



# HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Time: 10:00 am

Location: ontariocountyny.webex.com

and

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Committee Room, 74 Ontario Street, Canandaigua, NY 14424

May 22, 2023

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

- |                         |                            |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| ○ Chairman Dan Marshall | ○ Supervisor Tammie Hicks  |
| ○ Supervisor Norm Teed  | ○ Supervisor Jared Simpson |
| ○ Supervisor Fred Wille | ○ Supervisor Jim Kennedy   |

A quorum was present.

**OTHERS PRESENT** in addition to Committee members:

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|--|--|
| ○ Chris DeBolt, County Administrator                 | ○ Mary Beer, Public Health Director                          |
| ○ Barry McFadden, First Assistant County Attorney    | ○ Kate Ott, Dir. of Preventive Services                      |
| ○ Eileen Tiberio, Director of DSS                    | ○ Matthew Hanggi, Public Health Nurse - Communicable Disease |
| ○ Triciajean Jones, Director of Office for the Aging | ○ Tom Gillette, resident, Town of E. Bloomfield              |
| ○ Marsha Foote, Youth Bureau Director                | ○ Diane Foster, Deputy Clerk to the BOS                      |

**OTHERS PRESENT via WebEx**

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|---|---|
| ○ Mary Gates, Finance Director                    | ○ Andrew Wickham, Vice Chair, BOS                 |
| ○ Dr. Jessica Mitchell, Dir. of Mental Health     | ○ Susan Smith, Veterans Services Director         |
| ○ Mike Sykes, Sr. Workforce Development Counselor | ○ Shelly Gray, Sr. Fiscal Manager, DSS Accounting |
|   | ○ A. Yacci  |

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Dan Marshall called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**APPROVAL of MINUTES**

A motion to approve the May 1, 2023 meeting minutes was made by Supervisor Teed, seconded by Supervisor Hicks. The motion carried.

**PUBLIC HEALTH**

Mary Beer introduced Matt Hanggi as their new communicable disease public health nurse.  
Ms. Beer noted for accreditation purposes, she will be providing a link to their policies at the next meeting cycle.

**MENTAL HEALTH**

Dr. Mitchell had no updates for the Committee.

**OFFICE FOR THE AGING**

*Resolution: Authorization to Contract with Blooming Health for Remote Communication*

Triciajean Jones presented a resolution to contract with Blooming Health. They are looking to go from a fee for service to a flat rate.

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Supervisor Kennedy, seconded by Supervisor Wille. The motion carried.

*Updates*

Ms. Jones gave the following updates:

- On Friday they recognized fifteen volunteers from the County at their annual Senior of the Year Awards. They had a great turnout and was the first on in person in three years.
- They just wrapped up two financial management programs they did with their Seniors in Law Enforcement Together (SALT) council with the Sheriff's Department. They had 20 participants at both programs. They are looking to do another series in the fall.
- There is a concern in that they are seeing more homeless aging individuals coming in for help. This is a change for them.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They have about 30 people on their home delivered meal delivery. They have volunteers, but need to get them through the vetting process.</li> </ul>
<b>YOUTH BUREAU</b>	
	Marsh Foote requested from the Supervisors to hear from them in regards to cannabis in their area, and any stores or issues that they are seeing.
<b>DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES</b>	
<i>Updates</i>	<p>Eileen Tiberio said she spent three days at the annual meeting with the DSS Commissioners and their state oversight partners discussing different issues. The following discussions were regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homelessness and Housing being the biggest topic. They have to envision a different way of dealing with this because what has been the rules and options is not working and is failing everywhere.</li> <li>• Raising the grant allocations.</li> <li>• The state will continue to fund the initiative for the rent subsidy program.</li> <li>• The state takeover of Medicaid administration and the dual eligibility of Medicaid and Medicare. The state will be taking over the rest of the case load and plans to have all the eligibility by 2027.</li> <li>• The state of civil service and bringing people in without going through civil service.</li> </ul>
<b>WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT</b>	
<i><b>Resolution:</b> Authorization for Contract with Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board, Inc. for WIOA Title I Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth Programs</i>	<p>Eileen Tiberio presented a resolution to contract with Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board for the WIOA title I Adult, Dislocated Worker and the Youth Programs.</p> <p>A motion to approve the resolution was made by Supervisor Kennedy, seconded by Supervisor Hicks. The motion carried.</p> <p>The summer youth programs are ramping up.</p>
<b>VETERANS' SERVICES</b>	
	Susan Smith announced with Monday being Memorial Day, a lot of the local veteran associations are heading little ceremonies. The Canandaigua and Phelps American Legion at 10 am in the morning are having a little memorial service.
<b>COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR</b>	
<i>Updates</i>	<p>County Administrator Chris DeBolt gave the following updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The community liaison coming out of the Campbell Commission is moving forward; the selection of that consultant is beginning to be operationalized.</li> <li>• They had the three stakeholder meetings for the housing group. He thanked all the supervisors who attended. He said the interim housing report is on the County website. The input from the stakeholders' group was informative as the consultants work with the team to start to develop recommendations and potential solutions to put forward.</li> <li>• The stance that the office of Cannabis Management has taken from the state; the standpoint right before April 20<sup>th</sup>, there were a series of "tweets" from the Office of Cannabis Management to make sure to get your order of Cannabis in prior to April 20<sup>th</sup> and these kinds of things. He said it is troublesome that a state regulatory authority for all cannabis is promoting the use. They are supposed to regulate it and they are supposed to be aware of the negative externalities of the behavior that they are allowing.</li> <li>• There has been a significant amount of conversation at multiple levels of the organization regarding asylum seekers from NYC to upstate counties. He was</li> </ul>

on three statewide calls with other counties about the issue. He said one of the issues is these asylum seekers presented in NYC first, so NYC has the obligation to pay for their housing and services. As they have relocated them into other counties with the lower Hudson Valley, the obligation of NYC to continue to provide for those individuals remains. NYC has spent over a 1 billion dollars on care for the asylum seekers in the last 6 months to a year. In the most recently adopted state budget, the state budgeted 1 million dollars to go right to NYC to continue to pay for those efforts. He said 50% of the total hotel rooms in NYC is occupied by asylum seekers and that is putting a pinch on the general functioning of a city that size, particularly their tourism and visitor industry, but as well as business and conferences and those kinds of things. That is what prompted the Adams administration to start looking to relocate some of these individuals to other communities. The caveat regarding NYC to being obligated to continue to support those individuals, even when they are relocated to another county, only lasts until those individuals have what they call a break. To Mr. DeBolt's understanding, as an example, if they are put in a hotel in Rockland County, NYC continues to pay for those individuals until the individual spends 1 night away from the accommodations that were arranged by NYC, that becomes the break. When they come back, they are presenting as homeless in Rockland County and Rockland County then would have to assume the financial obligation. He said they have had promises from the Adams administration and the Governor that no groups of asylum seekers will be sent to a community without a heads up to that community. He said a number of upstate counties are in a similar situation as we are in terms of struggling to house our own homeless population. DSS Commissioner Eileen Tiberio said the idea would be that it wouldn't be on the receiving county to manage the accommodations. It's up to NYC to make all those arrangements before the people show up. Ms. Tiberio said for the county, it is more about the infrastructure rather than about the location, because then what do you do with food and with all the other stuff that goes along with homeless people. Mr. DeBolt gave another example, but not part of this, about 6 months ago, at least 200 asylum seekers opted to go to Jamestown in Chautauqua County and were relocated there. The County Executive there said those families have been doing all the right things. They got their kids enrolled in school and each one showed up to their initial court appearance. The issue is their actual court appearance is not scheduled until 15 months later. The families have 15 months until they go to court, they wanted to know how do they work? The federal rules are that they can't work while waiting adjudication of their immigration asylum. The Governor's office has indicated there is some conversation with our federal delegation and specifically with Senator Schumer, if there is an opportunity for a waiver or some kind of an amendment to that process. From Chautauqua County's example, they were doing the right things, but difficult for the public schools, because it was all non-English speaking students, and the schools were doing their best to make sure they had adequate translation services. Mr. DeBolt stressed he has had good communication with the Governor's office and through the Governor's office with the Adams administration and the city. He thinks they realize if this is not done in coordination with the locals, it doesn't work for anybody. He said they have assurances that there will be communication and he will to trust those assurances for now. Mr. DeBolt said last week they didn't know enough to declare a state of emergency. He said it is at the Chairman's discretion as well. The counties that first declared a state of emergency have been sued by

	<p>the Governor and by the NYCLU. He said he is not sure how they would enforce it if they did declare a state of emergency. He said the Department of Homeland Security staff toured most if not all of the upstate SUNY campuses last week. They have been told the surveys were of the dorm facilities with the potential for the dorms to house asylum seekers, specifically over the summer when students are not utilizing those facilities. Mr. DeBolt said Ontario County does not have a SUNY home dorm. Both Chris DeBolt and Eileen Tiberio do not think Ontario County is on the high priority list because they don't have some of the infrastructure that the state is trying to utilize for this. Chairman Marshall asked if the operator of a hotel is obligated. Ms. Tiberio said no, they are not obligated, but the state or NYC might pay a much higher rate than what DSS could pay and be able to pay and guarantee 100 percent occupancy. Supervisor Teed stated his objection to having the asylum seekers even coming. Supervisor Kennedy recognizes the measured response that we are taking and support that. Supervisor Simpson asked what the ramifications of the law suits would be. Chris DeBolt said it would invalidate the order, but they could not say what the specific ramifications would be. Mary Beer stated the Public Health Association has requested that the State Health Commissioner declare it a public health threat and she is very concerned with especially TB. Supervisor Hicks said it will be a problem if our homeless gets displaced, then we would have an emergency situation.</p>
<b>NEXT MEETING DATE</b>	
	Monday, June 12, 2023 at 10:00 am.
<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>	Being there was no further business to come before the committee; a motion to adjourn was made by Supervisor Teed at 10:42 am, seconded by Supervisor Kennedy. The motion carried.
Respectfully Submitted, Diane Foster, Deputy Clerk to the Board	