

MINUTES

HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Monday, February 1, 2021 10:00 a.m.

Present: Supervisor Jacobs, County Administrator Rick House, Fiscal Assistant Ken Blake, Via Zoom Supervisors Emmel, Groat, Kolczynski and Bender, Mental Health Director Jim Haitz, Deputy Director Ed Hunt, Nursing Home Administrator Jeffrey Stalker, Nursing Home Comptroller Barbara Keefe and Public Health Director Diane Devlin.

Minutes from the January 4th Committee meeting were approved as written.

Mr. Haitz presented financial reports. The Department billed for over \$6 million in 2020, with 91.3% of these revenues received. Total Department revenues received from all sources through December were \$10.4 million, total expenses \$8.7 million, reflecting a profit of \$1.74 million. The remaining OMH Forensic Hospitalization 2020 expenses (about \$70,000) have been encumbered for payment from the 2020 budget. Department performance during the past year was higher than anticipated, providing nearly 70,000 units of service to 4,165 individuals.

Nearly 18,000 individuals entered the Health Services Building between May & December 2020 and received the COVID-19 screening/temperature check; this number does not include staff members working in the building (they received a separate dialing screening) or the individuals who entered to building for COVID vaccine appointments.

Mr. Haitz and Mr. Hunt are participating in as many police reform and reinvention meetings as possible, which so far include five police departments and municipalities. Mental Health staff have participated in Implicit Bias Training and Mitigation of Bias Training. The December activities report included a list of meetings attended by Mr. Haitz and staff. Mr. Haitz said recruitment to fill vacant positions for therapists has been challenging and the competition for candidates is strong. The County's hire rate is comparatively lower than the State's, Veteran's Administration, area hospitals, and some surrounding counties, compared to what they offer as a starting salary.

Included with the agenda was the monthly financial/statistical report for the Nursing Home. The cash fund balance as of the end of 2020 was \$12.6 million; this number reflects the recent transfer of matured T-bills into the account. Expenses were more than revenues in December, as retirement costs of \$1.3 million were taken out this month for the entire year. Also included are \$140,666 in COVID expenses. Ms. Keefe reported the Facility received an IGT payment at the beginning of January for \$1.6 million that was accrued into 2020. The occupancy rate for December was 90.36% with 10 admissions, ending the year with a 93.1% occupancy rate; again a low rate due to COVID restrictions. The overall Medicare 5-star rating at the Nursing Home remains at three. There are 61 open positions at the Facility, 24 nursing openings and 31 aide openings.

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Mr. Stalker presented the following transmittals:

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign an agreement with KSL Diagnostics Inc. for the provision of laboratory services for the billing of COVID laboratory services. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign a contract extension with Sodexo Operations, LLC for the provision of food and nutrition, housekeeping and maintenance services through June 30th 2022. The request was pulled, noting this service will be put out to bid.

--Authorization to amend Board Resolution No. 044-21 in relation to the contract with RetirementHome TV Corp. for the provision of cable television for a five-year period at a cost savings of \$6,600 annually. This will change the length of the original contract from three years to five and add language that DIRECTV will be contracted with for the provision of cable television equipment and installation services. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign a contract extension with Rehab Resources for the provision of rehabilitation services. The request was pulled, and will be represented next month.

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign a contract amendment with AEGIS Sciences Corp. for the provision of laboratory services and the billing of COVID testing. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign contract amendment with UnitedHealthcare to allow for an insurance reimbursement increase in the per-member per month rate, and a Per Diem rate for a public health emergency for Nursing Home residents. Approved 5-0.

Mrs. Devlin presented the following transmittals for Public Health:

--Authorization to accept a Performance Incentive Award of \$21,893. Funding will be utilized to improve and/or enhance core public health services. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization to pay the annual maintenance fee of \$5,995 to OCV, LLC for the Public Health Department's app. Mrs. Devlin reviewed the value the app can give to the community once it is in full operation. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to certify the 2021 Public Health State Aid application. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign the Pre-K Program Statement of Administrative Costs Incurred Report to the State Education Department. This is for the 2019-20 school year. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign a contract with Rochester Regional Health Systems Department of Pulmonary Medicine for the provision of medical consultation for the Tuberculosis Program. Approved 5-0.

As of this morning, Wayne County had 3,785 positive cases of COVID-19 reported since mid-March resulting in 36 deaths. There are open 227 cases, with 21 individuals hospitalized. The number of positive cases decreased; however, Mrs. Devlin is concerned the numbers will spike following social gathers on Super Bowl Sunday and winter break for schools. The County Public Health Department is tracking all open cases. NYS Department of Health Virtual Case Investigators are assisting with some initial investigations. However, children, school students/staff, and health care workers are being investigated and monitored by Public Health. The County averages 20-30 new cases each day. In 2020, staff, excluding Mrs. Devlin, received \$107,341 in overtime pay. The Department received grant funding to pay for case investigation and contact tracing efforts. Mrs. Devlin believes additional Federal monies will be coming to pay for the ongoing vaccination effort.

Wayne County has been given Moderna vaccinations; these are not the type in need of deep freezing. Mrs. Devlin offered the use of the County's deep-freeze freezer to area vaccination administrators that would need it for the Pfizer vaccination. As of today, nine clinics have been held in Wayne County vaccinating 2,020 individuals. The County is anticipating an additional 200 vaccinations; these are to be utilized for essential workers. At this time, the Public Health Department is not allowed to vaccinate the general population. Mrs. Devlin said there are four area pharmacies in the County vaccinating those 65 years and older as vaccinations become available.

In mid-January, Mrs. Devlin was made aware her Office could charge insurances an administrative fee for administering COVID-19 vaccinations, like the administration fee that is charged when the Department administers flu shots. Mrs. Devlin stated no fee can be charged to a person receiving the vaccine. If the Department should arrange for this administrative fee to be imposed was questioned. County Insurance Specialist Brian Sams came into the meeting and asked about charging members of the County's Health Care Trust an administrative fee when they receive COVID vaccinations. Mrs. Devlin said she would not be performing any retroactive billing. After a brief discussion, it was agreed the Public Health Department would bill an administrative fee to any vaccination recipient who has insurance. The individual would be guaranteed to receive the vaccination whether or not they have insurance that will pay this fee. Billing for an administrative fee through Public Health Department will begin immediately.

Mrs. Devlin informed the group the Governor is allowing school district to begin high-risk sports if the local Health Department allows it. Finger Lakes Regional Health Departments have made a decision to go forward with school sport activities. Schools were reminded of the need to take necessary precautions to limit the spread of COVID-19. At this time Mrs. Devlin meets with school superintendents on a weekly basis.

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Mrs. Devlin noted 90% of her time is being spent on COVID activities. She reviewed a list of other activities she has been participating in.

Mr. Groat questioned if anyone reviewed the report on the legalization of recreational marijuana in Colorado. He stated the new law has not proven to make money through taxes for that state; cost for additional public safety and mental health programs has exceeded the revenue received.

Mrs. Jacobs brought to members' attention an e-mail she received regarding the distribution of COVID-19 vaccinations in Wayne County. Mr. House said he has been in contact with this individual to address his concerns.

The meeting adjourned at 11:22 a.m. The next meeting of the Health and Medical Services Committee is scheduled for Monday, March 1st at 10:00 a.m.