

## Public Health and Social Services Committee

### Regular Meeting Minutes

**DATE & TIME:** June 30, 2014, 6:00 PM  
**LOCATION:** Karen L. Binder, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, COB, Kingston, NY  
**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Chairman Craig V. Lopez  
**LEGISLATIVE STAFF:** Nettie Tomshaw  
**PRESENT:** Legislators Craig Lopez, Chris Allen, Carl Belfiglio, Herbert Litts  
**EXCUSED:** Jeanette Provenzano  
**QUORUM PRESENT:** Yes (Legislator Chris Allen was in attendance at 6:06PM)  
**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Erica Guerin Legislative Counsel, Lee Cane League of Women Voters, Ken Crannell Deputy County Executive

Chairman Craig Lopez called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

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**MOTION NO. 1** To Approve the Minutes of June 2, 2014  
**Motion Made By:** Legislator Litts  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Belfiglio  
**Discussion:** None  
**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Lopez, Belfiglio and Litts  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 3  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Carried

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### **RESOLUTIONS**

**MOTION NO. 2** **Resolutions No. 256 – July 15, 2014**  
**Text of Motion:** Resolve to Approve Resolution No. 256 – Amending The 2014 Ulster County Budget To Account For Unused 2013 Grant Funds – Department Of Social Services

#### **Motion / Discussion:**

Motion made to open discussion by Legislator Litts, 2<sup>nd</sup> Legislator Belfiglio.

**Discussion:** Housekeeping in nature resolution to allow for payment of 2013 & 2014 contractual obligations - whereas funding not spent in 2013 will roll into next year's budget. Federal and State dollars only – no additional County money involved.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Belfiglio  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Litts  
**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Lopez, Belfiglio and Litts  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 3  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Carried

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**MOTION NO. 3                      Resolutions No. 257 – July 15, 2014**

**Text of Motion:** Resolve to Approve Resolution No. 257 – Approving the Execution of a Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Gateway Community Industries Inc. – Department Of Social Services

**Motion / Discussion:**

Motion made to open discussion by Legislator Belfiglio, 2<sup>nd</sup> Legislator Litts.

**Discussion:** This contract is for a food stamp employment and training program, for recipients of supplemental nutritional assistance benefits (food stamps), in accordance with the Food Stamp Act of 1977 and 1985 as amended. This contract services approximately 200 clients.

Chairman Lopez along with Counsel Erica Guerin inquired as to the success rate of the program? Ken Crannell stated the contract measures two levels of employment success, whereas both levels have been met. Ken will see that the report on file with the county will be made available for committee review.

Chairman Lopez would like to reach out to CEO Francoise Dunefsky, of the Gateway Community to meet with the Health Committee to understand the whole spectrum of the organization. Ken also suggested taking a tour of Gateways facility, either in Kingston or New Paltz.

Note: Ken Crannell emailed the following additional information. Per Ken, the contract goal is to have 20% of the enrolled participants enter the workforce. For 2013, 119 participants were enrolled in the program, and 32 were employed, which is approximately 28%. Another goal in the contract is to have 40% of participants who are employed to gain more hours or a higher paying position. This is not something that has been tracked, as those referred to the program have typically been unemployed (not simply under-employed).

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Belfiglio

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Litts

<b>Voting In Favor:</b>	Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio and Litts
<b>Voting Against:</b>	None
<b>No. of Votes in Favor:</b>	4
<b>No. of Votes Against:</b>	0
<b>Disposition:</b>	Carried

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#### **MOTION NO. 4**

#### **Resolutions No. 258 – July 15, 2014**

**Text of Motion:** Resolve to Approve Resolution No. 258 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Jewish Board Of Family & Children Services Inc. – Department Of Social Services

#### **Motion / Discussion:**

Motion made to open discussion by Legislator Belfiglio, 2<sup>nd</sup> Legislator Litts.

**Discussion:** Chairman Lopez gave an overview - whereas this contract is per diem foster care & related professional services. The services provided are mandated by New York State and are paid through its Welfare Management System at New York State set rates.

The Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services is a nonprofit corporation who provides residential care and a wide range of treatment services for children in foster care programs. This corporation operates a residential treatment center, group residences and a rapid intervention center. Services include but are not limited to foster care for children with special needs, treatment and programs, professional services, life skills.

Counsel Erica Guerin along with committee members asked Ken Crannell numerous contractual related questions.

- The County currently has no children placed at this facility – last time was 2008.
- Contract time frame is on a cycle – the county uses this company's service as needed.
- The resolution / contract will provide services for two special need clients for 30 months – whereas relocating the children to this facility and provide stability.
- The State "Connections Program" tracks and reports data throughout the entire welfare system - utilized as far back as 1997 -1998.
- Extremely regulated reporting- licensed through the State Office of Children's Family Services

- DSS reviews contract for conformance
- State mandate – projecting future funds from the state will most likely be reduced.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Allen

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Litts

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio and Litts

**Voting Against:** None

**No. of Votes in Favor:** 4

**No. of Votes Against:** 0

**Disposition:** Carried

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#### **New / Old Business:**

- Guest Speaker Ida Gage, Senior Advocate did not attend tonight's meeting.
- Legislator Belfiglio followed up from last month's meeting, expressing the desire for the committee to consider touring area health care facilities such as the Northeast Center for Rehabilitation and Brain Injury Center for Special Care, in Lake Katrine. Nursing Administrator Mark Bartalodo may be available to show the facility in September and provide a conference room to hold the committee monthly meeting. Details to follow.
- Ken Crannell noted Golden Hill Nursing Home's one year anniversary under private ownership, legislative tour and luncheon. Ken and Chairman Lopez expressed the facility is making positive strides, such as the rehab unit, and felt the county's efforts have come full circle.

#### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Legislator Litts and seconded by Legislator Allen, all were in favor, and Chairman Lopez declared the meeting duly adjourned at 6:30 PM.

Dated the 21st Day of July, 2014  
 Nettie Tomshaw, Legislative Employee  
 Minutes Approved on: August 4, 2014