

## MINUTES

### HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

**Monday, February 6, 2023 10:00 a.m.**

Present: Supervisors Robusto, Groat, Bender, Brady, Miller and Eygnor, County Administrator Rick House, Fiscal Assistant Brian Sams, Director of Mental Health Jim Haitz, Deputy Director of Mental Health Ed Hunt, Nursing Home Administrator Jeffrey Stalker, Deputy Nursing Home Comptroller Heather Loucks, Public Health Director Diane Devlin and Deputy Director Kerry VanAuken.

Minutes from the January 3<sup>rd</sup> Committee meeting were approved as written.

The monthly statistical report for the Nursing Home was distributed with the agenda. Through the end of 2022, the Facility had revenue of \$15.7 million and expenses of \$18.4 million, a cash balance of \$3.9 million and short term and other investments of over \$28 million. Additional revenues received by the Nursing Home were reviewed; it is assumed the Facility will have a loss of approximately \$1 million for 2022 operations. Staff will work with auditors to refine year-end numbers. Ms. Loucks reported the second IGT payment anticipated for 2022 was not received. Neither the Jail nor the Café made revenue projections for the year. The current occupancy rate at the Nursing Home is 71.6%; during all of 2022, the rate was 80.7%. There are currently 85 vacant positions at the Facility; the majority being nursing positions. Mr. Stalker reviewed various building improvement projects in progress. He then reviewed positions recently filled and administrative positions that will be made vacant by retirements during 2023.

The Nursing Home ended the year with an overall 3 star Medicare 5-Star Rating; this is down one star from 2021. Ms. Stalker said he is looking into redefining quality standards through additional staff training.

Mr. Groat asked if the State is being stringent with the resident to staff ratio. Mr. Stalker said he is not aware of any fines issued by the State to health care facilities; noting, approximately 79% of facilities are not in compliance with the staffing ratio. Mr. House stated the need to have adequate staff to take care of the residents in our Nursing Home.

The following transmittals were presented for the Nursing Home:

--Authorization to abolish the full-time position of Registered Nurse Supervisor and create two part-time Registered Nurse Supervisor positions. Mr. Stalker said the change would allow for easier filling of weekend, and off-shift positions. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization to declare old furniture surplus and dispose of according to County Policy. Approved 5-0.

## PAGE 2

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign a software subscription agreement with PointClickCare for the provision of electronic medical records and financial software services for a price of \$86,561. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign a contract and to award the bid for medical oxygen services to Haun Welding, Inc. for a price not to exceed \$20,000. Results of the bid were included with the request. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign a contract to award the bid for rental of respiratory equipment and applicable consumables to Northeast Medical Repairs. Approved 5-0.

The monthly financial report for the Mental Health Department was distributed with the agenda. Through the end of 2022 the Department billed for over \$6.3 million in revenues. They received \$11.9 million in revenue and had \$9.3 million in expenses, resulting in revenue in excess of expenses in 2022 of nearly \$2.6 million. Cost saving were mainly the result from the high number of vacant positions. Mr. Haitz commended the financial success of the Department again this year, noting over the past nine years the Department has returned to the County over \$8.8 million in revenue in excess of expenses.

The following transmittals were presented for the Mental Health Department:

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign a contract with licensed professionals for psychotherapy services and amend the budget. Mr. Haitz reviewed the need to establish four temporary per diem independent contractor positions to provide comprehensive psychotherapy services in the Department. These individuals will be paid \$80 an hour. As of today, the Department has 25 vacancies. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization to amend the budget to allow for additional expenses and revenues related to medication needs for patients of the Mental Health Clinic. Both the revenue and expense lines will be increased by \$30,000. Approved 5-0.

Mr. Haitz stated the County received approximately \$300,000 in Opioid Settlement monies that will be distributed through the State. He learned last week the County will receive about \$1.7 million in total Opioid Settlement funds through 2039. Funds will come to counties through six different sources, with the highest payments being made in the first two years; \$593,000 is proposed to come to Wayne County in the upcoming State budget year. Funds must be utilized to increase and/or create new programs.

Mr. Groat commended the work Mrs. Devlin has done with the Public Health Department by increasing efficiencies and effectiveness during her tenure.

Mrs. VanAuken reviewed Department activities during January:

## PAGE 3

- Staff provided seven adult immunization shots, three to jail inmates and 12 to children. The COVID vaccination was administered to 36 individuals.
- One child presented with elevations in their blood-lead levels.
- There were 49 reportable communicable diseases during the month. There were 57 Flu A cases documented in the County; cases of the flu are decreasing across the region. The Tuberculosis Clinic tested five individuals and detected and reported one new latent infected case.
- Eighteen animal bites were reported during January and one dog remains under quarantine. One resident was bitten by a raccoon and received post exposure prophylaxis.
- Since the initiation of the COVID Pandemic, there have been 27,725 reported cases of COVID in Wayne County and 178 COVID related deaths. There are fewer individuals requesting vaccinations at Public Health Clinics, for this reason, the number of clinics will be reduced to once a month. The County is currently in a low transmission level. Mrs. VanAuken noted COVID vaccination serum has been provide to the County at no cost through the Federal Government; however, with plans for the Federal Government to declare the pandemic over in May there will most likely be a cost to obtain vaccinations. It is also presumed the State Health Department will not extend their masking mandates in all health facilities and mandate staff vaccinations after this time.
- During January one car seat inspection occurred and one seat was distributed
- There are six Newark Middle School youth currently involved in the nine-week Not On Tobacco Program.
- Staff worked with four students at the Marion, Pal-Mac and Williamson High Schools to help them stop smoking/vaping through the INDEPTH program. These students have been referred to the program by their schools.
- Currently there have been no approved Conditional Adult-Use Retail Cannabis Dispensaries licensed in Wayne County. It remains illegal to sell cannabis, gift cannabis or grow it in your home. Mrs. VanAuken stated that during conversations with Cayuga County, she was informed they consider illegal operations selling cannabis to be a public health nuisance and close them down. Mrs. Devlin said she was not sure if this action would be taken on a county or municipal level.

The following transmittals were presented for the Public Health Department:

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign the 2023 Wayne County Public Health State Aid application with the NYS Department of Health. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign a Pre-K Program Administrative Cost Incurred Report in accordance with NYS Education Law. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization to accept a performance incentive award for \$22,208 through State Aid and amend the budget. Funds will be used to improve/enhance core public health services. Mrs.

**PAGE 4**

Devlin noted the State will perform waste water treatment tests on many local water systems. She will be in contact with local waste water treatment plants about the testing, once she is provided with additional information from the State. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization to create a full-time position of Senior Clerk-Typist, eliminate the full-time position of Bilingual Community Health Worker, and amend the budget. The new position would assist with clerical demands in the Children with Special Needs Program and aligns with the current clerical duties assigned. Approved 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m. The next meeting of the Health and Medical Services Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.