

Human Services Committee

Wednesday, February 21, 2018, 5:15 pm, Room 331

Gerace Office Building, Mayville, NY

Members Present: Wilfong, Whitford, O'Connell, Pavlock

Member Absent: Rankin

Others: Tampio, Dennison, M. Spanos, Brinkman, K. Geise, J. Anderson, D. Anderson

Vice Chair Wilfong called the meeting to order at 5:19 p.m.

Approval of Minutes (1/17/18)

MOVED by Legislator Whitford, SECONDED by Legislator O'Connell.

Unanimously Carried

Privilege of the Floor

No one chose to speak at this time.

Proposed Resolution – Authorize Acceptance of Funds from the New York State Department of Health for Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Initiative

Due to recorder malfunction, no transcription available

Unanimously Carried

Proposed Resolution – Amend 2017 Budget for Year End Reconciliations – Health & Human Services

Mrs. Dennison: I want to jump ahead Jon if I can, because we need to amend the resolution that you have in your prefile packet. There was a change in the 2017 results since the resolution was prefiled. So I am here to speak to that and then Jon will take it from there. So on the resolution that you have, the change would be under increase appropriation accounts, it is item A 4059.4 contractual early intervention program. The new figure is \$20,500 in place of \$15,000. And then the total for the increase appropriation accounts category should be \$627,500. There is also change under the decrease appropriation accounts. That would be the second to the last item - A6010.4 contractual social services administration should be \$60,500 and the total should be \$251,000 even.

Vice Chair Wilfong: Don't we have to approve the amendment first?

Clerk Tampio: We need a motion to amend first.

Vice Chair Wilfong: Ok so I would like to get a motion to amend.

Legislator Pavlock: Motion to amend.

Vice Chair Wilfong: Is there a second?

Legislator O'Connell: I'll second.

Vice Chair Wilfong: OK thank you. So now, I would like to ask for a vote on that. All in favor?

Unanimously Carried

Vice Chair Wilfong: And now we are to approve the resolution. Now I would like to ask to-

Clerk Tampio: If there is any other discussion.

Vice Chair Wilfong: Any other discussion? I would like to take a vote to approve this resolution. All in favor say aye. And nay?

Unanimously Carried as Amended

Mr. Anderson: Ok, here we go. So basically, what you see here is changes for the year end to cover overages. Basically, Valerie moves monies around where we had overages in accounts where we had under spent. Point ones and eights are just wage and benefits reclasses among departments because people didn't end up exactly as we predicted in the beginning. Not a whole lot of change. We had some increases in Lab and Lead which came out of environmental health. And EI was taken out of preschool it was the same people but different spread of work distribution across the two. Preschool tuition, early intervention and foster care contractual expenses went over, and we adjusted all of those by resolution once and I think during the year we didn't go quite high enough. But I'm reading from what Valerie gave me and she can answer questions more specifically beyond this. But this is her summary. She also took from safety net this year because it was running low, she moved some back. We had some overages in rabies expenses because the price for treatment increased. We had some step downs from OCFS- kids in juvenile delinquent care. And we have a better understanding now of what we owe for those kids is different than OCFS costs is when they stepped down from OCFS so they go directly to a private agency so it's a different cost structure. I think that's about it unless you have specific questions.

Vice Chair Wilfong: Anybody have any questions? All in favor.

Unanimously Carried as amended

Vice Chair Wilfong: Thank you. So now we are on three.

Proposed Resolution - Authorize Execution of Attestation for 3.25% Funding Increase to Support Annual Salary and Salary-Related Fringe Benefit Costs of Direct Care Staff, Direct Support Professionals, and Clinical Staff at Not-For-Profit Providers through the Department of Mental Hygiene OASAS Programs

Ms. Brinkman: Basically this is a resolution that is required because the state is under municipal law for the County Executive to sign an attestation that states that we will use the \$3,100 that we received in a COLA from oasis to subsidize salaries and fringe benefits. It's really the first year that we have had this kind of attestation requiring the County Executive signature.

Vice Chair Wilfong: OK any questions? Ok all in favor of Resolution #3 say aye, nay?

Unanimously Carried

Proposed Resolution - Authorize Execution of Attestation for 3.25% Funding Increase to Support Minimum Wage and Workforce COLA Salary and Salary-Related Fringe Benefit Costs of Direct Care Staff, Direct Support Professionals, and Clinical Staff at Not-For-Profit Providers through the Department of Mental Hygiene

Ms. Brinkman: It's a similar story here, except the funding is from the Office of Mental Health and it totals about \$9,100. The dollar amounts were included in our 2018 budget so again it's just authorizing the County Executive signing the attestation.

Vice Chair Wilfong: OK any questions?

Legislator Whitford: I just wondered if with either one of these, are you required to send some report on employment levels and present wages and benefits or is it just a set amount that they send to all the organizations?

Ms. Brinkman: It's the same amount that went to all the providers that we contract with but we are required, we have a consolidated fiscal report that we have to send in, and it lists what increases staff receives so given that there was an increase in CSEA salary for our own cost of living, we are very well covered.

Legislator Pavlock: I have a question on a different topic I suppose. I just was curious how the move was in the transition. Have you settled into the new office space? Do you lease office space to the public defender's office, right?

Ms. Brinkman: Right. We're in a holding pattern right now, the work has commenced up at 2 Academy. On our suite, the public defender is still working on securing space for his staff. We are anticipating the move to be around April 1st. So it's coming along well, thank you for asking.

Vice Chair Wilfong: Ok any other questions? All in favor of Resolution 4 say aye, nay?

Unanimously Carried

Other-

Vice Chair Wilfong: So how do we bring this forward?

Clerk Tampio: Chairman Rankin has asked to have this motion added under other.

Vice Chair Wilfong: OK, Chairman Rankin has asked to have this motion added under "other." In support of state funding to support the treatment of transition of those incarcerated individuals with substance abuse disorder and county jails. Did you guys get a copy of that? OK.

Ms. Brinkman: I can just tell you, this has been a concern of the conference of Mental Hygiene directors for some time. That roughly 51% of the county jails do not have any substance abuse services occurring in the jail at the present time. We are fortunate to have substance abuse services occurring because we have mental health funding that allows us to serve individuals with co-occurring disorders, in other words, they have a mental health diagnosis as well as an addiction diagnosis. So we brought those funds forward and have put a person in the jail to provide those services. This motion is being carried out across the state by hopefully all of the counties and we are hoping that this advocacy on behalf of the counties will cause a recess to put money in the 2019 budget to fund services across the board in all county jails. I brought some fast facts that you can look at, but in essence, individuals who are in treatment programs have roughly 28% lower recidivism rate and it serves on average \$2,100 per inmate served. It's a very worthwhile cause and we all know that we are facing a significant opioid crisis and those individuals are turning up in our jails and to the extent that we can get them involved in treatment when they're clean and sober get them linked before they leave the jail with Vivitrol and other services we stand a much better chance of them staying in recovery.

Vice Chair Wilfong: Alright, thank you Pat. Any questions for Pat?

Legislator Pavlock: So, there's a considerate effort on your part and the corresponding people in other counties to do the same type of resolution?

Ms. Brinkman: Yes, and we are also approaching more state legislators to advocate to get them to support this motion as well.

Vice Chair Wilfong: Alright, thank you.

Legislator Pavlock: Is this person busy, too overwhelmed, can they get to everybody they need to?

Ms. Brinkman: Well, again, this would provide new monies to hire additional staff. The person that we have in the jail is working to capacity right now. We have both someone with a specialty in mental health and then an addiction and then, we have a care manager that helps to transition people out of the jail. Part of what this would help us to do is, I know the Sheriff and our County Executive and it's something that is being done across the country have been advocating for some sort of pod type treatment within our county jail. Where individuals with an addiction would be housed in a unit and services would be ongoing all day, relative to addiction. We cannot do that with the current staff that we have. He and I have spoken and we can't provide services strictly to those who are addicted simply because the funding doesn't support that. So, if we were to get these funds then I could see that those dollars would go to hire staff to do a similar type of program.

Vice Chair Wilfong: Alright, thank you Pat for all you do.

Ms. Brinkman: Thank you.

Discussion- Temporary Assistance discussed by Jon Anderson, Katie Geise, and Diane Anderson

MOVED by Legislator O'Connell, SECONDED by Legislator Whitford to adjourn.

Unanimously Carried (5:50 p.m.)

Respectfully submitted and transcribed,
Kathy K. Tampio, Clerk/Olivia L. Ames, Committee Secretary