

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: HUMAN SERVICES

DATE: DECEMBER 1, 2010

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS STRAINER  
GIRARD  
STEC  
SOKOL  
TAYLOR  
BENTLEY

COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:

SUPERVISOR VANNESS

OTHERS PRESENT:

CHRISTIE SABO, DIRECTOR, OFFICE FOR THE AGING  
CHRIS HUNSINGER, DIRECTOR, EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING  
ADMINISTRATION  
SHARON SANO, SENIOR EMPLOYMENT COUNSELOR  
PAUL DUSEK, COUNTY ATTORNEY/ADMINISTRATOR  
FREDERICK MONROE, CHAIRMAN  
JOAN SADY, CLERK OF THE BOARD  
KEVIN GERAGHTY, BUDGET OFFICER  
SUPERVISORS THOMAS  
LOEB  
WOOD  
DON LEHMAN, *THE POST STAR*  
JOANNE COLLINS, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

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Mr. Strainer called the meeting of the Human Services Committee to order at 11:17 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Stec, seconded by Mr. Sokol and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the previous Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Chris Hunsinger, Director of Employment & Training Administration (ETA), who distributed copies of the agenda to Committee members, a copy of which is on file with the minutes.

Referencing the Common Measures Performance Report, Mr. Hunsinger explained that sanctions were implemented for performance measures which were not achieved, and performance measures not achieved in two consecutive years would result in funding reductions. The withheld funds, he said, were used as incentives for those exceeding the performance measures. Mr. Hunsinger further stated that the Warren County ETA had met or exceeded their performance measures and noted a reporting error on the report under Youth Measures.

Pertaining to unemployment insurance benefits, Mr. Hunsinger stated that the New York State Department of Labor (NYS DOL) had raised a concern regarding services to those individuals who had exhausted their unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. He said the higher number of recipients was due to the extension of benefits and the ETA was unable to serve all of the current recipients; he noted that increased outreach efforts had been made to that end. Mr. Hunsinger informed that if the UI extensions were not approved, 790 Warren County recipients would lose their UI benefits by the end of the year, and an additional 1,600 by May 31, 2011.

Chairman Monroe inquired about UI benefit periods and Mr. Hunsinger stated that the UI benefit

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period prior to the stimulus extension was 26 weeks, and the extension raised the benefit period to 52 weeks. He further noted that some individuals were eligible for up to 99 weeks of benefits which was based on the date of the original filing. The current benefit maximum, he said, was 26 weeks.

Mr. Hunsinger presented a request to amend the 2010 County Budget to increase estimated revenues and appropriations in the amount of \$2,988 to reflect the receipt of Federal funds for youth training program incentives.

Motion was made by Mr. Bentley, seconded by Mr. Sokol and carried unanimously to approve the request to amend the 2010 County Budget as outlined above and to refer same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the request to Amend County Budget is on file with the minutes.*

Next, Mr. Hunsinger presented a request to transfer funds from various codes to salaries, for a total amount of \$2,676, to align the budget and close various line items subsequent to the expenditure of stimulus funds.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Girard and carried unanimously to approve the request for a transfer of funds as outlined above and to refer same to the Finance Committee. A copy of the request for Transfer of Funds is on file with the minutes.

Mr. Hunsinger requested permission to attend a mandatory One Stop Leadership Meeting, to be held in Syracuse, NY, on March 29, 2011, for a total amount not to exceed \$100.

Motion was made by Mr. Bentley, seconded by Mr. Sokol and carried unanimously to approve the request for travel as outlined above. *A copy of the Authorization to Attend Meeting or Convention is on file with the minutes.*

Addressing personnel, Mr. Hunsinger apprised that several months ago the Principal Account Clerk had filed a request for a position reclassification with the Department of Civil Service. He apprised that meetings were held with the County Administrator and the Personnel Officer to discuss the need to align the title with the actual duties of the position; therefore, he continued, he was requesting to reclassify the position of Principal Account Clerk to the position of ETA Account Manager, base salary of \$39,857, effective January 3, 2011.

Motion was made by Mr. Sokol, seconded by Mr. Girard and carried unanimously to approve the request to reclassify the position to ETA Account Manager, Grade 13, base salary of \$39,857, and to refer same to the Personnel Committee. *A copy of the request to Reclassify Position is on file with the minutes.*

Mr. Strainer thanked Mr. Hunsinger and Sharon Sano, Senior Employment & Training Counselor, for the ETA calendar, and for efforts which resulted in a successful summer youth awards picnic.

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On behalf of the Veterans' Services Office, Mr. Strainer informed that the part-time clerical person had resigned to accept a full time position in the Department of Social Services. Discussions were underway, he said, to fill the position with a County employee.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Christie Sabo, Director of the Office for the Aging (OFA), who distributed copies of the agenda to Committee members, a copy of which is on file with the minutes. Ms. Sabo informed that she had emailed the agenda and resolutions to the Committee members.

Addressing Action items, Ms. Sabo stated that the following requests were unchanged from the previous year and were included in the budget.

Ms. Sabo presented a request to extend the contract with various Title IIIB subcontractors as outlined on Schedule "A", commencing January 1, 2011 and terminating December 31, 2011, for a total amount not to exceed \$62,326.

Motion was made by Mr. Sokol, seconded by Mr. Bentley and carried unanimously to approve the request to extend the contract with Title IIIB subcontractors as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the December 17, 2010 Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Ms. Sabo presented a request to extend the contract with various Title IIID subcontractors for health promotion services as outlined in Schedule "A", commencing January 1, 2011 and terminating December 31, 2011, for a total amount not to exceed \$9,125.

Motion was made by Mr. Stec, seconded by Mr. Girard and carried unanimously to approve the request to extend the contract with Title IIID subcontractors as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the December 17, 2010 Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Ms. Sabo presented a request to extend the contract with various Title IIIE subcontractors for caregiver services as outlined in Schedule "A", commencing January 1, 2011 and terminating December 31, 2011, for a total amount not to exceed \$76,300.

Motion was made by Mr. Stec, seconded by Mr. Sokol and carried unanimously to approve the request to extend the contract with Title IIIE subcontractors as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the December 17, 2010 Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Ms. Sabo presented a request to extend the contract with the Warren-Hamilton Counties Action Committee for Economic Opportunity (A.C.E.O.), commencing January 1, 2011 and terminating

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December 31, 2011, for a total amount not to exceed \$19,000.

Motion was made by Mr. Girard, seconded by Mr. Stec and carried unanimously to approve the request to extend the contract with the Warren-Hamilton Counties A.C.E.O. as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the December 17, 2010 Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Ms. Sabo informed that the OFA currently leased meal site space from the Town of Lake Luzerne's Fire Department at an annual cost of \$9,000. She requested that the contract for space be amended to reflect a change in location to the Lake Luzerne Town Building at an annual rate of \$8,000. The lower rate, she said, was due to the fact that miscellaneous expenses, such as pest control, would not be necessary at the Town building.

Motion was made by Mr. Girard, seconded by Mr. Bentley and carried unanimously to approve the request to amend the agreement with the Town of Lake Luzerne for leased meal site space as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the December 17, 2010 Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Ms. Sabo presented a request to amend the 2010 County Budget to increase estimated revenues and appropriations in the amount of \$3,936 to correct an over budget situation in the salaries code.

Motion was made by Mr. Girard, seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried unanimously to approve the request to amend the 2010 County Budget as outlined above and refer same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the request to Amend County Budget is on file with the minutes.*

Regarding the New York Connects Program funding, Ms. Sabo apprised that funding was expected to be reinstated with a 25% decrease which had not yet been confirmed. She noted that the reduction would not substantially impact the program.

Pertaining to the Warrensburg meal site located at the United Methodist Church, Ms. Sabo apprised of plumbing to be in sub-optimum condition with standing water and general facility disrepair. Ms. Sabo further noted that the facility was not expected to pass the mandatory New York State Department of Health (NYS DOH) inspection and it was not feasible to make the necessary repairs. She stated that she was researching other available sites which included the Countryside Adult Home.

A discussion ensued.

Regarding the home delivered meal program, Ms. Sabo apprised that concerns had been raised by citizens and volunteers. The delivery service, she stated, was available to those who could not be transported to a congregate site for reasons that included illness and injury which were often

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temporary in nature. Many temporary recipients, she said, requested to retain services following recovery, which she said, was not within the program guidelines. She also noted that some drivers had volunteered to hold a meal for later delivery which was not allowable. Furthermore, she maintained, meals could not be left and must be given directly to the resident for food safety and health reasons and noted that all undeliverable meals were frozen.

Pertaining to staff recognition, Ms. Sabo read a letter from a North Creek resident who thanked and commended OFA employee Harriet Bunker for the assistance she provided in obtaining cord wood, as well as heat saving tips.

With regard to the new 2-1-1 information service, Chairman Monroe stated that he anticipated a positive outcome and the service would help County Departments.

There being no further business before the Human Services Committee, on motion made by Mr. Sokol and seconded by Mr. Bentley, Mr. Strainer adjourned the meeting at 11:42 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanne Collins, Legislative Office Specialist