

## MINUTES

### HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

**Tuesday, September 5, 2023 11:33 a.m.**

Present: Supervisors Robusto, Groat, Bender, Rose and Eygnor, County Administrator Rick House, Fiscal Assistant Brian Sams, Mental Health Director Jim Haitz, Deputy Mental Health Director Ed Hunt, Nursing Home Administrator Jeff Stalker, Nursing Home Deputy Comptroller Heather Loucks, Public Health Director Diane Devlin, Purchasing Agent Christopher O'Connor and County Auditor Kristen Scott. Supervisor Brady was not present for the meeting.

Minutes from the July 31<sup>st</sup> Committee meeting were approved as written.

The monthly financial report for the Mental Health Department was included with the agenda. Through July, the Department had actual revenue of \$6.4 million and expenses of \$5.7 million. Mr. Haitz noted July was another strong claim month. A total of 93% of billed claims have been paid.

An out of state travel request was presented for a Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner to attend a conference in Las Vegas. The employee is requesting authorization to be paid for two workdays to attend and will pay all other related expenses for the conference herself. Approved.

The following transmittals were presented for the Mental Health Department:

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign a five-year contract with Ten-Eleven Group LLC for the provision of offering an electronic medical record system at a cost of \$416,100. The Department currently successfully utilizes this system. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to abolish the full-time position of Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner and create and fill the position of part-time Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner and amend the 2023 budget. Mr. Haitz noted the number of residents in need of psychiatric, addiction medical treatment and medication management; the change in positions will allow the Department more leeway in treating these individuals. There is no additional cost to the Department for the change in titles. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to set the salary for the Community Schools Coordinator position at \$77,210. This individual will supervise mental health school based clinic programs. Mr. Haitz worked with the HR Director on this salary. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to deviate from the County Purchasing Policy and pay invoices for patient appointment reminder call services in the amount of \$33,700. Mr. Haitz stated the cost of this service has increased to a level that requires it be bid. It was determined the current vendor is not a sole service provider, with this in mind, the County Auditor is holding all payments to the

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vendor. Mr. Haitz stated the need not to interrupt these services. He is working to comply with the County's Purchasing Policy and is seeking services from a less expensive provider. This final payment is needed to reconcile the final bill. Mr. Haitz said he reviewed this issue with the County Purchasing Agent and County Auditor. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign a contract for patient appointment reminder call services with Messagemadeeasy.com for a cost of \$2,560 for the remainder of 2023 and \$6,840 annually for 2024-2028. The amount of staff time it takes to perform appointment reminder calling was noted. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign a renewal contract with Donna Fladd for the provision of essential psychiatric medical services at an hourly rate of \$120. This employee provides telemedicine services. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to amend Board Resolution No. 211-23 with the Wayne County Veterans Service Agency. The Mental Health Department received an additional \$4,000 from the NYS Office of Mental Health Services to be utilized for veteran peer support programs. Mr. Haitz recommends these funds be allocated to the County's Veterans Services Agency to supplement the contract they already have to supply veteran outreach services. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to amend the budget and revise contract totals for mental health community providers during 2023. Contracts are being increased due to additional State Aid the Department received. Approved 4-0.

Mr. Haitz informed the Committee he attended the grand opening of the Clifton Springs Hospital Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Program. This program provides emergency and crisis psychiatric services for residents of Ontario, Wayne, Yates and Seneca County. He noted this facility is needed in the Finger Lakes Region.

The monthly Public Health activities report was reviewed:

- During August, there was one adult and 18 children immunized, 54 communicable diseases reported, six reports of elevated blood lead levels and two active TST cases.
- There were 44 animal bites reported to the Public Health Department during the month, eight specimens were submitted. A rabies clinic was held in Lyons where 147 dogs and cats were vaccinated.
- There were 14 safe sex kits distributed at the Public Health reception window, 16 from Health Services Building rest rooms and 115 from Social Services Department public restrooms. Mrs. Devlin noted condoms are currently provided to the County at no cost by the State.
- There were 200 reported COVID cases since the last meeting and two deaths. Both persons dying had comorbidity issues. Mrs. Devlin reviewed the variants of COVID that are now most active. The State is keeping an eye on the most prevalent variants. The

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vaccine will not be free to municipalities this year. It will still be offered through the Public Health Department; with insurance companies charged back. The vaccination will be available at pharmacies and physician offices.

- Eight child passenger safety seats were inspected during the month and seven new seats distributed. Mrs. Devlin noted all child passenger safety seats have an expiration date. The Department also distributed seven bike helmets.
- Sixty-three naran overdoses preparation kits were distributed, the majority through a staff training event at the Gananda School District.
- The Office of Cannabis Management approved a cannabis grower showcase to allow cultivators and processors an opportunity to highlight their product to licensed retailers. The local showcase takes place at Honest Pharm in Newark every Tuesday through Sunday.
- Five clients were seen during one-on-one smoking cessation clinics; two are new clients to the program.

A financial report showing Article 6 State Aide for the first and second quarter of 2023 was presented. Mrs. Devlin said the Public Health Department is on track with their expenses for this period.

The following transmittals were presented for the Public Health Department:

--Authorization to submit a mobile health vehicle grant application and release a bid for a mobile health vehicle purchase. Mrs. Devlin noted Health Research Inc. is offering funds to purchase a mobile health vehicle that would provide clinical and non-clinical services in rural areas. The County could receive up to \$384,000 for this purchase. She said if awarded the funds, the vehicle must be purchase, received and in operation prior to October 5<sup>th</sup> 2024. She will keep the Committee updated on the grant. Mrs. Devlin noted the vehicle would be available for use by other County Departments. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign a contract with Kelly L. Ferrente for the provision of related services for the Preschool Children with Handicapping Conditions Program. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign a contract with Shawn Fallo for the provision of providing related services for the Preschool Children with Handicapping Conditions Program. Approved 4-0.

Ms. Loucks reported Medicaid reimbursements are being received in a timely basis. It is more difficult to re-bill Medicare Part A, as all bills for services under this insurer must be submitted within one-year of the service. The reimbursement for residents with long-term health care insurance is submitted to their family; the Nursing Home sometimes has to wait over a month to

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receive those funds back from the family. Medicaid is the insurer for the majority of residents. A contract is now in place with Beacon Solutions Group for the Nursing Home's revenue cycle management improvement initiative.

Mr. Stalker reported the Wayne County Nursing Home currently has an overall three-star rating through the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services. The Nursing Home is up to 4-Stars in staffing but may decrease to 3-Star next quarter because of one recent RN retirement and an LPN out on medical leave. The Nursing Home has yet to receive an IGT payment in 2023. Census figures for the Facility were presented; there were 135 residents in the Facility at the end of August.

The Nursing Home currently has 36 open Certified Nursing Aide positions and 16 full-time LPN positions. The difficulty in maintaining State staffing level was stated; however, maintaining these levels provides better quality service to our residents. Mr. Robusto questioned if additional positions would be filled if the hours were more flexible.

The following transmittals were presented for the Nursing Home:

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign a renewal contract with Mission Health Concepts, Inc. for the provision of supplying medical equipment to the Nursing Home. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign an agreement with Inovalon for the provision of Medicare claim submission to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for a cost of \$9,620. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to set daily private pay room rates at \$400 for a semi-private room, \$430 for a private room and \$625 for a suite. The rates were all increased 6.8%. Residents will be given a 30-day notice of the rate increase. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to create and fill four full-time Supervising LPN positions and abolish four full-time LPN positions. Mr. Stalker noted the difficulty in filling nursing positions. Approved 4-0.

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m. The next meeting of the Health and Medical Services Committee is scheduled for Monday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 a.m.