

**HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 26, 2007  
OSWEGO COUNTY BUILDING  
4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM**

**Present:**

**Legislators**

John Proud, Chairman  
Kimberly Seager, Vice Chair  
Fred Beardsley  
Shawn Doyle  
Arthur Gearsbeck  
Paul Santore

**Staff**

Kathleen Fenlon, Executive Director, Youth Bureau  
Donna Kestner, Director of Veteran's Services  
Frances Lanigan, Commissioner of Social Services  
Larry Schmidt, Director, Office for the Aging  
Kathleen Smith, Director of Public Health  
Marlene Jones, Senior Typist, Social Services

**Absent:**

Leonard Ponzi

**Others**

Phil Church, County Administrator  
Fred Maxon, Purchasing Director  
Rich Mitchell, County Attorney  
Channel 10 News

Chairman Proud called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Proud asked for a motion to approve the August 29, 2007 meeting minutes.

**Motion:** Legislator Santore

**Second:** Legislator Seager

**Vote:** All in favor

**Motion Carried**

**2. HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

**a. Resolution Awarding Professional Services**

Director Smith requested approval for Diagnostic and Treatment (D&T) Center Contract for a Cost Report and audit with Jack Venesky, CPA for Oswego County Health Department. This is a new state regulation

The Health Department sought proposals from three firms that could provide this report. Considering the time frame only one firm, Jack Venesky, CPA, submitted an acceptable proposal.

The price for the cost report and the required audit is \$7500. Once this system is set up, the Health Department will then be able to establish a clinic rate which will allow the Health Department to directly bill Medicaid and third party insurance. This revenue will offset the cost of this new requirement.

**Motion:** Legislator Santore

**Second:** Legislator Doyle

**Vote:** All in favor

**Motion Carried**

**b. Flu Clinics**

Press release was sent out. Flu clinics will begin next Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup> . Pulaski in the a.m.; Oswego in the p.m. Another clinic will be held on Friday, October 12<sup>th</sup> in Oswego.

The above clinics will deplete the supply of vaccine we currently have. The Department expects to receive more vaccine in the next few weeks. Additional clinics will be scheduled in Oswego, Pulaski, West Monroe and Fulton once more vaccine is received.

Appointments can be made on line or by calling the Health Department. Flu shots for home bound individuals and their caregivers can be scheduled by calling the Health Department.

**3. SOCIAL SERVICES**

**a. Budget Modification – HEAP**

Commissioner Lanigan submitted a budget modification to accept an additional \$43,530 in federal HEAP administrative funds to implement the early processing initiative. **The allocation is 100% funded. There is no local share.**

**Motion:** Legislator Seager

**Second:** Legislator Santore

**Vote:** All in favor

**Motion Carried**

**b. Budget Modification – Wheels for Work**

Commissioner Lanigan submitted a budget modification to amend the Social Services, Employment & Training budget to accept additional allocation of \$38,937. The additional funds will allow the agency to continue to provide work support services to Temporary Assistance to Needy Family (TANF) eligible participants.

The funding enables the district to provide eligible individuals with a demonstrated need with services such as car repairs, insurance payments and registration payments to allow the individual to accept or retain a job. **These are 100% state funds. There is no local share.**

**Motion:** Legislator Santore

**Second:** Legislator Seager

**Vote:** All in favor

**Motion Carried**

**4. VETERANS**

**Report on Advanced Training**

Director Kestner reported that she attended a weeklong training on new federal regulations for Veterans.

There is a new Real Property Tax Law Exemption that will become effective January 3, 2008 for Cold War Veterans. Cold War Veteran means a person, male or female, who served on active duty for a period of more than one year in the United States armed forces, during the time period from September 2, 1945 to December 26, 1991, was discharged or released there from under honorable conditions and has been awarded the Cold War recognition certificate.

County Attorney, Rich Mitchell is reviewing the law. Each county, city, town, and village may adopt a local law to provide Cold War Veterans an Exemption as stated in the law. The exemption will be discussed at the Community and Consumer Affairs Committee this afternoon. Need to look at how this exemption will impact the county. Not sure how many Veterans may be eligible. The exemption would need approval of the full Legislature.

5. **AGING**

**Amendment to Senior Meals Contract**

Director Schmidt submitted a request that the contract for the OCO Senior Meals Program be increased 3.25% for 2008 in order to meet the higher costs of operating the food service program. The contract states that the contract can increase by a maximum of 2% or the General Consumer Price Index. Administrator Church explained that the contract needs committee approval as the request is above the maximum annual increase allowed. Mr. Church verified that the numbers are correct. The estimated difference between 3.25% and the 2% increase would be \$14,000. If the Committee does not approve the 3.25%, OCO would get the maximum of 2%.

Director Schmidt reported that his agency has received an increase in SNAP money from \$143,000 to \$180,000. This is the first increase the department has seen in 7 or 8 years.

**Motion:** Legislator Seager

**Second:** Legislator Santore

**Vote:** All in favor

**Motion Carried**

6. **YOUTH BUREAU**

Director Fenlon informed Committee on fall programs for county youth. Some programs are:

Youth Leadership Oswego County

Youth Advocacy Council

Annual Teen Health Conference (Health Issues Workshops)

Annual Youth Employment Summit

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:** Legislator Gearsbeck moved a motion to adjourn at 10:33 a.m.

**Second:** Beardsley

**Motion Carried**