

Minutes

Human Services Committee

July 21, 2021, 5:00 pm, Rm #331

Livestreamed on Facebook

Gerace Office Building, Mayville, NY

Members Present: Pavlock, Whitney, Rankin, Whitford

Member Absent: Lawton

Others: Ames, Dennison, Chagnon, Schuyler

Chairman Pavlock called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes (6/16/21)

MOVED by Legislator Whitney, SECONDED by Legislator Whitford

Unanimously Carried

Privilege of the Floor

No one chose to speak.

Proposed Resolution - Confirm Appointment - Chautauqua County Health Board

Mrs. Schuyler: We have some openings on the Board of Health and we do have an applicant that the County Executive has put up for appointment and its Nancy Rosario. She is a resident of the City of Dunkirk and would be joining the board as a community member. We are required to have someone from each of our city centers so this would fill the requirement of the board to have someone from the City of Dunkirk and she would be a good addition. She works at the Chautauqua Center so she's familiar with health care but also with the Hispanic community in the north county in general. We could use some more representation.

Chairman Pavlock: You said there is vacancies, so this is filling one of how many vacancies?

Mrs. Schuyler: We have another one. Someone else had recently resigned so we have another opening.

Chairman Pavlock: Just for the record, I like to learn a little bit all the time. The Health Board, how often do they meet and what is their primary objective, I guess?

Mrs. Schuyler: The Board of Health is a requirement by the Public Health Law of any health district. So their main requirements are to uphold the Sanitary Code of the State which the County has adopted and then we even have some of our own parts of the Sanitary Code. Public Health Law, they oversee statutes, so if anyone violates the Sanitary Code, then it goes in front of our, if they don't agree to settle, goes to a hearing office and then before the Board of Health for determination. They are an advisement board as far as policies that we do that have to be in conjunction with Public Health Law and the Sanitary Code. They actually do have a lot of authority under law as a separate governing board. Per Public Health Law, in general, Public Health Directors or Health Commissioners jointly report to the Board of Health as well as then the County Executive or County Administrator and Legislature, whatever the County set up is. We are a charter County so it's a little different with the way our structure is. But the Board of Health in general is responsible for ensuring the Public Health Law and the Sanitary Code is upheld. But anything that could be a threat to public health is addressed.

Chairman Pavlock: I appreciate the description. Sometimes we don't look at the big picture of what they actually are doing and what they're getting themselves involved with and saying yes to.

Mrs. Schuyler: Yes, the scope is quite large for the Board of Health. It truly is. We've always had, as far as I can remember anyway, a Veterinarian and we're not required to but I really like having a Veterinarian on the Board just because we do so much with, between rabies and tick borne illness, and other things that affect the animal population and cross over. So, we are speaking with a local Veterinarian who has expressed interest in joining the board. There is a good chance you will see it next month for another appointment.

Chairman Pavlock: Any questions? All those in favor?

Unanimously Carried

Proposed Resolution – Consolidated Appropriations Act Funding for Older Adults in Chautauqua County

Chairman Pavlock: I see that Maryann isn't here to discuss this.

Mrs. Dennison: I will tell you what I can. Director Spanos did confer with me about both of these resolutions and we did not discuss the details of all the individual programs so unfortunately I really can't really give you a lot of information about the specific programs. But, we did work together on the numbers and I just reviewed with her that since they are grants that carry into 2022 that we needed to just amend the budget just for the 2021 portion of all the programs. She also stressed that there, as it says in the resolution, there is no local share requirement so just additional funds to provide additional services.

Chairman Pavlock: Is she going to add personnel with this?

Mrs. Dennison: They use a lot of contractors for their services so there is no anticipated addition of staff. It would just be additional contracts.

Chairman Pavlock: Any questions?

Unanimously Carried

Proposed Resolution – American Rescue Plan Funding for Older Adults in Chautauqua County

Mrs. Dennison: The same thing I just said.

Legislator Whitford: They are both basically the same.

Mrs. Dennison: They are basically the same. Again, increase in contract work, not in personnel. No local share and it's a 2021 component of the grants. I cannot expand upon the particulars of the programs.

Chairman Pavlock: Do you think this like replenishing some of the money already spent?

Mrs. Dennison: My understanding is that no, it would be for additional work because the Office for the Aging, last year did get additional funds and they did receive additional funding earlier this year so they have had quite an influx throughout the COVID period. My understanding is, it's not to replenish (*inaudible*) funds, it's just new funds.

Chairman Pavlock: Any questions?

Unanimously Carried

Mrs. Dennison: I'll send a note to Director Spanos to see if she could at least send us an explanation of the programs and could present them tomorrow at Audit & Control.

Chairman Pavlock: Thank you very much.

Other

Chairman Pavlock: Is there anything to come up under "other"? I had spoken to Christine to ask her if she could report on any of the new funding that we included in the emergency resolution last month but at this time, she really didn't have much to add or include. It's still kind of a work in progress. So she didn't feel at this time was appropriate to do so. She kind of updated me their working through (*inaudible*) going to be designating those funds or how it's going to lay and roll out so hopefully we can have a closer look at that at it unfolds more.

MOVED by Legislator Whitford, SECONDED by Legislator Whitney to adjourn.

Unanimously Carried (5:14 p.m.)

Respectfully submitted and transcribed,
Olivia Ames, Deputy Clerk/Lori J. Foster, Sr. Stenographer