

Minutes

Human Services Committee

February 20, 2019, 5:15 pm, Room 331

Gerace Office Building, Mayville, NY

Members Present: Wilfong, Whitford, O'Connell, Pavlock

Member Absent: Rankin

Others: Tampio, Ames, Chagnon, Himelein, Dennison, Melquist, Schuyler, Lis

Chairman Wilfong called the meeting to order at 5:23 p.m.

Approval of Minutes (01/16/19)

MOVED by Legislator Whitford, SECONDED by Legislator O'Connell

*Unanimously Carried*

Privilege of the Floor

*No one chose to speak at this time*

---

Proposed Motion- In Support of Additional State Funding For the NYS Office for the Aging

Mr. Melquist: First off, I would like to thank Paul and Elisabeth for sponsoring the motion. Just some background on it- the Governor included about \$50 million in his state budget to distribute to the counties around New York State to reduce the waiting list for services. Currently, we have a little over 200 people on our waiting list- about 250. At one point it was over 400. This additional state funding is currently set up to be distributed based on the waiting list. So, if you have 400 people you get more money. If you 100, you get less. There's opposition against it, just so you have some background where they want to use the funding formula that they use to distribute the money currently for all of our funding sources, which the comparison between those two is if it's by need, we'll get between \$400,000 and \$600,000 with no local match to reduce our waiting list. If they go by the funding formula we'll get about \$120,000 or so. That's just some background on it. No local match, like I mentioned. Medicaid cap- they're thinking about \$34 million in savings to basically keep people out of nursing homes. And the other last bit of information from it is if this stays in the budget and we get that \$400,000-\$600,000, we'll probably be coming back at a later date to try to get additional case managers for our department in order to handle that funding. Otherwise there is no way we could meet the need and use the funding. So, that's the background on it.

Chairman Wilfong: OK. Any questions on this? Alright my friend, thank you so much. I appreciate it.

Proposed Resolution- Appoint Jail Medical Director

Mrs. Schuyler: Good evening. As is required by Section 501 of the Correction Law and Section 7010.2A of New York Codes and Regulations, a registered physician needs to be appointed as medical director for the Chautauqua County Jail. So, this is to appoint Dr. Brian Walters to that position. It formerly had been Dr. Berke and now with the addition of Dr. Walters and Dr. Faulk. We were asking for that to be transferred- the responsibility to Dr. Walters.

Chairman Wilfong: OK. Alright, any questions?

Legislator Pavlock: What are the expected hours of this position? I'm just curious because I don't know.

Mrs. Schuyler: I'm thinking he's- both he and Dr. Faulk have come on as part-time salaried physicians. So, there really aren't set hours. I believe they are both .65 FTE each and that is split between Emergency Services because they both are still every other day for Emergency Services with Dr. Faulk as the designated medical director and every other day for covering the jail with Dr. Walters as the medical director, every other day for coroners physicians- which there is no medical director per say for those programs.

Legislator Whitford: And that would be flexible based on case load?

Mrs. Schuyler: Right. One of them is on call 24 hours every other day- every day one of them is on call. There is also administrative time requirements for policies and procedures, staff meetings, there's trainings that they are both going to have to attend for all of the programs that they're overseeing.

Ms. Lis: All of that was included in their budgeted salary, we're just doing the paperwork to have this happen now, but it was planned that he would do that within his salary that's already budgeted.

Legislator O'Connell: How long has Dr. Walters been involved with (*inaudible?*)

Mrs. Schuyler: In our jail, he hasn't been. He and Dr. Faulk have been medical directors or medical command for emergency services for several years. Dr. Walters is also the medical director for the Cattaraugus County jail, so he's very familiar with correctional health, so I think that's going to be a big bonus for us. I think he'll be a big supporter for our nurse practitioner, who's really the one who's there day to day providing medical care.

Legislator O'Connell: He will maintain that position still for Cattaraugus County?

Mrs. Schuyler: Yeah, he's part-time there and part-time here.

Legislator O'Connell: Does he have a private practice?

Mrs. Schuyler: No. He and Dr. Faulk both pick up shifts in emergency departments, which is a bonus because they need to keep their medical skills up. So, I don't know when exactly they sleep, but they are both very busy. Dr. Berke has been a medical director at the jail for many years and he's had his full-time family practice.

Chairman Wilfong: Anymore questions? All in favor of this resolution please say aye. Opposed?

*Unanimously Carried*

Proposed Resolution- Amend Chautauqua County Health & Human Services 2019  
Budget for Rollover of HUD Lead Hazard Reduction  
Demonstration Grant Funding

Ms. Lis: You'll see that there's no budget affect for this. We're bringing over revenue and the equal amount of the expenditures. Our HUD grant has been going on for several years. The work started a little more slowly than expected. The grant was supposed to end last August, but we were allowed to extend our work into the end of April of 2019 to finish up properties that have already been identified as needing this work and were all set to go. We were just given that extra time to finish the work we already had approved. So, we hadn't spent all the grant funds up through the end of last year and we hadn't budgeted any for this year because at budget time this grant was finished and we didn't know they were going to extend it for us. So, we're just bringing over the remainder into this year so that we can finish up the work.

Legislator O'Connell: This amount is the unused amount from last year?

Mrs. Schuyler: Yes. We subcontract this program with CHRIC. We as the government agency have to apply. We have to be the lead agency to get these grants and we subcontract with CHRIC to actually do the remediation work that's required.

Chairman Wilfong: Any comments? Any questions? All in favor of this resolution please say aye. Opposed?

*Unanimously Carried*

Proposed Resolution- Amend 2018 Budget for Year End Reconciliations –  
Health and Human Services

Ms. Lis: This is basic- realigning our revenue and expense accounts for any appropriation accounts that are over budget. You'll see that we have found- we aren't asking for any fund balance or anything on that. A lot of it is payroll, where people were budgeted to work in certain areas, but based on the grants they were in that changed and they worked in other areas. That's the majority of it. Some of it is the State training school- we had a lot more budgeted there than

we needed, but we didn't have- we had foster care that was higher. It depends on how the children were placed. So, we moved within related accounts. Sometimes it was between environmental and lead- they are the same people, they just may work different percentages of the time on different jobs. It's just in general items like that. I don't know if anything in particular stands out to you that you wonder about?

Legislator Whitford: What caused the surplus in (*inaudible?*)

Ms. Lis: What that one is- that is- that matches with the contractual extra charges for lead testing up above. I believe that we were over budget on that account and when we're over budget the revenues and expenditures are the same as that HUD grant. Again, it's 100% funded. So, we brought in the expenditures that we needed to and we brought the revenue to go with it.

Legislator Pavlock: Some of the items are- there's quite a bit of money that needed to be transferred. So, for instance the contractual child care- why was that one so far over?

Mrs. Schuyler: It all depends on where children are placed. It's hard to guess how many children are going to be in relative foster homes, general foster homes, therapeutic foster homes, institutionalized care, or if they go to state training, which is the OCFS facilities. So, we came in under on our guess of what we would need for state training and what we needed for regular foster care.

Ms. Lis: One of the things is that it also depends if that particular one is one of our foster care program funding streams and then below we're decreasing another one by \$497,000. So, it all depends on what the child is eligible for. So, we can't really guess that as well as you'd expect.

Legislator Pavlock: That's why I asked. So, that one was over estimated based on prior years?

Ms. Lis: We based it on trends and it just turned out that we had different levels of eligibility in the two programs, so the money just flip flopped between the two and that's what I'm saying- that a lot of this is just a lot of flip flopping that we generally could find a place where it had been budgeted and it just wound up needing to go elsewhere because of program eligibility or other reasons.

Chairman Wilfong: Alright, anymore questions?

Mrs. Dennison: I just want to make sure that you're working off the amended version?

Chairman Wilfong: Yes. I'll entertain a motion to amend the resolution?

Legislator O'Connell: I'll make the motion.

Legislator Pavlock: Second.

Chairman Wilfong: All in favor? Opposed?

*Unanimously Carried to Amend*

Chairman Wilfong: Now we have to vote on the resolution. Are there any other questions for the ladies? All in favor of this resolution as amended please say aye. Opposed?

*Unanimously Carried as Amended*

Proposed Resolution- Amend 2018 Budget for Year End Reconciliations –  
Office for the Aging

Mr. Melquist: This resolution is pretty straight forward. We are decreasing our personnel line for our budget and increasing our contractual costs. Just some background on it- our personnel costs ended up being over-estimated for 2018. We had a few budgeted promotions that didn't go through and that saved us some funding. Our senior aid positions, we have to budget as if they are going to work 40 hours every two weeks for the amount we have placed. It doesn't always happen. It varies; it's a revolving door, so that did save us some funding. We had a resignation in February of last year that saved us about six or seven months' worth because we weren't able to fill the position until October. One position ended up not getting filled, which saved personnel funding. So, throughout the year we were trying to ramp up contractual spending under our federal and state funding sources to reduce that, which we did do by about 150 or so people throughout the year. That resulted in contractual costs to numerous subcontractors increasing. That's pretty much the background of it.

Chairman Wilfong: OK. Any questions? All those in favor of this resolution please say aye. Opposed?

*Unanimously Carried*

Proposed Resolution- Amend 2018 Budget for Year End Reconciliations –  
Veterans Service Agency

Mrs. Dennison: Director Carlson could not be here this evening, so I'm going to speak on his behalf. There was a slight overrun in the benefits costs for Veteran's Services Agency and the reason for the \$3,032 overage is that there was a change in the health insurance after the 2018 budget was prepared. He has a small department, as you know, and the people in the high deductible health plan- when the budget was prepared the assumption was that the County would fund only a portion of the deductible and then it was decided at the end of 2017 that for 2018 the County would pay 100% of the deductible. So, that caused his budget to be over. He did have a small savings in the contractual costs, but we were not able to balance the budget completely within Veteran's Services Agency, so we are borrowing \$209- or proposing to borrow \$209 of the budget surplus from Community College tuition. The Community College tuition account ended the year with a surplus of about \$386,000, so there is some budgeted funds there that could be essentially transferred to cover \$209 of an overrun in Veteran's Services.

Chairman Wilfong: Any questions?

Legislator O'Connell: Is it normal to have that much surplus in the Community College tuition?

Mrs. Dennison: It has historically had quite a surplus, yes. We budget it based on an estimated number of students, but we don't have a lot of control over-

Legislator O'Connell: Tuition and everything is increasing?

Mrs. Dennison: We have to pay a portion of the tuition for any of our residents wherever they go, so I believe it's more just a function of the number of students rather than the costs per student. There has been a decrease in the number of students.

Chairman Wilfong: OK. Any questions? All those in favor of this resolution please say aye. Opposed?

*Unanimously Carried*

MOVED by Legislator Whitford, SECONDED by Legislator Pavlock to adjourn.

*Unanimously Carried (5:42 p.m.)*

Respectfully submitted and transcribed,  
Olivia L. Ames, Committee Secretary+