

MINUTES

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE—via teleconference

Monday, April 6, 2020 8:30 a.m.

Present: Supervisor Verno, County Administrator Rick House and Fiscal Assistant Ken Blake, Via-Zoom Supervisors: Miller, Johnson, Leonard, Robusto and Jacobs, Veterans Service Officer Renee Maybee, Department of Aging and Youth Director Amy Haskins and Social Services Commissioner Dr. Ellen Wayne.

Minutes from the March 2nd Committee meeting were approved as written.

Mr. Verno made a motion to accept Department reports that were electronically sent with the meeting's agenda, Mr. Johnson second. Carried. Reports included:

- Veterans Services: During February there were 264 contacts made to the local Office; the majority by phone and mail. There were 43 units of transportation to/or from the Canandaigua VA Medical Center and 23 to/or from the Syracuse VA Medical Center. The Office was contacted regarding the death of 35 County Veterans during February.
- Department of Aging and Youth: There are currently 45 seniors on the Home Delivered Meals waiting list. The cost being paid per meal by the County is \$5.09. The majority of assessments for Home Delivered Meal recipients are completed by a worker in the Nutrition Unit, if the case load increases an additional part-time staff member would be needed. To serve all seniors requesting the service would mean an additional County appropriation to the program.
- Social Services: Through the first two months of the year the Department expended 19.6% of their County budget. Comparison graphs showing caseloads were distributed. Dr. Wayne noted caseloads are increasing as more County residents become unemployed during this health crisis.

The following transmittals were presented the Department of Social Services:

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign a contract with Self-Direct, Inc. for the provision of a personal emergency response systems at a cost of \$17.50 a month per unit. The cost is paid by Medicaid. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign an agreement with Finger Lakes Community College for Social Service employee training at a cost of \$46,775; the cost is reimbursed by the State. Dr. Wayne stated training has been put on hold during this current health crisis; all efforts will be made to make certain staff receive the appropriate training to continue to perform their jobs once all staff members are returned to work. Approved 5-0.

PAGE 2

--Authorization for the Department of Social Services to utilize social media. Dr. Wayne said this will be used to increase community awareness of the Department's programs and services, to share information as related to the 2020 Census, to promote the Foster Care Program and to promote other key messaging. Approved 5-0.

Sites for the distribution of food to those determined at need in the County are now being finalized. Depending on how long the health crisis continues, this venture could require a number of personnel for its success. Dr. Wayne noted the increase in child welfare cases now that children are out of school and cannot attend any other activities; she hopes this is not a pattern.

The meeting adjourned at 8:42 a.m. The next meeting of the Human Services Committee is scheduled for Monday, May 4th at 8:30 a.m.