

**HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE ULSTER COUNTY
LEGISLATURE
MINUTES
May 22, 2008**

Present:

R. Parete J. Stoeckeler
P. Terpening K. Ronk
L. Petit J. Roberti

UCMHD: M. Beckman, E. Brown

Excused: T. Briggs **Public:** Lee Cane

Chairman Parete called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

1. The Committee approved a resolution to appoint Marian Ostrander and Joan Authenreith to the Board of Health. Dr. Ammamoo has resigned from the Board. The resolution was moved by K. Ronk, seconded by P. Terpening and approved unanimously.
2. The Committee approved a resolution to allow department heads to refuse tobacco funding other than tobacco settlement funds. The resolution was moved by K. Ronk, seconded by P. Terpening and approved unanimously.
3. The Committee approved a resolution to amend the 2008 budget to transfer funds to pay for temporary services in the UCMHD clinics. The resolution was moved by J. Stoeckeler, seconded by K. Ronk and passed unanimously.
4. The Committee approved a resolution to appoint members to the Community Services Board and subcommittees. The resolution was moved J. Stoeckeler by, seconded by P. Terpening and passed unanimously.
5. The Committee approved a resolution to amend the 2008 budget to create a Staff Psychiatrist position and increase UCMHD revenues to pay for the position. The resolution was moved by J. Stoeckeler, seconded by P. Terpening and passed with L. Petit voting no. The position is part of a pilot project partially funded by the NYS Office of Mental Health and the Institute for Family Health. The position will work in conjunction with the Institute for Family Health to provide training and consultation to the primary care doctors at the Institute to improve medication treatment for patients with mental illness. This arrangement will also improve access to primary health care services for clients of the UCMHD.
6. M. Beckman informed the Committee that the NYS Office of Mental Health has informed the County that the OMH will not participate in funding the 2007 deficit incurred by the Benedictine Adolescent Partial Hospitalization Program. UCMHD had requested funding from OMH for this purpose in the summer of 2007. At that time, M. Beckman proposed an alternative funding plan if the OMH did not agree to participate, which the Committee supported. The alternate plan is to use Federal Revenue Salary Sharing money to offset County contribution that can then be used to fund the program deficit. The total amount to be funded is \$100,000. It may be necessary to provide funding over the 2008 and 2009 contracts as the amount to be paid in any year cannot exceed the total amount of the program's deficit in that year.
7. M. Beckman reported that the Rondout School District had approach UCMHD last fall to partner with UCMHD in the creation of a FACETS position. In keeping with the Committee's desire to expand school-based treatment services, UCMHD will be including a new FACETS position in the 2009 budget for the Rondout School District. The position will be funded fully with revenues generated from billing and a contribution from the Rondout School District.

8. M. Beckman advised the Committee that pension plan contributions for UCMHD were understated for a number of years in the annual Consolidated Fiscal Report. The misstatement occurred because the information reported was taken from the payroll reports that identified the contribution as 1% of salary. In 2006, the new payroll system did not report retirement contributions. When the information was requested from the Treasurer, the amount was stated to be in excess of 10%. This led to a discussion of prior years' expenditures and revealed that the 1% figure stated in the payroll reports was a place-saver and not an accurate statement of the cost. The pension plan contribution for 2006 has been accurately reported. M. Beckman indicated that he did not believe there would be direct financial consequences to the county if prior years' reports must be modified, but would not know for certain until such situation arises. The Committee will be kept informed of any developments in this matter.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward J. Brown, Ph. D.

Deputy Director, Ulster County Mental Health Department