

Present: Legislators Young, Clattenburg, Deleo, Dibble, Also Present: Legislators Stein, Torrey, Bausch, Maha, Legislature Clerk Pamela LaGrou, County Manager Jay Gsell, Health Department Director Paul Pettit, Early Intervention Coordinator Deb Krenzer-Lewter, OFA Director Ruth Spink, County Attorney Kevin Earl, Mallory Deiffenbach-The Daily News, Norm Pimm -Ag Society, Mercy Flight Reps Larry Baumgart, Pam McCarthy, Ashley Coder, OACS Government students Shelby & Rebecca

Human Services Chair Young called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm in the Legislative Conference Room at the Old Courthouse.

Minutes of the April 1, 2019 meeting were approved upon motion of Legislator Clattenburg seconded by Legislator Dibble, carried unanimously.

Health Director Paul Pettit stated the Department was notified of a \$21,560 grant award to be used to support the local petroleum product quality program. The grant period is April 1, 2019 through March 31, 2024 for an annual amount of \$4,312. The department must upfront the costs with reimbursement from the State to follow. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Deleo seconded by Legislator Clattenburg, carried unanimously.

Mr. Pettit explained the department request for an agreement with the National Environmental Health Association for a 10-week summer intern. There is no cost to the County. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Clattenburg seconded by Legislator Dibble, carried unanimously.

Mr. Pettit introduced Early Intervention Coordinator Deb Krenzer-Lewter who provided a powerpoint presentation summarizing the program. The program began in 1992 and each New York County has an Early Intervention Program mandated by the Federal Government (unfunded mandate). Beginning April 1, 2013, NYS Department of Health took over contracting with EI providers along with paying providers and submitting claims to insurance providers (including Medicaid). Now, whatever is not paid by Medicaid and third party insurance providers is paid by County Escrow dollars. The 2017 Escrow payment was \$265,700 and 2018 was \$308,500. Since the County Escrow covers the difference there is no incentive to resubmit to Medicaid and third party insurance when a claim is denied or ignored. Payment reimbursement for Genesee County; third party insurance 3.6%, Medicaid 54%, Escrow 40% and pending claims 2.4%. Ms. Krenzer-Lewter explained that many providers have left the program now that they have to do the billing themselves. There is a waitlist in Genesee County due to fewer providers, lower reimbursement rates and having to bill themselves. Initially, it was thought that the State taking over the program would be beneficial to the County however, due to the Escrow Fund covering what is not been reimbursed through insurance, it is costing the County more.

Office for the Aging Director Ruth Spink explained her request for a contract renewal for consumer directed in-home services with Willcare, Inc. to serve as the Fiscal Intermediary for these services. There is a growing need for in-home care and the newly revised state regulations allow for a consumer directed option for in-home services. This was approved for placement on

the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Dibble seconded by Legislator Deleo, carried unanimously.

Ms. Spink explained that a new stream of funding was included in the 2019-20 NYS Budget. The NYS OFA and the Association on Aging in NY advocated for additional funding as part of the Aid to Localities budget. Genesee County has been allocated \$243,432 for the 2019-2020 budget and there is no County match required. These additional funds are to be used to reduce reported unmet community-based service needs and help residents maintain their autonomy and reduce or eliminate people reported to be waiting for service. Ms. Spink further stated she plans to retire in January 2020 and is requesting a salary schedule amendment to add a full-time case manager grade 16 and a full-time temporary deputy director. The deputy director position will get eliminated upon her retirement. The case manager position will cover the case management needs of clients accompanying these funds. This was referred to Ways & Means with a recommendation for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Dibble seconded by Legislator Deleo, carried unanimously.

Mr. Norm Pimm of the Ag Society reported there were 30,000 in attendance at the Genesee County Fair last year (2018). They are contracting with a new midway provider, Straights Midway, who has been utilized by other larger Fairs. The length of the Fair will be increased this year to 8 days, running from July 13-20. They have expanded the camping area and are working with Soil & Water on a Stacking Pad (for animal waste). Youth programs continue to expand and last year 4-H premiums paid out were \$4,200, costs for judges were \$4,000 and prizes and ribbons amounted to \$4,000. There has been an increase in animal shows conducted at the Fair Grounds resulting in the facility and grounds getting more use.

County Manager Jay Gsell presented a resolution for a contract with the Ag Society for \$11,000 for 2019 for use with prize premiums and judges fees. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Clattenburg seconded by Legislator Dibble, carried unanimously.

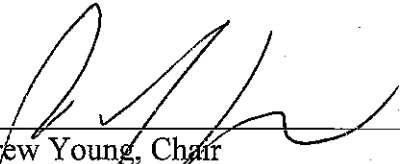
Mercy Flight representatives Larry Baumgart, Ashley Coder and Pam McCarthy highlighted growth and challenges faced by Mercy Flight this past year. Call numbers increased and include 151 requests for helicopter ambulance service with 63 patient missions completed. The ground ambulance base of operations received 9,423 requests for service in and around Genesee County. They completed 7,187 patient transports. Their biggest challenge is recruitment. This is a challenge nationwide.

Mr. Gsell presented a resolution for a contract with Mercy Flight for 2019 at a funding level of \$12,825 which is the same as last year. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Clattenburg seconded by Legislator Deleo, carried unanimously.

Mr. Gsell reported that he was recently made aware of OFA Director Spink's plan to retire in January 2020 and will work with Ms. Spink, HR Director and the Human Services Committee on a schedule and plan for her replacement.

The next meeting of the Human Services Committee is June 3, 2019.

The meeting adjourned at 5:43 pm upon motion of Legislator Clattenburg seconded by Legislator Deleo, carried unanimously.



Andrew Young, Chair
Human Services Committee
Submitted 5/1/19 phl