

**Health & Human Services Committee**  
**February 21, 2023**  
**Minutes**

**Members Present:** Committee Chair Anthony Doldo, Legislators Philip Reed, John Peck, Jeremiah Maxon, Frances Calarco, Board Chair William Johnson

**Others Present:** Legislators Michael Montigelli, Daniel McBride, James Nabywaniec, Partrick Jareo, County Administrator Robert Hagemann, Deputy Administrator Sarah Baldwin, County Attorney David Paulsen, Office for Aging Interim Director Louise Haraczka, DSS Commissioner Teresa Gaffney, Veterans Service Agency Director David Pavey, Undersheriff Kristopher Spencer, Probation Director Kristine Maloney, Alliance for Better Communities Project Director Anita Seefried-Brown, Alliance for Better Communities Community Coalition Liaison Caitlin Lawler, Nominee for District 13 Legislator Steel Potter, Confidential Secretary Jill Jones

Chairman Doldo called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and offered Privilege of the Floor however no one wished to speak. The Committee approved the minutes of the January meeting as written.

Caitlin Lawler, Community Coalition Liaison from the Alliance for Better Communities made a presentation to the Committee concerning harm reduction through the increased use of Narcan. (Copy attached for file reference)

Ms. Lawler provided an overview of Narcan relating the many advantages there are with its use, primarily that it reverses the effects of opioids and prevents overdose deaths. It can now be given through a simple nasal spray instead of by injection, she said its use is protected under NYS 911 Good Samaritan Law, and it saves lives without risk of side effects, no matter age or health status. She advised Narcan training is free and it is also free to obtain and refill after use or expiration. In response to the increased need for multiple doses to bring someone back from a fentanyl overdose, she said the FDA recently increased the single dosage from 4 mg to 8 mg. In Jefferson County in 2021 there were 32 overdose deaths and 94 Narcan administrations, for 2022 there were 21 overdose deaths and 107 Narcan administrations (narcan administration numbers are estimated from Overdose Mapping (OD) provided by 1<sup>st</sup> responders that send in the information). She said this proves Narcan is saving lives.

Ms. Lawler outlined biases and opinions regarding Narcan such as for the user it blocks and stops their high, fear of having reactions from loss of high and withdrawal symptoms; for others it is seen as a safety net to allow usage, but ultimately she said it all comes down to saving a life. She said the Alliance works to fight stigmas that Narcan promotes drug use and only helps addicts through education such as it can also help the elderly who are prescribed opioids and forget how many they take or mix them with other meds or alcohol, youth who mistakenly or unknowingly take something that is laced or decide to experiment, or the average everyday

person who comes in contact with fentanyl. The fentanyl problem keeps growing across the country, ways to obtain drugs will be found no matter what, and she encouraged people to think of Narcan like an EpiPen or first aid kit item. She went over other types of harm reduction such as fentanyl test strips, medication lock boxes, sterile supplies and wound care, resources, outreach, written education materials, etc. Ms. Lawler is looking into getting wall mounted emergency boxes with Narcan in them to display in public places. She encouraged legislators to get trained in the administration of Narcan and to encourage others to also do so. Ms. Lawler answered questions of legislators related to Narcan.

Chairman Doldo introduced a resolution Amending Agreement for Provision of Senior Nutrition Program for Jefferson County Office for the Aging and Amending the 2023 County Budget in Relation Thereto and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Reed seconded by Legislator Peck and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Doldo introduced a resolution Amending the 2023 County Budget to Allocate Additional State Aid for Credo Community Center for the Treatment of Addictions and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Peck seconded by Legislator Reed and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

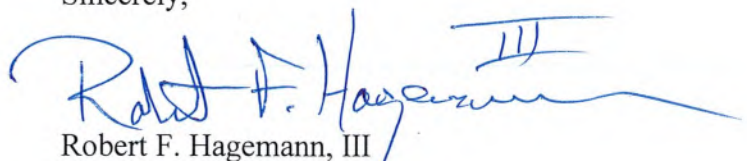
Chairman Doldo introduced a resolution Amending the 2023 County Budget to Allocate Additional State Aid for Community Services Mental Health Programs and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Calarco seconded by Legislator Peck and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Doldo introduced a resolution Amending 2023 County Budget Relative to Additional Revenue From NYS Office of Children and Family Services for Enhanced Adult Protective Services and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Calarco seconded by Legislator Peck and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

In response to a question concerning opioid settlement funds Administrator Hagemann advised that a resolution will be brought forward hopefully next month to allocate the funds received so far, a good portion of which will go to the Jail for the Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) program, as well as three or four other sources identified. He said the unknown is how much more new settlement funding will be received, so detailed information concerning what we can expect to receive annually for the next couple of years will also be forthcoming.

There being no further business of the Committee, on a motion by Legislator Peck seconded by Legislator Reed and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert F. Hagemann, III". The signature is stylized with a large initial "R" and a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Robert F. Hagemann, III  
Clerk of the Board