

## MINUTES

### GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Thursday, June 3, 2021 9:00 a.m.

Present: Supervisors Emmel, Spickerman, Verkey, Eygnor, Groat and Miller, County Administrator Rick House, Fiscal Assistant Ken Blake, County Attorney Dan Connors and Election Commissioner John Zornow. Supervisor Chatfield was not present for the meeting.

Minutes from the May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved as written.

The following transmittals were referred to the Committee:

--Authorization to modify the Public Defender's budget to create a Grade 8 full-time Assistant Public Defender position and authorization to fill the position. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to create and fill five Staff Social Worker positions, two Community Health Professionals, two Substance Abuse Counselors, two Activity Aides, one Assistant Social Worker, one Licensed Practical Nurse, one Staff Development Coordinator, one Quality Assurance Coordinator, two Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner positions and two part-time Staff Social Worker positions in the Mental Health Department. The new positions, costing \$620,148, will be funded with Federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration funds. Mr. Spickerman said it is absurd to add this many positions to the Department. Mr. House said he requested the Mental Health Director submit a business plan to accommodate this request to next week's Finance Committee meeting. He is concerned the market maybe oversaturated with mental health services and if the County will be in a position to continue to fund these positions if revenues generated from the positions do not cover their costs. Mr. House questioned the cost of this proposal and the need for full staffing 24/7; he is not supportive of the request without the back-up documentation. Denied 4-0.

The following transmittals were presented for the Board of Elections:

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign a contract extension with the State of New York for the Board of Elections grant concerning electronic poll books. The extension would allow grant funds to be expended through January 28<sup>th</sup> 2022. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign a contract extension with the State of New York State concerning the Early Voting Aid to Localities grant in the amount of \$37,773. This will allow for expenditure of these funds through January 28<sup>th</sup> 2022. Approved 4-0.

The monthly activities report for the County Attorney's Office was reviewed. During May staff reviewed and/or drafted 42 contacts, responded to 34 FOIL requests, reviewed 56 insurance certificates, participated in three JD proceedings and received two new DMV accident reports—

## PAGE 2

both from the Sheriff's Office. Mr. Connors said he would keep the Board updated on a new Article 78 proceeding his office receive notification of. This involves a Corrections Officer asking the Court to review a former decision they made.

The Assistant County Attorney will be out on medical leave for six to eight weeks. Jeff Harper Esq. will be filling in, as needed, during her absence.

Mr. House reviewed activities in his Office since the last meeting. He will be attending the County Administrators meeting on Friday in Madison County. The NYSAC Board of Directors meeting is scheduled from June 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> in Geneva; Mr. House is a member of the NYSAC Board. The Office's Confidential Secretary has taken another position in the County; Tracy Lambie filled the vacancy.

Initial instructions for the County's 2022 budget will be sent to Department Heads by June 11<sup>th</sup>. Instruction will request no new positions unless they are cost neutral. Department Heads will have approximately five weeks to enter budget information into the financial system, after which time individual discussions will take place with County Administration before being presented to individual Standing Committees.

In other business, Mr. Miller said he received notification this morning there will not be any animal exhibits at the Wayne County Fair this year. There is a possibility the Fair Board could change their mind if there is enough local support to have the event.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m. The next meeting of the Government Operations Committee is scheduled for Thursday, July 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.