

Minutes

Human Services Committee

September 18, 2019, 5:15 pm, Room 331

Gerace Office Building, Mayville, NY

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

Member Absent: Rankin

Others: Tampio, Ames, Schuyler, Lis, Starks, B. Starks, Chagnon, D. Anderson, Dennison, Proctor, Odell,

Chairman Wilfong called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

Approval of Minutes (08/21/19)

MOVED by Legislator Whitford, SECONDED by Legislator Pavlock

Unanimously Carried

Privilege of the Floor

No one chose to speak at this time

Proposed Resolution – Confirm Appointment – Chautauqua County Health Board

Mrs. Schuyler: Dr. Elizabeth Kidder is who is being recommended for appointment to the Board of Health and she is a practicing physician at the Chautauqua Center. Our fairly qualified health center. She also has a Master's in Public Health and she is a provider also of mental health and substance abuse services and brings a great deal of research background and just very well rounded addition to the Board of Health. The Board of Health actually formally requested that she be recommended to join the Board.

Legislator Pavlock: Is this a new position or filling a vacant spot?

Mrs. Schuyler: It's a Board. Actually the Board was expanded to more members so she's in addition but I do expect a retirement not too much longer too.

Chairman Wilfong: Any discussion?

Unanimously Carried

Proposed Resolution – Amend Chautauqua County Department of Health & Human Services
2019 Budget for Increased Raise the Age Voluntary Agency Costs

Ms. Lis: We didn't budget much for, we didn't budget anything for the Raise the Age kids going into outside agencies because we knew when the time came, we would see how many there were and that there would be no net budget effect because it's 100% covered by State funds. So, we did finally get some bills for some kids. They started going in around March or April but the bills all came in, in one big huge lump. So through July, we had spent about \$250,000 on these three kids. It's going to run about \$818,000 by the end of the year for those three kids. Then we said, o.k., based on our information, the statistics that the State provided, what they expect us to see, I added one more 16 year old for the rest of the year, September through December and five 17 year olds, because 17 year olds come in, in October. So that would only be through October through December. So I came up with a million five. It's a big number but I thought it would be best to estimate it fairly, not loosely, but give us room there so we wouldn't have to come back again with a later resolution for the same thing. Hopefully we won't have those kids but that was the statistics that they came up with when they added us to the plan.

Legislator O'Connell: How many individuals were in this?

Ms. Lis: There is three in there right now.

Mrs. Schuyler: Raise the Age went into effect last October 1st, raising the age of criminal responsibility incrementally so last October 1st, it went to – the 16 year olds are considered youth and now come this October 1st, the 17 year olds will be considered youths instead of being treated as adult offenders. All expenses are to be 100% reimbursed by the State.

Ms. Lis: You might notice, I wrote in the MIS that how it works is that they are going to want us to go for the Federal money first and then they will make up the difference. We don't have any idea what that proportion will be. It depends on what those kids are eligible for so we just budgeted in a State revenue because we really don't know.

Mrs. Schuyler: Meaning if some children are in Foster Care and they are eligible for 4-E, Federal 4-E reimbursement then that has to come through first and then other stuff. This 100% reimbursement is like the payer of last resort.

Ms. Lis: So there is three now and I'm expecting, according to what the State thinks, I put in for one more 16 year old and five 17 year olds but they won't show up until October 1st.

Legislator O'Connell: And this is the high end of what you expect (*cross talk*) should be?

Ms. Lis: Yes, I certainly hope so. We're hoping not to have kids go into these facilities.

Legislator Whitford: What is the bulk of that money spent on for these three children that you are talking, \$250,000 up to \$800,000 by the end of the year. It seems like quite an exorbitant amount of money for three children.

Mrs. Schuyler: It is. The cost of having children in any sort of facility whether it's a OCFS custody, OCFS facility or a volunteer agency, it's extremely expensive so that's why all we can do to keep kids in the community the better off we are for many reasons including financial. Volunteer agencies charge by the day and it depends on which agency the child is in and that depends on what their needs are. So, various agencies specialize in different source of therapies, different source of modalities that they offer and they also have different levels of care depending on what the security needs of the child and protection of the staff. So there are different levels and different rates of each one of the agencies.

Ms. Lis: I believe Raise the Age was about \$1,800 a day or something like that. It's room and board and tuition and anything extra that they may need. It's a lot of money.

Mrs. Schuyler: But they are there 24/7 for however long they need to be there for.

Legislator O'Connell: Are these services provided in Chautauqua County or neighboring counties?

Mrs. Schuyler: No.

Ms. Lis: There is only those few Raise the Age facilities. These are in Wyoming County.

Mrs. Schuyler: Yea, the Raise the Age facilities are – the Volunteer Agencies, we have locally are like the GA Home in Jamestown as a local volunteer agency and also a therapeutic Foster Home agency. The New Directions in Randolph is another volunteer agency that is more local but the Raise the Age facilities, there are very few of them across the State because they had to have all these new special requirements that the State laid down for these certain offenders.

Ms. Lis: And they segregated them as well.

Mrs. Schuyler: No, they are not near here.

Chairman Wilfong: Any other questions?

Unanimously Carried

Proposed Resolution – Amend Chautauqua County Department of Health & Human Services
2019 Budget for County Coroners' Autopsy Costs

Ms. Lis: This one again, there is no net budget effect on it because what we are doing is, we are decreasing our Safety Net expenditures and the related revenue to offset this expense increase. What this is, is, autopsies that have come in higher than expected.

Mrs. Schuyler: I have the spread sheet sitting there on my desk and walked out without all the numbers of, how many cases per day, how many autopsies. I think that we've had a 196 cases to date for 2019 and I believe it was 61 autopsies out of those cases which means, 61

transports as well to the Erie County Medical Examiner's office for autopsies. We have fewer cases than we have in the past under the previous model of the program but we are seeing more autopsies but that's established by Public Health Law, what cases need to be autopsied.

Mrs. Dennison: There is a small typo in the resolution. In the last section under Decrease Revenue Account, if we could please insert four dashes between 6140 and R464. It should be A.6140.----.R364.0000. That would indicate that there is no sub-department and it would be the same for both of the line items.

Chairman Wilfong: We can treat that as a typo. Any questions?

Unanimously Carried

Legislator Pavlock: I guess I do have one question. Who does the transports for the Coroners?

Mrs. Schuyler: Any body that needs transport to Erie County Medical Examiner's office is the only thing we transport for, we went out for an RFP, an all comers RFP so there is a certain rate so any of the funeral directors, really, because they are the ones licensed and able to transport bodies, who wanted to could put in for it. So there's maybe 6 transporters throughout the County and that does include the three coroners who are also funeral directors. That's the new contract that just came through. The new coroner also put in to transport. So they are able to do that and take off the coroner hat and put on the funeral director hat on (*inaudible*) time wise for everyone at the scene.

Legislator O'Connell: Are they assigned cases on a geographical area or are they just (*cross talk*)...

Mrs. Schuyler: The coroners or the transports?

Legislator O'Connell: The transports.

Mrs. Schuyler: It's whoever is closest. Time is normally of the essence. Someone is dead it's not like that kind of essence but it is when you have first responders and law enforcement, people tied up at the scene to get there so we go with the closest transporter and if that happens to be the coroner who is also a funeral director, then they can just take it and go.

Chairman Wilfong: Thank you ladies.

Proposed Motion - Proclaiming September 2019 as Hunger Action Month in Chautauqua County

Chairman Wilfong: Any discussion on that?

Discussion – Temporary Assistance Report - Diane Anderson & Christine Schuyler

Discussion – Community Child Care – Beth Starks

Other

Proposed Motion – Supporting Adoption of Senate Bill S.428-A and Assembly Bill A.47-A by New York State Legislature Regarding the Prohibition of the Sale and Distribution of Flavored E-Liquid for use in E-Cigarettes

Chairman Wilfong: I think the Governor already signed this into law this morning.

Mrs. Schuyler: I did speak with Chairman Wendel this morning about this because yesterday the Governor cited emergency regulations which makes that go into effect for 90 days and then if its extended, then it will be longer. The feeling is, it really was to give the Legislature time to then hopefully pass the legislation. The Governor's office didn't want to wait for the legislative process so then they put through the emergency regulations but those are only temporary. So I would say, if this Legislature is in support of that piece of legislation that it would still be good to lend the support. We do have a Board of Health meeting tomorrow night and that is one of the things we will be discussing, vaping in general plus the pending legislation. If the Board of Health puts their support forward for that, we will also be issuing a letter from the Board supporting this legislation.

Chairman Wilfong: Alright, thank you so much. Anything else?

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

Unanimously Carried (6:09 p.m.)

Respectfully submitted and transcribed,
Olivia Ames, Deputy Clerk/Lori J. Foster, Sr. Stenographer