

Health & Human Services Committee
February 27, 2018
Minutes

Members Present: Committee Chair John Peck, Legislators Allen Drake, James Nabywaniec, Robert Ferris, Carolyn Fitzpatrick, Anthony Doldo

Others Present: Legislators Robert Cantwell, William Johnson, and Daniel McBride, County Administrator Robert Hagemann, Deputy Administrator Sarah Baldwin, County Attorney David Paulsen, Conf. Asst. for Fiscal Affairs and Information Technology Director Gregory Hudson, Community Services Director Roger Ambrose, Public Health Director Ginger Hall, Social Services Commissioner Teresa Gaffney, Insurance Director Lisa Jock, Probation Director Martin Morrison, Treasurer Accountant Anne Converse, Confidential Secretary Jill Jones

Chairman Peck called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. He offered privilege of the floor, however no one present wished to address the Committee. The minutes of the January Committee meeting stand approved in the absence of objection or correction.

Chairman Peck introduced a resolution appointing members to the Jefferson County Office for Aging Advisory Council and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Nabywaniec seconded by Legislator Doldo and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Peck introduced a resolution appointing member to Community Services Board and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Drake seconded by Legislator Ferris and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Peck introduced a resolution amending the 2018 County Budget to reappropriate funds and accepting additional 2018 funding for Veterans Peer Support (P2P) Pilot program and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Ferris seconded by Legislator Doldo and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Peck introduced a resolution amending the 2018 County Budget to allocate additional State aid for Community Services mental health programs and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Nabywaniec seconded by Legislator Ferris and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Peck introduced a resolution amending the 2018 County Budget to allocate additional State aid for Community Services programs and authorizing amended agreements in relation thereto and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Ferris seconded by Legislator Doldo and there being no discussion, the Committee

agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Peck introduced a resolution calling on the Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services and the Governor of the State of New York to provide State funding to support the treatment and transition services to individuals with substance use disorders (SUD) who are incarcerated in county jails and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Nabywaniec and seconded by Legislator Doldo.

Community Services Director Ambrose advised that the NYS Council of Mental Hygiene Directors asked that each county adopt a resolution in support of State funding for SUD treatment in county jails. They will then present these resolutions along with other testimony to the State in support of the funding. He said the NYS Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS) used to fund these services in the jail but it was discontinued about 15 years ago, however with the opiate epidemic they were hoping funding will be reinstated. He said Jefferson County is fortunate because we have a social worker at the Jail who is also credentialed in alcohol and substance abuse counseling so she is able to do evaluations for the court and make referrals to inpatient and outpatient programs, but should she leave we may not be able to replace her with someone with the same credentials unless we had this OASAS funding. Mr. Ambrose advised that should the funding become available discussions with the Sheriff would be necessary in terms of how much funding we could use as logistically we could only put so many counselors at the Jail at any given time. In response to questions he said that approximately 50% of inmates at the Jail could use treatment resources, and an even higher percentage could use educational resources, and there is always a use for additional mental health and chemical dependency counseling. This would truly provide an opportunity to have an impact on some of the individuals before they get released, and get them into programming before they transition out. These services would be available to those who are seeking treatment because it is court ordered, those who are on probation, or any other individual in the jail who finds themselves in need of services. There being no further discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Peck introduced a resolution accepting donations on behalf of the Department of Social Services and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Ferris and seconded by Legislator Drake. There was brief discussion in which Mr. Hagemann advised that the furniture came from Fort Drum and DANC is making an effort to keep useable items out of the landfill so they are donating it; Teresa Gaffney advised that the furniture is distributed through a voucher system on a first come/first serve basis for clients who are eligible for services through their agency (Safety Net, Family Assistance, SNAP, Medicaid, etc.) and DSS partners with Urban Mission who stores and distributes the items. Mr. Hagemann added that we will see more of these resolutions because the County does need to recognize receipt of these items as we are receiving something that has value and was not planned for in the budget, but items would be grouped and resolutions done a few times a year so it would not be burdensome. There being no further discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution.

Chairman Peck introduced a resolution amending 2017 Comprehensive Planning Resource Allocation Agreement with the NYS Office of Children and Family Services and

authorizing amended contractual youth program agreement in relation thereto, and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Drake seconded by Legislator Nabywaniec and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

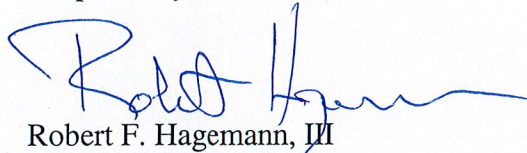
Chairman Peck introduced a resolution authorizing 2018 Comprehensive Planning Resource Allocation Agreement with the NYS Office of Children & Family Services and authorizing contractual youth program agreements and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Drake seconded by Legislator Doldo and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Peck introduced a resolution amending 2018 County Budget relative to additional revenue from NYS Office of Children & Family Services for sexually exploited youth funding and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Doldo seconded by Legislator Ferris and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented. Chairman Peck noted that this is a new program.

Chairman Peck introduced an additional resolution amending the 2018 County Budget in relation to the Department of Social Services and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Ferris seconded by Legislator Drake and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

There being no further business of the Committee, on a motion by Legislator Drake seconded by Legislator Ferris and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert Hagemann, III". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Robert F. Hagemann, III
Clerk of the Board