

MINUTES

HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

BUDGET MEETING

Monday, September 21, 2020 9:00 a.m.

Present: Supervisors Jacobs, Groat and Bender, County Administrator Rick House, Fiscal Assistant Ken Blake, Insurance Specialist Brian Sams, Public Health Representatives Diane Devlin, Kerry VanAuken and Heather Loucks, Mental Health Representatives Jim Haitz and Ed Hunt, Nursing Home Administrator Denis Vinnik and Nursing Home Comptroller Barbara Keefe. Supervisors Kolczynski and Leonard were not present for the meeting.

Mr. Blake stated Departments reporting to today's meeting have a total County cost of \$2,059,405, a decrease from this year; the majority of this is reflected in additional revenue in the 2021 budget.

The following budgets were reviewed:

- Nursing Home: Revenue 25,701,303, personal services \$9,045,822, equipment \$455,812, contractual expenses \$8,835,502, interest \$251,675, fringe benefits \$4,227,000, there is no County cost for the operation of the Facility. Two RN positions were eliminated from the budget; these positions have not been filled in years. Mr. Blake stated the 2021 budget includes an Intergovernmental Transfer (IGT) revenue of \$5.2 million. Ms. Keefe said she was informed last week that the Medicaid Upper Payment Limit (IGT) will be decreased 40% from the prior year. As soon as she has precise numbers, she will give them to County Administration to place in the budget. Mr. Blake said the County has included funds in their General Fund to pay a 50% match for the receipt of IGT funds. These funds can be used to pay for any operational expense at the Nursing Home. The Nursing Home fund balance is \$32; in 2021 some of this money will be used to pay down debt on the Facility. Mr. Vinnik said the Nursing Home received CARES Act funding-- Federal money to help offset the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak; he believes these funds will be received again in 2021. The \$280,000 cost to update the Facility's nurse call system was not included in the budget; IT has recommended an upgrade for the past few years. Mr. Vinnik said he would like to invest in this upgrade in 2022.
- NH Contingency Budget: County cost \$100,000. Mr. Vinnik said this budget is only utilize for unexpected expenses at the Facility.
- Behavioral Health: Revenue \$8,895,724, personal services \$5,587,230, equipment \$0, contractual expenses \$1,325,464, fringe benefits \$1,983,030, there is no County cost for operation of these programs. Mr. Haitz stated the budget does not included any recommended changes or layoffs of current personnel; however, does include the elimination of nine positions that have been vacant in the Department. Mr. Haitz noted

many positions in the Department are revenue producing. State cuts put in place in 2020 are anticipated to carry over to next year. Behavioral Health revenues are projected to decrease by 6.5% and expenses by 8.2% in the 2021 budget. The budget includes \$36,120 for the purchase of computer equipment determined necessary by IT. Most contractual expenses that could be reduced were. Mr. Haitz said efforts continue to fill the vacant position of Staff Social Worker. He presented recommendations for salary increases for medical staff, as their salaries are set by resolution, not in the County's managerial/confidential salary scale. Also presented were salary comparisons. Mr. Haitz will bring these recommendations to the County's Pay Plan Committee.

- Community Providers: Revenue \$3,217,808, contractual expenses \$3,389,224, County cost remains the same at \$171,416. If revenue is increased, Mr. Haitz will bring a transmittal to the Board to adjust a contract(s).
- Forensic Hospitalization: County cost up 300% to \$100,000. Mr. Haitz said the number is based on recent costs and the fact that there are still individuals hospitalized who may continue to be in 2021. Costs result when a jail inmate or individuals under court order has to be hospitalized in a mental health facility. To date in 2020, over \$300,000 was expended from this budget.
- Public Health: Revenue \$331,859, personal services \$362,556, equipment \$0, contractual expenses \$159,123, fringe benefits \$147,130, County cost down 14% to \$336,950. There are two position less in this budget with one clerical vacancy waiting to be filled. Revenue reductions reflect the elimination of community flu clinics, budget increases are due to uncontrollable expenses in the Department. Public Health staff will continue to provide flu vaccinations for County employees. Mrs. Devlin said the Department will be participating in a full-scale emergency response drill this fall in order to receive emergency response funding in the coming year. Supervisors were informed the local Public Health Office has achieved a five-year accreditation from the National Public Health Accreditation Board. In 2021 a Supervising Public Health Nurse will not be filled upon retirement, whenever it occurs. Mrs. Devlin stated the need to put the position of Account Clerk back in the budget; she reviewed the need for clerical assistance. It was stated the Government Operations Committee would need to approve this new position along with the full Board. A brief discussion took place on the possibility of filling the Account Clerk position with a County employee who is being laid off due to budget reductions. This will be looked into.
- Public Health Services: Revenue \$511,651, personnel services \$353,760, contractual expenses \$236,870, fringe benefits \$143,305, County cost up 46% to \$222,284.
- Early Intervention: Revenue \$650,719, personal services \$334,001, equipment \$0, contractual expenses \$1,145,333, fringe benefits \$135,448, County appropriation up 2.4% to \$964,063.

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- Children with Special Needs: Revenue \$4,304,375, personal expense \$38,063, contractual expenses \$7,290,758, fringe benefits \$18,497, County cost up 1% to \$3,042,943. This is the largest budget in the Department.
- Public Health Education: Revenue \$97,020, personal services \$54,749, contractual expenses \$24,612, fringe benefits \$24,903, County cost down 52.6% to \$7,241. In 2023 tobacco settlement funding will no longer be received, after that time State Aid reimbursement will be utilized to pay a portion of this budget.

The Public Health Office was contacted Saturday about a Clyde-Savannah School District bus driver who had a positive COVID 19 test. Contact tracing has been occurring and at this time about 40 students are in quarantine. District school are closed today and tomorrow (Monday and Tuesday) so that all appropriate notifications can be made. There is a possibility a member of the school staff has the virus. If their test is positive, the District would have to shut down for two weeks due to the contact the individual had with many students. Mrs. Delvin said she would keep County Administration up to date on this issue.

The meeting adjourned at 10:42 a.m. The next meeting of the Health and Medical Services Committee is scheduled for Monday, October 5th at 10:00 a.m.