Resolution No. 231:** Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$210,254.00 Entered Into By The County – Liberty Resources, Inc. – Department Of Social Services

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution approves the execution of a contract for \$210.2K with Liberty Resources, Inc. for multi systemic therapy services. 100% State, Contract term 4/1/21 – 9/30/21.

**Motion No. 6**                    **Moved to Discuss and Adopt Resolution No. 231**  
**Motion Made By:**            Legislator Criswell  
**Motion Seconded By:**        Legislator Petit

**Discussion:**                    See attached transcript.

**Voting In Favor:**              Legislators Lopez, Criswell, Bruno, Petit, Uchitelle  
**Voting Against:**                None  
**Votes in Favor:**                5  
**Votes Against:**                 0  
**Disposition:**                  Resolution adopted.

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**Resolution No. 232:** Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$185,000.00 Entered Into By The County – The Hudson Valley National Center For Veteran Reintegration Inc. – Department Of Mental Health

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution approves the execution of a contract with The Hudson Valley National Center for Veteran Reintegration Inc. for peer to peer support services for veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress syndrome, other related stress disorders, or have counseling needs using small group peer to peer counseling methods.

**Motion No. 7**                    **Moved to Discuss and Adopt Resolution No. 232**  
**Motion Made By:**            Legislator Criswell  
**Motion Seconded By:**        Legislator Bruno

**Discussion:**                    See attached transcript.

**Voting In Favor:**              Legislators Lopez, Criswell, Bruno, Petit, Uchitelle  
**Voting Against:**                None  
**Votes in Favor:**                5  
**Votes Against:**                 0  
**Disposition:**                  Resolution adopted.

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**Resolution No. 233:** Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$25,161.00, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Mental Health Association in Ulster County, Inc. – Department Of Mental Health

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with the Mental Health Association in Ulster County, Inc. for \$25,161.00 for New York State Office of Mental Health state aid funding. 96% State, 4% County. Amd. Term 1/1/21 – 12/31/21

**Motion No. 8**                    **Moved to Discuss and Adopt Resolution No. 233**  
**Motion Made By:**            Legislator Petit  
**Motion Seconded By:**        Legislator Criswell

**Discussion:**                    See attached transcript.

**Voting In Favor:**              Legislators Lopez, Criswell, Bruno, Petit, Uchitelle  
**Voting Against:**                None  
**Votes in Favor:**                5  
**Votes Against:**                 0  
**Disposition:**                  Resolution adopted.

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**Resolution No. 234:** Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$8,080.00, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – PEOPLE: Projects to Empower and Organize the Psychiatrically Labeled, Inc. – Department Of Mental Health

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment for \$8K with PEOPLE Inc. for an increase in funding from NYS Office of Mental Health State aid.

**Motion No. 9**                    **Moved to Discuss and Adopt Resolution No. 234**

**Motion Made By:**            Legislator Criswell

**Motion Seconded By:**      Legislator Bruno

**Discussion:**                    See attached transcript.

**Voting In Favor:**            Legislators Lopez, Criswell, Bruno, Petit, Uchitelle

**Voting Against:**            None

**Votes in Favor:**            5

**Votes Against:**            0

**Disposition:**                Resolution adopted.

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**Resolution No. 235:** Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$12,120.00, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Rehabilitation Support Services, Inc. – Department Of Mental Health

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment for \$12K for NYD Office of Mental Health and Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse services 100% state aid.

**Motion No. 10**                    **Moved to Discuss and Adopt Resolution No. 235**

**Motion Made By:**            Legislator Criswell

**Motion Seconded By:**      Legislator Bruno

**Discussion:**                    See attached transcript.

**Voting In Favor:**            Legislators Lopez, Criswell, Bruno, Petit, Uchitelle

**Voting Against:**            None

**Votes in Favor:**            5

**Votes Against:**            0

**Disposition:**                Resolution adopted.

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**New Business:**

American Rescue Plan Funding (See Transcript)

Chair Lopez asked if there was any other business, and hearing none;

**Adjournment**

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Bruno

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Uchitelle

**No. of Votes in Favor:** 4 (Legislator Criswell left 6:04 PM)

**No. of Votes Against:** 0

**TIME:** 6: 05 PM

Respectfully submitted: Nettie Tomshaw, Legislative Staff

Minutes Approved: June 3, 2021

**Ulster County Legislature**  
**Public Health and Social Services Committee**

**Meeting Transcript**

**May 3, 2021**

**Chairman Lopez**

Welcome, everybody. And Al good seeing you and glad you were able to join us tonight. I'm glad you're feeling well.

**Legislator Bruno**

Everything went well.

**Chairman Lopez**

Great. Okay. Well, I will call the meeting to order. And we will start by approving the minutes from our last meeting if we get a motion.

**Legislator Criswell**

I'll move.

**Legislator Uchitelle**

I'll second it.

**Chairman Lopez**

Second. Any discussion? Hearing none, all in favor?

**Committee Members**

Aye. Aye.

**Chairman Lopez**

Okay carried. We will get right into resolutions. Right, Nettie we don't have any anybody else, right that's going to talk tonight. No, I didn't think so. Okay, here we'll start with Resolution 234. Approving the execution of

**Nettie Tomshaw**

195.

**Chairman Lopez**

I'm sorry. No, I've got a scroll up. Sorry about that. Oh, yeah. Resolution 195. Confirming the appointment of a member to the Community Services Board. Move for discussion.

**Legislator Bruno**

I'll second it.

**Chairman Lopez**

A did we get a motion - gotcha. Yeah.

**Legislator Uchitelle**

I'll move it.

**Chairman Lopez**

Okay, Al second. Any discussion?

**Deputy Executive Rider**

I didn't see a resume in the packet. But this individual was appointed to one of the subcommittee's last month. And then we're now appointing him to the board as well. He's a caring navigator for League Family Services.

**Chairman Lopez**

Terrence Conklin. Yep. I don't know if anybody's familiar with him. But yeah, it's the resume was in the packet. So if anybody I thought, Oh, wait, you didn't see the resume Marc.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

I didn't see a resume in the packet. But

**Chairman Lopez**

Oh, okay. All right. Yeah, maybe it wasn't in the packet then. Okay. Maybe it was Amanda's though. We'll get it after the next one. Okay. Ah, no other discussion? All in favor?

**Committee Members**

Aye. Aye.

**Chairman Lopez**

All right. Good. Carried. Resolution 196. Confirming an appointment member to the Community Services Board.

**Legislator Bruno**

I'll move.

**Chairman Lopez**

A second.

**Legislator Criswell**

Yes, I'll second it.



**Chairman Lopez**

Discussion. This is for Amanda O'Neill I believe. Her resume was in the packet. Yep. Any discussion?  
All right. Hearing none, all in favor?

**Committee members**

Aye. Aye.

**Chairman Lopez**

Okay carried. Resolution 197. Confirming the appointment of a member to the Community Services Board Mental Health Subcommittee. motion.

**Legislator Criswell**

I'll move that.

**Chairman Lopez**

Second. Second. Anyone? Alright, okay there you are, you got it.

**Nettie Tomshaw**

You can.

**Legislator Uchitelle**

(Hand raised)

**Legislator Criswell**

I had one question. I liked her resume. It's, she's a librarian, librarian media person. I'm just curious why on the mental health subcommittee, does she have some sort of other background and that I'm missed on it or

**Chairman Lopez**

Marc.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

Once there on the board, they show interest in various committees. It's kind of what they request going on to so I think she's shown some interest's in that subcommittee. And I think we need we need to add members to that subcommittee as well, all the all the subcommittee's need to be able to meet quorum, which they've had issues, but

**Legislator Criswell**

I'm not. I'm not against this appointment. I was just curious that I didn't see anything mental health related in her resume. It's mostly you no teaching and library type stuff. So,

**Legislator Bruno**

You know, if I've may you know, I know that some folks get involved, like will seek out this particular subcommittee because of their experiences or their experiences of family members. And that doesn't show up on your resume.

**Legislator Criswell**

Yeah, I definitely support - let's get the committees filled with people who are interested in doing the work for sure.

**Chairman Lopez**

Definitely. Okay. All in favor.

**Committee Members**

Aye. Aye.

**Chairman Lopez**

All right. Resolution 230. Authorizing chair the legislature to execute any municipal agreement with town of New Paltz for administration of Naloxone training website, delivery of Narcan to Ulster County residents.

**Legislator Bruno**

I'll move it.

**Legislator Uchitelle**

I'll second.

**Chairman Lopez**

Second. All right. discussion. I know, Marc, somebody had some questions about this and the chairs meeting. I, I don't have the notes on that. I don't know - do you remember what the what the concerns are? Tracey is with us to right.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

Narcan training requirement I still haven't been able to.

**Chairman Lopez**

Is that the requirement?

**Deputy Executive Rider**

It wasn't necessarily an issue on this specific resolution more as Legislator Walter bringing up the fact that she had heard that the state does not require this kind of training, administer Narcan, but Ulster County does. I haven't gotten an answer from the Department of Health on that.

**Chairman Lopez**

Okay.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

So I am still following up. It's just, I'm this meeting, especially sometimes it's hard to turn around the questions from Thursday evening to the next Monday.

**Chairman Lopez**

Sure. Make sense? Okay. Any other discussion?

**Legislator Petit**

No, I would just like to say though, I had attended Narcan training, I think, with Legislator Bruno was in that class too. And, I mean, even if the state doesn't require it, I think it's really instrumental to, you know, to something happens, I mean, they counsel you on calling 911, regardless, so that's like, the first thing you should do. Because somebody who's coming out of it, you know, might feel fine for 20 minutes or so. They also could become combative. So would be nice to have somebody there in an official capacity. You know, and if you don't, I mean, if you don't have the training, administer Narcan and walk away. I mean, even though we have the Good Samaritan law, I mean, if somebody should suddenly collapse again, you know, what would be a potential - any litigation, any legal action someone could take, because you didn't, you should have followed through. So I mean, I still think the training is very important, even if it's a quickie 15 -20 minutes. But yeah, I'm glad Ulster County is doing it.

**Chairman Lopez**

And the training has gotten, it's a little bit easier now to administer right than it was, when I had done. I did a training over at Walker Valley, and then I did another one over at the Town of Wawarsing. And yeah, these kids used to have to, you know, put it together and like shake it up or something along those lines. And since then, I think it's, like, premade right.

**Legislator Bruno**

It's nasal spray.

**Chairman Lopez**

It's just a nasal spray goes right in.

**Legislator Bruno**

You know I agree. I agree with the Legislator Petit as well, because I took the training. And there's a, it's kind of like, like a CPR course. Nobody requires it unless you're a nerd in the medical field. But it's something everybody should go through, and everybody should get refreshed on it. And I think it's a really good idea. I think it only adds to our program. It doesn't take away from it. Because there's a lot of information that's given. And there's a lot of people don't know how it all works. They want to learn, you know, they'll see that box on the wall, but they don't know how to use they're not going to touch it.

**Chairman Lopez**

Right. Okay. Anything else?

**Legislator Bruno**

Tracey has her hand

**Chairman Lopez**

I'm sorry.

**Vice Chair Bartels**

Can I, can I just add something, it's Tracey.

**Chairman Lopez**

Oh, yeah, no, absolutely. Yeah sure.

**Vice Chair Bartels**

I mean, I agree with what you're both saying. I think I perceived the question from Eve to be more about whether or not and I could be wrong, but the way I took it, whether or not the training, not to stop not the question of stopping training, but whether or not the training would be a hindrance to the distribution of the Narcan. So yeah, I mean, I think it's worthy of getting an answer. But I also think, I mean, I would think even 10 or 15 minutes of training would give people the confidence to act in the moment that they, that they find themselves in a situation where, for me, that would be the biggest takeaway versus, versus not having had training, having a hold of something and being worried about doing harm and hesitating, versus having the competence from 10 to 15 minutes' worth of training. But it's, it's worth getting the information and finding out what the statewide protocol is and if we're going further than that, as well.

**Legislator Bruno**

Also, Chairman, if I may, what she said about know about it being a hindrance to people using. What I find just contrary wouldn't contrary to that, because when you take this training, everybody gets a kit out of the trainings that I've taken. You're actually distributing Narcan to the populace in a much faster and a much broader sense then if it's just sitting on a wall somewhere. You know, a lot of places don't have it. You know, you could be in a spot and you don't have it. But if you took the 15 to 20 minute's class course, you end up with it in your glove box. You know, everybody has one, I think that actually adds to the program instead of taking away from it. It puts it in more people's hands where it's needed on the streets.

**Chairman Lopez**

Okay. Anybody else? All right. All in favor?

**Committee Members**

Aye. Aye.

**Chairman Lopez**

Good. Resolution 231. Approving execution of a contract for \$210,254.00 with Liberty Resources for a multi systemic therapy service. Motion.

**Nettie Tomshaw**

Hang on guys I'm trying to get this person off. I don't know who George F is.

**Legislator Uchitelle**

That's a picture of George Floyd. Yeah.

**Nettie Tomshaw**

Shall I take it off?

**Legislator Uchitelle**

Yes take it off, remove it immediately.

**Legislator Petit**

Can you mute all of us Nettie?

**Nettie Tomshaw**

The meetings back on.

**Caller To Be Determined**

(inaudible)

**Chairman Lopez**

How does that even happen?

**Nettie Tomshaw**

I let him in without knowing who he was.

**Chairman Lopez**

Oh, okay, got it.

**Nettie Tomshaw**

Does anybody know who

**Legislator Uchitelle**

That's happened to a lot of meetings, but not to ours yet? But I'm surprised it hasn't happened yet.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

I haven't seen it in a committee but

**Legislator Petit**

Yeah, one of the enforcement, oh my goodness, justice reform meetings. Every time one of the officers tried to talk they started playing (inaudible). So they finally got them off. It was harder, because there were like, 35 people in that one.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

Like, I think somebody (inaudible) anyway,

**Nettie Tomshaw**

I won't let him in.

**Legislator Petit**

Is he trying it again?

**Chairman Lopez**

And when this has happened before, it's been all along the same lines, same subject matter.

**Legislator Uchitelle**

It can be all kinds of things. I think a lot of time it's much more explicit. But I think the subject matter, like is meant to be a wide range.

**Legislator Albert Bruno**

So Nettie is that when he comes in he comes in on a specific phone number or is it cloaked?

**Nettie Tomshaw**

It doesn't show me.

**Vice Chair Bartels**

Can I

**Legislator Uchitelle**

They're entering from the web app.

**Vice Chair Bartels**

May I ask a question? Just an open meetings question. Are we, I don't know that we're allowed to prevent someone from coming from a meeting especially if we can't confirm who they are. Is there a way to let people in and keep them muted? The host keep, can't you can't you let the person in Nettie and keep them muted?

**Nettie Tomshaw**

I'll do my best, I'll try.

**Vice Chair Bartels**

I don't know. I'm asking the question. I don't know.

**Legislator Criswell**

I think what you can do is mute all. And I think those of us who can control our own mute buttons can unmute ourselves when we need to.

**Chairman Lopez**

I think that's how we do it for session.

**Vice Chair Bartels**

Would that person be able to unmute themselves to?

**Legislator Uchitelle**

I believe they would.

**Legislator Petit**

Would they?

**Legislator Uchitelle**

I believe the way that we do it for a session is that we don't give out the link for Session. And if anyone - there is like a 6, there's a nine digit zoom ID number for every zoom meeting. And you can log into zoom, just open the web app on your computer put in those nine digits and if that meeting doesn't require a passcode then you go into the meeting, you go into the waiting room, which is what happened here. With Session we don't allow the public to come into the actual meeting unless it's people that we know because we have the option to fulfill public meeting through viewing it online or calling in. I don't know if that's an option for committee meetings as well.

**Vice Chair Bartels**

That would be the important question. Can we look at the agenda? Do you have the option to call into this meeting?

**Nettie Tomshaw**

Yeah.

**Legislator Petit**

Yeah.

**Legislator Bartels**

Okay then it's, then it's fine. Then they could - not meaning not to zoom in but to just call in and listen?

**Nettie Tomshaw**

Yeah, yeah. There's the dial number, a dial

**Legislator Uchitelle**

Yeah, but that's, that is, that's the zoom link. So you, they could they could call and come in as a phone caller

**Legislator Bruno**

And play that same stuff.

**Legislator Uchitelle**

And play that same stuff. Although you could also, I think it's easier to control them. If they're just on the phone. Is that right?

**Vice Chair Bartels**

I believe the host can mute individual people. That's my understanding.

**Nettie Tomshaw**

I put him into the holding room and then deleted him.

**Legislator Uchitelle**

Yeah, I mean for that person that's the

**Nettie Tomshaw**

If somebody is disruptive

**Vice Chair Bartels**

I'm sorry Marc what did you say?

**Deputy Executive Rider**

I'm not showing Nettie as the host on mine? Are we sure Nettie's the host?

**Nettie Tomshaw**

Yeah I am.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

Okay.

**Nettie Tomshaw**

Do you want to be a host too? Well, you want to continue so that we can

**Chairman Lopez**

Yeah, no, definitely.

**Nettie Tomshaw**

The next meeting, the next meeting you know, is at 6:15.

**Legislator Uchitelle**

Nettie if you want help, I'm happy to be a host as well. I can try and troubleshoot.

**Nettie Tomshaw**

Okay, thanks. Yeah, I

**Chairman Lopez**

I was. I was like, how did he know my name, but my name shows up on your



**Deputy Executive Rider**

Yeah it shows up. Are we letting him in because it happens again, I might just suggest that we all go on mute and video until it gets fixed so that he doesn't

**Legislator Uchitelle**

Yeah, that's probably a good idea.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

The, so like, Craig was staring at him. He couldn't tell that if we all just went and shut our video off right.

**Legislator Criswell**

Right.

**Chairman Lopez**

Now, we have to have our, our video on in order to record votes, though, right?

**Deputy Executive Rider**

Oh right.

**Legislator Uchitelle**

Well we're not going to vote while the dude is shouting at us.

**Chairman Lopez**

Well yeah, no.

**Nettie Tomshaw**

He's disruptive. No, he's not coming in. There's the meetings law, but he's disruptive. So off he goes. He had his shot. He's on the recording. He was recorded.

**Legislator Bruno**

Nettie we should tell Alan, from IT from IS about this. Just so that he's aware.

**Nettie Tomshaw**

I'm like, I can't believe that just happened.

**Legislator Uchitelle**

I honestly, I can't believe it hasn't happened yet.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

Right.

**Nettie Tomshaw**

Okay. Alright 231.

**Chairman Lopez**

Nettie, yeah let's move on. All right um, Resolution 231. Approving the execution of a contract for \$210,254 with Liberty Resources for multi-systemic therapy services.

**Legislator Criswell**

I'll move that.

**Legislator Petit**

I'll second.

**Chairman Lopez**

Second. Discussion?

**Legislator Petit**

Legislator Bartels.

**Chairman Lopez**

Oh, yep go ahead. Yeah, I, I couldn't I can't see your hand going up. So yeah, if anybody else.

**Legislator Bartels**

Thank you. Um, so there was a question at the chairs meeting on this one about what is exactly, what exactly is multi-systemic. Did we get an answer to that?

**Deputy Executive Rider**

Yeah. So at the chairs meeting, I didn't have the contract in front of me. I mean, and I don't think Legislator Walter did either. But the Schedule A goes into pretty deep detail on what the services are. I don't know if she just didn't get a chance to.

**Vice Chair Bartels**

Okay, that's, that's fine. I just wanted to make sure her question got answered.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

This deals with a lot of basically adolescents and their families. And they get referred to the unit from a various - it's kind of the more -high risk youth that DSS may come across and they could get, you know, there's five or six referral points, whether it's mental health, Ulster County Family, court probation, and then they have a team, clinic supervising clinician and others that are licensed and deal with adolescents and their families.

**Chairman Lopez**

Okay. Anything else? All in favor?

**Committee Members**

Aye. Aye.

**Chairman Lopez**

Okay. Resolution No. 232. Approving the execution of a contract for \$185,000.00 with The Hudson Valley National Center for Veteran Reintegration.

**Legislator Criswell**

I'll move it.

**Legislator Bruno**

I'll second it.

**Chairman Lopez**

This is for peer to peer services for veterans suffering with PTSD and other related disorders, and need of counseling. Marc where are these services offered throughout the county, as I said, um, like various veteran centers are, well, how, actually.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

So the Hudson Valley Reintegration Center, which is in actually, I think, the 320 Enterprise site. That's, the Tech City East Campus I believe. They're over there. I mean, they offer the services throughout the county, but that's their physical location. This is all part of a grant the state of the PFC Dwyer grant. This is our first year, but it's not the first year that the state has offered the grant to counties. Mark Cozzupoli was able to get us involved through I think prior senate or not prior former Senator Metzger. Her office added us in the state budget. And so this is again, the first year of the program. We did have a small contract with them just through the veteran's department last year to provide some of these services because we thought that we would get the state funding to come through and it didn't until this fiscal year.

**Chairman Lopez**

Okay. Anyone else? All right. All in favor?

**Committee Members**

Aye. Aye.

**Chairman Lopez**

Resolution 233. Approving the execution of contract amendment for \$25,100. Oh, we did we move in second our last resolution? Oh we did. Okay. Yeah, just making sure okay. 223, approving the execution of a contract amendment for \$25,161 closing the contract plus amendment amount to be in excess of \$50,000 with the Mental Health Association, and Ulster County. A motion?

**Legislator Petit**

I'll move it.

**Legislator Criswell**

Second it.

**Chairman Lopez**

Second, discussion.

**Legislator Petit**

I don't have an agenda in front of me because it's zoom. The next one is RSS? This one is for the Mental Health Association?

**Chairman Lopez**

The next one.

**Nettie Tomshaw**

RSS is the last one, 235.

**Chairman Lopez**

The last one. Yep.

**Legislator Petit**

I remembered it was the last one but I don't know where we are. Okay. Thank you.

**Legislator Criswell**

And Marc. I'm sorry. Marc, this looks like 90%- state 96%, 4% county.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

96% state 4% county. It's basically

**Legislator Criswell**

It's almost a pass through but not quite.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

COLA. Yeah, yeah. And this is I think COLA increases. You know, this one organization does 15 to 20 different services for us that this is just adding \$25,000 total across the board. So I believe it's, it has to do with the OMH reimbursement just increase a little bit.

**Legislator Criswell**

And we're talking 4% of \$25,000 for county, right.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

Correct.

**Legislator Criswell**

Okay.

**Chairman Lopez**

Okay. Any other discussion? All in favor?

**Committee Members**

Aye. Aye.

**Chairman Lopez**

Resolution 234. Approving the execution of a contract amendment or contract amendment for \$8,080 closing the contract plus amendment amount to be in excess of \$50,000 with PEOPLE; Projects to Empower and Organize the Psychiatrically Labeled. Moved for discussion.

**Legislator Criswell**

I'll move it.

**Legislator Bruno**

Second.

**Chairman Lopez**

Second. Any discussion. Again, this is an increase of the not to exceed amount, basically same as the last one.

**Legislator Bruno**

The Psychiatrically Labeled, if that isn't a politically correct analogy I've never seen one.

**Chairman Lopez**

Yeah, you know, the state still goes by these, you know, somewhat archaic descriptions of

**Legislator Bruno**

Yeah, it's

**Chairman Lopez**

Yeah. I

**Deputy Executive Rider**

That's the organization's name.

**Legislator Bruno**

That's the name

**Legislator Lopez**

Oh it is.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

That's the name of the corporation right PEOPLE Inc. And that's their, that's the acronym.

**Legislator Criswell**

Exactly.

**Legislator Bruno**

I think it was just a tortured attempt to reach the word people. That's my theory.

**Chairman Lopez**

I wonder when it was named you know, I think sometimes it's the sign of the times like back in the day

**Legislator Bruno**

To empower and organize the psychiatric labeled. That's (inaudible.)

**Chairman Lopez**

Alright any, there's discussion. All in favor?

**Committee Members**

Aye. Aye.

**Chairman Lopez**

Okay, Resolution 235. Approving the execution of a contract amendment for \$12,120 causing the contract plus amendment amount to be in excess of \$50,000 with Rehabilitation Support Services. Move for discussion.

**Legislator Criswell**

Sure I'll move it.

**Legislator Bruno**

I'll second it.

**Chairman Lopez**

Discussion.

**Legislator Bruno**

This is about mental health rehabilitation support services. Is just this kind of like go to things that RYAN and things like that, Marc.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

So this is how- they have, they do supportive housing to do case (inaudible), they provide community residents on the OASIS side. You know, I know Legislator Petit could probably discuss this organization quite a bit, but this is again, just increasing it due to the state reimbursement. This one is in fact, 100% state.

**Legislator Petit**

They have the Able House and they had the Paris House in Saugerties.

**Legislator Bruno**

Oh, okay. All right. Gotcha. I understand.

**Chairman Lopez**

Okay. Anyone else? All in favor?

**Committee Members**

Aye. Aye.

**Chairman Lopez**

Okay. I'm sorry. Oh, Yep. Gotcha. All right, that concludes our resolutions, and we will go into new business. So I don't know how you want to start a discussion. I know the, the first order of new business is to discuss some of the, well discuss the rescue funds.

**Legislator Bruno**

I got to go back, I had to, I apologize. I'm sorry. I gotta, I gotta say, I read today's immediate release from the Executive's office to he had immediately released that prior to our meeting before we had a chance to even discuss any of it. And I thought that was a little - he could have waited until after we had a little discussion about the American Rescue Plan and how it relates to our committee, and the mental health beds and everything else, but he pretty much already did our work for us. And I gotta be honest with that does leave a bad taste in my mouth the way this was executed.

**Chairman Lopez**

Okay.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

Can I just speak on that?

**Chairman Lopez**

Sure.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

I mean, just the intention was not to have the taskforce is not to just discuss the American Rescue Plan funding. So I understand that like, we all knew that the committees are going to do you know that you're - the chairman of the legislature has asked the committees to discuss American Rescue Plan funding. We are kicking off the taskforce tonight at six and it didn't work well for this month. Unfortunately, by the time we found out that Peter and Craig, as designees of this committee are designees of themselves as the Chair and Vice Chair of this committee will be sitting on that task force. We didn't realize that they had a meeting after this. So they will be definitely included going forward. And they will be brought up to speed on what was discussed tonight. But the task force is more. It's more - broad than just American Rescue Plan funding. It's identifying the gaps in overall mental health, not only from the mental health and the substance abuse beds being gone from Westchester Medical if that happens, but everything that's kind of led up to today, well now in the last decade of mental health in this county. So.

**Legislator Bruno**

If I could Mr. Chairman my answer him a little bit.

**Chairman Lopez**

Sure.

**Legislator Bruno**

Marc, I gotta tell you, I read the task force, who's on the task force and what the goals and stuff are. And I think that's all admirable. But I find it extremely ironic that the task force is made up by the very person Dr. Michael Doyle, in Westchester Medical who said they're not bringing the beds back. Because it's not worth it to them financially. So then taking supporting them, and giving them a say at the table when we already know how they feel. I to be honest with you, I'm a little taken aback by that, at the very least. You know, he was the one that came to this meeting, he did a presentation, and he was asked on different ways and different times he came right out and said, they're not coming back, and because it doesn't make financial sense to Westchester Medical. I can't even - a lot of us not only here, but on the legislature had a real hard time saying yes to funding for anything for them because of that of what he's done. He used COVID as an excuse to make more money for themselves. And I have a real problem with that. And now to make matters worse, it seems like our own Executive and Task Force, put them right on it. It's like they're embracing them in a way. I think it's a slap in the face. I really do. I'm really upset with that. And you know, the thing is, is I've, I've been in discussion and Marc, you know, it Craig knows that I've already been in discussion to try to bring these things back for the last several months trying to set up meetings and stuff. And I gotta tell you, it's like, why bother? Because there's always, almost as if somebody is... I don't know, I don't know what what's going on behind the scenes or why but I have a real problem, because I really do. And I think you understand Marc, and I think Craig probably does, too, because I spoke to both of you over the last several months about what I was trying to do and even had them on board with it. And then if you're gonna bring - put them on the task force, that's just like something, something's wrong somewhere. I don't know what it is. I'm not gonna get up and screaming in Session like previous legislators did and point fingers at corruption. But I can tell you one thing that really sticks. Point blank.

**Chairman Lopez**

Okay, well, um, let me kind of (inaudible).

**Legislator Bruno**

Sorry guys but.

**Legislator Uchitelle**

No, I think you're, thank you.

**Legislator Bruno**

And it's. Can I ask a clarifying question in addition? So Westchester so, Health Alliance and Westchester Medical, I see that they're both represented on here. Aren't they affiliated in the same



company? Like, isn't it a subsidiary? So they've got two seats at the table. Unless I'm missing something.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

I have to go back. I didn't. I have not read the full press release. I was out doing other things today.

**Legislator Bruno**

You'd be forgiven from needing to learn from the press release about things like this.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

I think that, that

**Legislator Bruno**

That's my point.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

Probably a miss, a typo, that they probably at first didn't have a representative from WMC and then added Dr. Doyle. I don't think the intention is to have two, and I don't want to get into a huge back and forth here. The only thing I'll say is, whether we like the move of the beds or not, that's. It's not a done deal yet, but I understand where you're coming from. We have to accept the fact that Health Alliance, they have Bridge Back here, which is one of our major outpatient service clinics, they continue to provide mental health services. Al I have a lot of respect for what you're doing. And I think that if we can have that happen, with getting somebody else come in and do the beds, I think that'd be a great thing. To not have the main - one of the main providers of mental health in Ulster County, regardless of inpatient beds or not, at least in an 18 person taskforce where we have everybody else that's somewhat related to mental health, people access all these other people at the table and not have them when they have again, bridge back and other services would just, I think it would not be the right thing to do.

**Legislator Petit**

Can I, I just and Al thank you for you know, for laying all your cards on the table, I guess. And I do agree with you. I don't see the Health Alliance moving forward with their beds. And you know, Bridge Back is a great program a but it's my understanding, you know, most of the folks who go there are mandated and we're having trouble with our mental health. I have a neighbor down the street, has been in and out for the system for a while now. She can't get into Willard or any facility because of COVID. And the judge told her she messes up again, she's looking at nine years. The guy that killed her sister only got three and a half. So, you know, we do have a problem here. But with that, if we can present something, you know, it's kind of I had these discussions with the previous executive. If we don't do anything, we don't have anything to put on the table and discuss either. So I would be happy to meet with you separately or as a subcommittee of Health and Human Services, and see if we can't put together something tangible to be discussed, within the legislature, within this taskforce, the county executive is put together. And we, I mean, we can do it, even if we're running parallel until we finally meet and come up with a solution. But don't give up on it.

**Chairman Lopez**

Okay.

**Legislator Bruno**

If I can. One of the things Marc that kind of like I'm concerned with especially because the way the release was written it says they are going to use basically he said our mental health situation, including the loss beds, and etc. And my, my thing is, is I don't see people that we have already made very clear their stand on it, of where, why they would actually - like, for example, if what I'm working on comes to fruition, and gets to the point where we start talking numbers or what it's going to cost to make it happen, we can use some of this money here, those people that are on that table, there's no way they're going to support giving money to a different medical facility, or different Medical Center. I mean, that's like that's like before they had Health Alliance having Benedictine support Kingston, and vice versa, it's not gonna happen, any more than Vassar Brothers is going to support Mid-Hudson Regional, you know, they're, they're in competition, medical industry is the biggest financial business there is next to pharmaceuticals. So I that's where I'm a little concerned by putting, you know, a few of them onto this board, it's going to actually become a hindrance to move forward with someone else at the table, that could actually and is willing to actually help us, as opposed to sorry, it doesn't make us enough money. That's what I'm a little worried about. I think that was that's where it comes from.

**Chairman Lopez**

Sure.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

I think the idea of the task force is to identify broad needs, and an action plan. It is not to take over the Legislators job of appropriating and like that is what the working group is for. This is supposed to help us identify the gaps in mental health. Identify a broad strategy moving forward. If inpatient mental health beds are identified, then it's not this task forces task to come up with who does those inpatient beds. So I understand your concerns. But it's again, a broader coming up with an action plan a strategic plan, not you know, doling out the money.

**Chairman Lopez**

Right. It's, it's a recommendation to the legislature, and it's up to us to do with what we decide. Yeah. According to that recommendations. Yeah. It's ultimately up to the legislature to write the policy and fund whatever it is, you know, we think is best way to move forward so it's a taskforce. But no, I think I think your concerns AI are duly noted and, and you raise, you know, really good points. So you know, I appreciate your thoughts on that.

**Legislator Bruno**

Craig, did you happen to make that phone call that, just gonna ask you.

**Chairman Lopez**

The oh, to Kelly yeah. I actually did and I can have that discussion with you tomorrow.

**Legislator Bruno**

Okay.

**Chairman Lopez**

So, is there anything else? Alright, so we'll- I'm sorry.

**Vice Chair Bartels**

Tracey my hands up. I just

**Chairman Lopez**

Sure. Yeah.

**Legislator Bartels**

Sorry. I'm sorry you can't see me when I get my hand up. Um, yeah so, I mean, I don't want to - I'm not prepared to bring forward a very specific proposal at this moment. But I have been talking to AI for more than a year following on our first real meeting, getting to know each other at NYSAC and one of the seminars that we attended, which was very impressive, and I would I'd like to be able to come back to this committee with some backup information about the organization and the program, the programmatic background and backdrop to the work that they're doing there. Because I think it may be something that would be worthy of investment in this county. And maybe AI I could come back to the committee with the backup and a presentation. Because now that there are funds available, it may be something that we want to look into. And I also just want to say that I, AI I hear your frustration, but I think at this moment, we, you know, we've got to gotta find a way to move forward together and identifying the gaps in mental health services has actually something I think that's been long overdue. You know, we've been asking about it, almost since the privatization of mental health in Ulster County. I know that initially, John Parete was one of the most extreme critics of that move, you know, and we made the move with good faith. And I don't I don't think we've ever adequately analyzed what that move has meant for services. So you know, if we take the task force as its named word, and that they're going to be just identifying that I think it's, is most decidedly up to the legislature to, determine what to do with those funds. And I don't think that we should be waiting for recommendations from someone else. I know that I've heard some hints and some details at some recommendations that are coming from within the legislature. And I look forward to hearing more details and working with my colleagues across the whole legislature to help inform, you know, where we think these funds can best be put to use in a in a way that can be sustainable, and the impact can be long lasting. And I think, without a doubt, this committee is the committee of origin for which some of the most important work has to happen. So, you know, I look forward to working with all of you. And, you know, I look forward to all your leadership on the issue as well.

**Legislator Bruno**

Thank you, Tracey, I appreciate that. I definitely want to try to bring that presentation from Cheryl Moore from Erie County here once before. And I will try it again. I mean, I have this, I still have the contact people available. But we found out we need to go through legal before we can do that. Because it has to be -if we have certain people there, it has to be under Open Meeting presentation. And that became a big football basically back and forth. And that's why ultimately, I had to cancel it because the

schedule didn't allow the time and we would have had to plan this thing for six months out to make it legal. And it really is very frustrating process.

**Vice Chair Bartels**

And if I can just respond.

**Legislator Bruno**

I'll work with it. Whatever we have to do.

**Vice Chair Bartels**

If I can just respond to that Craig. I don't know what roadblocks you ran into previously. But I would suggest that given the time constraint that we're under that we work together and you use your contacts to get that, to get that presentation. If the chair if the chairman's willing to put it on the agenda for next month at the latest and potentially sooner if it can happen. Because certainly there's enough time to notice it. And I think I think everyone would be very impressed by the work they're doing. I know that they're having, you know, they're struggling with the impacts of COVID as well. But in fact, that might even make the presentation more relevant, because we'll get to hear the challenges as it relates to the current situation.

**Legislator Bruno**

I agree completely Tracey. I'll make the phone calls tomorrow. And I'll talk to you I'll talk to you if you're available tomorrow as well.

**Vice Chair Bartels**

Absolutely. Thank you.

**Chairman Lopez**

Well, let's do it. Let's work together to make that happen for next month.

**Legislator Bruno**

I know there, I do know that their Erie County's mental health department along with Cheryl Moore and the county executive's office and who was including this was Erie County Sheriff's Department as well. Their schedules lining their schedules up was a bit difficult, there was only like certain weekdays that they could meet. So and then it conflicted with our meeting schedule as well. So that was part of the problem we ran into, but I will make the phone call. We'll try to get the wheels in motion. Whether we can get it done in one month would be I'm going to say that's optimistic. But we'll see what I can do. Tracey, I look forward to working with you on this I really do but even more. I mean, we've talked about it in the past.

**Vice Chair Bartels**

Yeah, you too.

**Chairman Lopez**

Okay. Well, I'll continue with the under new business start that discussion. Yeah, we have RCAL, under new business as a stand-alone topic of discussion, but I think it's a part of the broader discussion we're gonna have regarding on how best to utilize the funds for the rescue plan. As you all remember, last April, this committee and the legislature as a whole approved \$15,000 for RCAL to help offset the costs of a number of vocational services on behavior, modifications, some online skills training for people with disabilities. And unfortunately, that was cut as part of the legislative programs that, that were cut in anticipation of the potential difficulties that the county was going to face, because of the potential red revenue losses. So with all that said, I think we have an opportunity here where we can backfill some of these programs that were cut back in, in March of last year, including programs like RCAL. So if anybody wants to have that discussion, or, you know, discuss with the committee, you know, ideas of programs on where best you think these monies could go, and the floor is open to whomever first.

### **Legislator Criswell**

Chairman if I may, I agree with you. And I also have been reading about this surplus that the county is experiencing. So I think that we not only have funds from the federal book, we've also got surplus money that we should probably have a discussion about. I'm sure it's probably already been marked for, you know, other things. But I think that should be part of the discussion to try and go back to some of these organizations that we cut. And like you're saying, trying to try and go back to those contracts and see what we can, we can repair.

### **Chairman Lopez**

Yeah, absolutely.

### **Legislator Bruno**

I got to actually just echo both of your comments, both you and Legislator Criswell, because it is spot on. We cut programs that were really needed and useful to a lot of people in this community due to COVID, due to our what we thought was going to be a \$35 million deficit. And it turns out it was it's not. I think so a lot of that right out of the gate should be a big discussion about putting down money - making them whole again. A lot of the programs that are needed. I mean, I do think that COVID did one good thing for us. And it made us open our eyes and examine everything that we spend our money on. And you know, maybe more of a microscopic way. And I think we need to keep that in mind as we do this. I mean, there's a lot of programs we cut, but there's a lot of programs that we cut that are still able to function with the lesser amounts to a certain degree. And I think we need to keep that in mind as well. But I agree, definitely make these people whole.

### **Chairman Lopez**

Yep. We also have to keep in mind, I think what these rescue monies were intended for, and that's to kind of offset or make whole these types of programs and municipalities even. Yes, some private organizations. I think that that was included as well. It was, the rules to what this funding could be used for I think we're fairly load. I know that it can't be given directly back to and tax cuts or anything of that nature. But yeah, I think using it for what it was intended and that's to affect. Yeah, programs and those who were directly or indirectly, you know harmed by COVID.

### **Legislator Bruno**

Yeah. I hope Peter, Legislator Criswell you don't mind me putting you on the spot for a second because I know you and Legislator Walter had a really interesting. It was Eve that brought it forward an idea for funding for based on a program that they have in Dutchess County. Is that something? I'm happy to speak on it.

### **Legislator Criswell**

No, no I'll talk about it. It's a stabilization center. That also then works with respite houses. And so the model is basically that somebody will enter the stabilization center. There's assessment done of what that client would need, and if the client is in really serious crisis, they have relationships with hospitals. They also have relationships with a lot of different local nonprofits. So it is exactly what I'm saying it's a stabilization center to get the person back into back into a stable state to then take them to the next place, whether that's back to their own home, or whether it's to a hospital or whether it's to a place where they can have a few days to kind of have some care. So that's a model that Legislator Walter and I have been looking at. We went and we visited the facility in Dutchess and it was very impressive, and we're having conversations about how something like that might look in Ulster County.

### **Legislator Bruno**

This is like, kind of sort of news sort of. I spoke to I was actually had a meeting with Vince and Carol Kelder yesterday, and had a great concept great conversation with them. I knew Ryan personally. And I've known Vince and Carol for many years. They recently RYAN, the acronym the group, RYAN, raise your awareness against narcotics, purchased the Knights of Columbus building and Saugerties. Their plan is to be a facility that will help patients that are coming out of detox, out of rehab from opioid abuse and getting them a place to get their get on their feet. A place to stay, if necessary. Support, lot of support groups and you're doing this on your own and that's why I think, Peter what you're saying like with Dutchess County has it that was awesome. It might be as a county might be able to partner up with groups like that. It may be different locations throughout the county. Saugerties is one, Ellenville can be another one. Kingston city, Kingston may have a couple.

### **Legislator Criswell**

I totally agree with you Legislator Bruno. I think that the idea of having sort of a more centralized like population density center stabilization center, and then locations that are a little further afield that can be the sort of respite houses that are available in, you know, such a wide swath of the county. Ellenville, Saugerties like, yeah, so that's what

### **Legislator Bruno**

I look at it like ARC does. ARC has houses in every neighborhood, in every city, in every town, across the county.

### **Legislator Criswell**

Absolutely. I think the idea of partnerships is so important, because, you know, there are so many great organizations that are that are really working in the mental health field. And so I'm hopeful for this behavior health taskforce that there'll be a lot of identifying of, really who's doing good work and how partnerships can be formed. And so that, you know, if we can figure out to me, it's like this spoke idea, if we can figure out some way to centralize it a bit more, and then send people out to where they need

to go, who offers those services, and we can do it for youth, we can do it for seniors, we can do for vets, we can do it for people with substance abuse. I just think there's there needs to be a little bit more coordination in that, that moment of crisis. And so, you know, because we don't want our moment of crisis to be sending somebody to the emergency room at the hospital, that's not a crisis intervention center, that's, you know, it can actually cause more trauma. So I think we want to be really mindful of where people are being brought when they're, when they're in crisis.

### **Legislator Bruno**

And have those response teams available as well, to go to them if necessary. So just to kind of perhaps draw this part of this topic to a close then, you know, the conversation that I had with Legislator Walter and, you know, her and Legislator Criswell have done a lot of work to research this. And it's very concrete. You know, we have a real, we have real information about how much it costs to implement this in a very nearby county. And, this is completely within I mean, my understanding is the startup cost, this could be done, we could be serving, you know, we can have the capacity to serve hundreds of people a month, with an initial investment, my understanding is around \$3 million, which is less than 10% of the the rescue plan funding. There could be other sources of funds available. And that's, you know, there could be lots of and that's without partnerships. You know, my point being not that oh, that's the cost, let's hit the button and spend it. My point being that this is very real and very concrete. So my hope Deputy Executive Rider, is that the county executives task force which I know Peter is a member of, you know, can really tackle some of these things head on. You know, during a time when we are, we do have a community in crisis. I'm deeply concerned about many of the residents in my district who might find themselves in crisis, as eviction starts to happen and, and a whole wide range of things that, you know, are really on a medical level, on the edge today, and will get pushed over the edge. So, you know, I'm incredibly excited about this program. And I hope that the taskforce can take it up, you know, rapidly, and that the county executives team can look at this as a proposal from the legislature that's feasible.

### **Deputy Executive Rider**

I think that the kind of capital funding that is envisioned with the American Rescue Plan, which is again, one shot funding, not programmatic funding that's going to be here forever. That something like a stabilization center is right up the alley of that funding. And, you know, there's been conversations with multiple Executives offices and PEOPLE Inc. and (inaudible), and, you know, these conversations have been ongoing for years. The Dutchess County stabilization center runs on a deficit every year. It takes money from Dutchess County, to come in. With this kind of funding, this may bring us the opportunity to be able to, you know, put in capital, also with you know, the when the hospital moves all that, if they do a healthy village and they're willing to open up something over there, WMC. I don't know, you know, exactly how this would work. But I do think, you know, a stabilization center is a great idea. And again, it's right in that wheelhouse for this kind of funding.

### **Legislator Criswell**

If I may, it's also my understanding that there is legislation on the state level right now, that is rejigging the way reimbursements work to make it this a more feasible operation in terms of finances, and so the weight on the county would be much, much, much less than what it's been previously.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

Yeah, I think just finding space for it. And then using capital funds to really help whatever organization runs it, whether it's a PEOPLE or another, you know, mental services organization like that. And allowing them to then be able to come to the table with justice, staining it through billing, and other reimbursements, I think, is important, and we've never been here at this, you know, until now.

**Legislator Criswell**

And what I liked so much about this model is that it's, it's been tried and proven and works, and the financial systems are already vetted, and in place of how it can work and so, so, it's almost like just taking it from one county and putting into another county. I mean, obviously, you're gonna have the complications of finding buildings and, and doing that type of stuff. But the actual back end of it all, is the structures already there. So you're going into it, you know, 75% of the way there already. And so that's the thing that really impressed me most about this whole possibility.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

But I do just want to point out, I mean, one of the things that I just talked about is, and this is the reason why you have them on the task force. Regardless of what happens with the beds, you're going to have WMC potentially opening up a huge amount of space in what they're calling the healthy village. And if they're willing to give organizations low cost, rent, where or whatever, to open up something like a stabilization center in that building, then it's helpful to have them on board. Right. So these are the kinds of things that some of the reasoning why we would add somebody like that under the taskforce.

**Chairman Lopez**

Understood okay. Well, if I can maybe, kind of wrap this up a little bit. Look, I think we have a really unique opportunity here. Yeah. We've always had the ideas and people that were willing to work together and do the work in order to make these things happen. And now we're presented with an opportunity where in the past, it was always a funding issue. And, you know, we may be able to get over that hurdle. Yeah, with, with these monies that we'll be receiving. So, I think if we all work together to help facilitate these ideas, and to actual, you know, real things, then I think it'll be it'll be a good thing for this county. Does anybody have anything else?

**Legislator Criswell**

I'd like to actually jump if I can, because I want to go to the first couple minutes of this other meeting before Energy and Environment if that's all right.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

Yeah, I think the thing on the end of the there was a couple of housekeeping matters that, I think are on the agenda.

**Chairman Lopez**

Yes, there were some schedule changes, right.

**Legislator Criswell**

I saw those. So I'm fine with those.



**Legislator Bruno**

I got a question about them. But my question is about the June meeting being pushed to the third, if I'm not mistaken that's our caucus night for Republicans. And pardon me in June. Okay, so rescheduled June meeting to Thursday, June 3, at 5pm.

**Nettie Tomshaw**

What time's Caucus?

**Legislator Bruno**

Usually like around. Yeah, it's after that. It's after that, but I just curious as to why would then instead of the seventh, which is actually the first Monday of the month anyway.

**Nettie Tomshaw**

Well, we have that option, as well. But um, we wanted to try to piggyback it with Energy and Environment so both committees, because two people in this committee are on that committee, so we've tried to get them on the same night. So right now we're looking at Thursday. But if it's

**Legislator Bruno**

Just curious, because it seemed odd that we're pushing it. So I mean, even Energy and Environment. Why would you keep things the way they were on the first Monday of the month? That's all I'm asking.

**Nettie Tomshaw**

Yeah, I think the chairman, my understanding is kept Thursdays open for any kind of meetings like this, for example, to use it for this purpose. So

**Legislator Bruno**

Okay, I mean, I have no problem with it. I just was, I thought it was odd. That's all. We're having it earlier, just because.

**Nettie Tomshaw**

Well, it's um, it's in the same week instead of Monday it's Thursday.

**Legislator Tracey Bartels**

Isn't it because it's a holiday, they both run into holidays Al.

**Legislator Bruno**

Yeah okay.

**Legislator Bruno**

I mean, I'm not against it. I just thought it was odd. That's all, but thank you for the clarification. So do we need to vote on this or anything? I don't think so.

**Nettie Tomshaw**

No, no, it's an fyi.

**Chairman Lopez**

I got bounced out for a second. Um, did we come up with the solution to the schedule change?

**Nettie Tomshaw**

Well, Peter Criswell has left the meeting and he's good with those dates and AI had an inquiry and he's good with it too.

**Chairman Lopez**

Okay. All right. I don't think we need a vote on that.

**Nettie Tomshaw**

Abe and Laura are you okay.

**Legislator Uchitelle**

Yeah it works.

**Nettie Tomshaw**

Yeah. Okay.

**Legislator Bruno**

Make a motion we adjourn.

**Legislator Uchitelle**

I'll second that.

**Chairman Lopez**

All in favor?

**Committee Members**

Aye. Aye.

**Legislator Uchitelle**

Yeah. Nice try Marc you can't vote. He just wanted to adjourn. We get it. We get it you just got to get out of here.

**Chairman Lopez**

Alright, take care everyone.

**Legislator Bruno**

Have a good night guys.

**Nettie Tomshaw**

Okay thank you guys.