

Public Health and Social Services Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME: September 8, 2014, 6:00 PM

LOCATION: Karen L. Binder, 6th Floor, COB, Kingston, NY

PRESIDING OFFICER: Chairman Craig V. Lopez

LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Nettie Tomshaw

PRESENT: Legislators Craig Lopez, Chris Allen, Carl Belfiglio,
Herbert Litts arrived 6:15 PM

EXCUSED: Jeanette Provenzano

QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Erica Guerin Legislative Counsel, Ken Crannell Deputy County Executive,
Thomas P. Kadgen, Richard Engnath HTLV / XMRV National Registry, Ida
Gage Senior Advocate

Chairman Craig Lopez called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

MOTION NO. 1 To Approve the Minutes of August 4, 2014

Motion Made By: Legislator Carl Belfiglio

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Chris Allen

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 3

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

Guest Speakers:

- Richard Engnath, Founder HTLV/XMRV National Registry – Mr. Engnath came before the committee requesting a memorializing resolution supporting the publication, testing and education of HTLV viruses, state and nationwide, as both the public and medical community are unaware of this virus – as a result patient testing is ordered for the Aids virus and the HTLV virus goes untested and undetected. Mr. Engnath provided a poster covering these types of STD Retroviruses which can lead to Leukemia/Lymphoma. Mr. Engnath has submitted multiple bills to Assemblyman Peter Lopez for his consideration along with Congressman Gibson, and Senator Tkaczyk. Legislator Belfiglio suggested the committee clerk request a copy of the bills sent to state officials. Chairman Craig Lopez thanked Mr. Engnath for his presentation and devotion to this cause, however declined to support a memorializing resolution at this time pending possible bill passage already presented on the state level.
- Ida Gage, Senior Advocate – Mrs. Gage wanted to share with the committee her experience with volunteer ambulance corps vs. (ALS) Advanced Life Support Ambulances, and the ongoing double billing seniors are battling statewide. Whereas, unless volunteer ambulances contract to work together with advanced life support companies such as Mobile Life, Medicare will not reimburse a patient when a staffer from Mobile Life with advanced life support capabilities hops aboard a volunteer ambulance vehicle. Mrs. Gage provided the committee with copies of correspondence from US Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Medicare, Ambulance Corps, and articles published in local newspapers. Mrs. Gage went on to say she and many other senior citizens will now only call ALS ambulances and not 911 in an emergency. The alert monitor she wears contacts 911! Chairman Lopez recommended once the EMS Advisory Board is created, to have Mrs. Gage go before that committee as well.
- Thomas Kagen, Concerned Citizen for Safe Talk Tip Line - Mr. Kagen returned for a follow up visit with the committee in support of implementing a countywide safe talk tip line for students. Mr. Kagen provided statistics showing (3) years of alcohol, tobacco and other drug use among 11th and 12th graders. He noted the UC Mental Health Association is willing to take on such a program, whereas they may be able to include other counties in the area. Legislator Belfiglio suggested Mr. Kagen approach school district superintendents with the concept and the creation of the program. Chairman Lopez offered both he and the Chair of the Public Safety Advisory Committee, Legislator Mary Wawro, will have further discussions with Mr. Kagen as to possible program specifics and avenues to implement a tip line.

RESOLUTIONS

Note: Resolution No. 279 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Rondout Legal Services, Inc. – Department Of Social Services
(WITHDRAWN BY SPONSORS)

MOTION NO. 2**Resolutions No. 330– September 23, 2014**

Text of Motion: Resolve to Approve Resolution No. 330 – Amending The 2014 Ulster County Budget To Accept Grant Funding From The United States Department Of Housing And Urban Development (HUD) For Shelter Plus Care Programs – Department Of Social Services

Motion / Discussion:

Motion made to open discussion by Legislator Belfiglio, 2nd Legislator Litts.

Discussion: Contracts were completed last month – pass through, federal aid to be used for sponsor-based rental assistance of 48 units comprised of 33 units of single-room occupancy for individuals and 15 units for families as part of the Shelter Plus Care Programs.

Motion Made By: Legislator Belfiglio

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Litts

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

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 4

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

MOTION NO. 3**Resolutions No. 331 – September 23, 2014**

Text of Motion: Resolve to Approve Resolution No. 331 – Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The Onteora Central School District For Substance Abuse Prevention Services – Department Of Mental Health

Motion / Discussion:

Motion made to open discussion by Legislator Belfiglio, 2nd Legislator Allen.

Discussion: This resolution is for the continued ongoing operation of the NYS OASAS program for the term January 1, 2015 thru December 31, 2015 with the Onteora Central School District for various substance abuse / alcoholism prevention programs within the school – State funded.

Motion Made By: Legislator Belfiglio

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Allen

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

Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 4
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

MOTION NO. 4 Resolutions No. 332 September 23, 2014

Text of Motion: Resolve to Approve Resolution No. 332 – Amending The 2014 Ulster County Budget To Accept Additional Expanded Community Support Funds – Department Of Mental Health

Motion / Discussion:

Motion made to open discussion by Legislator Belfiglio, 2nd Legislator Allen.

Discussion: This resolution provides additional funding in the amount of \$216,976.00 for mobile crisis services - face to face clinical assessments, determines the need for psychiatric evaluation and refers individuals to our community services. There are no additional county contributions required to utilize this funding. This funding is due to the restructuring of state allocated funds within the overall mental health care system. The program is geared to have individuals in crisis be treated / stabilized outside of the hospital with the future goal of 24 hour service. An RFP will be going out.

Motion Made By: Legislator Belfiglio

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Allen

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

MOTION NO. 5 Resolutions No. 333 – September 23, 2014

Text of Motion: Resolve to Approve Resolution No. 333 – Establishing A Petty Cash Fund For Use In Tobacco Sales Compliance Enforcement - Amending The 2014 Ulster County Budget – Department Of Health

Motion / Discussion:

Motion made to open discussion by Legislator Belfiglio, 2nd Legislator Litts.

Discussion: This resolution affords money upfront for the health department compliance employee to conduct tobacco compliance checks without using their own money and being reimbursed at a later date. Twice a year the county conducts tobacco compliance checks by attempting to purchase tobacco products at retail locations throughout the county as required by its Tobacco Enforcement Grant. Legislation / information is currently in the works regarding tobacco advertising in close proximity to schools.

Motion Made By: Legislator Belfiglio

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Litts

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

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 4

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

MOTION NO. 6 Resolutions No. 338 – September 23, 2014

Text of Motion: Resolve to Approve Resolution No. 338 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Family Of Woodstock, Inc. – Department Of Social Services

Motion / Discussion:

Motion made to open discussion by Legislator Allen, 2nd Legislator Litts.

Discussion: This agreement provides support and diversion services through the Supervision and Treatment Services for the Juveniles Program (STSJP) for youth who have received Person In Need of Supervision (PINS) or Juvenile Delinquent (JD) petitions through the family court. Anger management, healthy social activities, etc. 37% Federal, 52% State, 11% County

Motion Made By: Legislator Allen

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Litts

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

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 4

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

New / Old Business: None

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Legislator Herb Litts and seconded by Legislator Chris Allen, all were in favor, and Chairman Lopez declared the meeting duly adjourned at 7:18 PM.

Dated the 15th Day of September, 2014

Nettie Tomshaw, Legislative Employee

Minutes Approved on: October 6, 2014