

HEALTH/ MENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

January 20, 2009

PRESENT:

Lynda Scheer, Chairwoman
Phillip Williams
Edward Cross
Roy Brown
Lawrence Andrews
Bart Delaney, Jr.

ABSENT:

William Hughes, Jr.- notified
Elizabeth Young- notified

ALSO PRESENT:

Jacquelyn Lydon, Asst. Deputy
Nancy Winch
Michael O'Leary

PRESS: 1

Chairwoman Scheer call meeting to order at 1:01 P.M.

Chairwoman Scheer stated that a memo from Chairman Baer is being distributed to all Department Heads regarding a county wide hiring freeze. All positions that must be filled are contingent on home committee approval and budget and salary committee review. Also stated that the Department Head is going to have to state a reason why it is absolutely critical for their department that the position must be filled.

Mental Health: Michael O'Leary:

Resolution Request: Authorization to fill vacant Deputy Director/Director of Clinical Services Position: Vacancy created by January 2009 retirement of Joan Bloomberg. Motion by R. Brown, seconded by L. Andrews . Motion carried contingent to Budget and Salary Review. Refer to finance.

Resolution Request: Authorization to fill vacant Accountant position: Position has been vacant since September 2008. Test was given on January 10, 2009. Motion by R. Brown, seconded by B. Delaney, Jr.. Motion carried contingent to Budget and Salary Review. Refer to finance.

Resolution Request: Authorization to create and fill up to five pool positions of Psychiatrist: Psychiatric services previously provided by contractors. Doctors are being added to payroll. Motion by P. Williams, seconded by E. Cross. Motion carried. Refer to finance.

Resolution Request: Authorization to create and fill one provisional Psychiatric Social Worker position: Temporary position needed due to permanent employee being out on medical leave. Motion by B. Delaney, Jr., seconded by E. Cross. Motion carried. Refer to finance.

Resolution Request: Authorization to fill Administrative Assistant position and backfill vacancies created from filling this position: Vacancy anticipated on January 23rd to be filled through promotion creating anticipated vacancy in Senior Typist. The Clerk/Typist vacancy being created through promotion of a Clerk/Typist to Senior Typist will need to be filled PCP. Motion by R. Brown, seconded by B. Delaney, Jr. Motion carried contingent to Budget and Salary Review. Refer to finance.

Resolution Request: Authorization for purchase of service agreements: The Mental Health Center provides school-based services to several school districts in the County through the School and Community Services Project. From time to time, schools want to purchase additional time from the Mental Health Center and seek to enter into a purchase of service agreement with the Center. This resolution authorizes the Director to enter into such agreements. Motion by L. Andrews, seconded by R. Brown. Motion carried. Refer to finance.

FYI: Community Services Board Recognition (CSB) Dinner: Dinner to be held on January 28, 2009 at Kozel's honoring Gary Spielman.

Discussion regarding Ockawamick Project: Follow-up on interview with Building Committee . R. Brown stated that if anything seems unclear to the committee M. O'Leary will be contacted for a follow-up interview. E. Cross stated that due to the negative impact that a move outside of Hudson would have on existing customers of the Mental Health Department, he does not support the move.

Health: Nancy Winch:

Discussion regarding home care proposed cuts: Reimbursement rates for all Certified Home Health Agencies reduced by 3.5% effective 3/1/2009 through 12/31/2009. (impact \$1500). Cash assessment equal to 0.70% of each providers gross receipts received from all home health care services and other operating income, effective 3/1/2009. (impact \$5,500). N. Winch will keep committee updated.

Discussion regarding lead poisoning prevention program: proposed amendments would redefine age & blood lead level criteria, effectively increasing the number of children to be screened & managed. NYSACHO (NYS Association of County Health Officials) has requested additional funding for local health departments to accompany the proposed rule.

Conference Request: Approval requested for Michael DeRuzzio, Environmental Health Engineer, to attend Capital District E-Week Celebration, February 5-6, 2009 for a cost of \$170 (Water Grant A04090004000). Motion by L. Andrews, seconded by E. Cross. Motion carried.

Resolution Request: Accept Children with Special Health Care Needs funding renewal. Whereas a revenue and expenditure account were previously established for funds from NYS Department of Health and whereas \$18,093 is being allocated to Columbia County for 10/31/2008 – 9/30/2009, therefore be it resolved to accept said grant renewal in the amount of \$18,093 (Contract #C-021545) as budgeted in A04035044000 and A04010001000 and in revenue A03404 (2009 Budget Revenue \$18,463). (\$13,167 is portion of Per Diem Public Health Educator and RN in A04010001000 offset by grant revenue, \$4,926 remains in A04035044000 for total of \$18,093). Approved by Kenneth Wilber, Treasurer 1/12/09. Motion by B. Delaney, Jr., seconded by P. Williams. Motion carried. Refer to finance.

Chairwoman Scheer stated that the Grant goes back to October and it is now January. Departments cannot spend money that they do not have. They must be very careful and not spend grant money until it is in their account. Chairwoman Scheer advised N. Winch that she must put together information on all programs that are funded through grants, employees that are paid through grants, etc. and report to Chairwoman and P. Williams immediately.

Resolution Request: Whereas, vacancies exist in the budgeted positions of Registered Professional Nurse and Public Health Nurse and Whereas, said positions are essential to the operation of the Certified Home Health Agency, Communicable Disease Control and for completion of public health program requirements, now therefore be it resolved to fill said position as follows:

- Registered Professional Nurse Grade 16C, Starting Salary: \$39,610 in account A04010001000.
- Public Health nurse Grade 18A, Starting Salary: \$43,158 in account A04010001000.
- Per Diem Public Health Educator Grade 11C, Starting Salary \$15.21/hour, not to exceed 1300 hours per year in A04010001000. Motion by B. Delaney, Jr., seconded by L. Andrews. Motion carried contingent to Budget and Salary Review Committee. Refer to Finance.

Resolution Request: Awarding Contracts for Transportation of Children with Special Needs in the Early Intervention and Preschool Services Program. Whereas, it is necessary to bid the transportation of children with special needs in the Early Intervention and Preschool Program for the period from December 1, 2008 through June 19, 2009 and whereas the following company(ies) is the lowest bidder(s): Michael Johnston Bus Company, Inc., P.O. Box 867, Philmont, NY 12565 – Route 12 at the per diem rate of \$155. Motion by E. Cross, seconded by L. Andrews. Motion carried. Refer to finance.

Resolution Request: Awarding Contracts for Transportation of Children with Special Needs in the Early Intervention and Preschool Services Program. Whereas, it is necessary to bid the transportation of children with special needs in the Early Intervention and Preschool Program for the period from December 1, 2008 through June 19, 2009 and whereas the following company(ies) are the lowest bidder(s): Michael Johnston Bus Company, Inc., P.O. Box 867, Philmont, NY 12565 – Route ICC at the per diem rate of \$154.25. Motion by E. Cross, seconded by L. Andrews. Motion carried. Refer to finance.

.2 Request: Request the purchase of three 5 drawer legal size file cabinets at a State Contract price of \$299.71 each (regular price \$289.95). New cabinets are to replace old 4 drawer letter/legal size file cabinets (Water Grant/A04090004000). Motion by B. Delaney, Jr., seconded by E. Cross. Motion carried contingent on correct amount.

Conference Request: Approval requested for Phyliss Higgins, RN, to attend the PPS 2009 conference, which supports the educational needs of home health aides. It is February 11, 2009 with a total cost of \$329.00. Motion by L. Andrews, seconded by B. Delaney, Jr.

L. Andrews stated that Budget and Salary Committee may have to meet twice a month due to the hiring freeze and resolutions being contingent on review of budget and Salary.

E. Cross stated that due to the negative impact that a move outside of Hudson would have on existing customers of the Mental Health Department, he does not support the move.

With no further business, a motion to adjourn at 2:04 P.M. by R. Brown, seconded by B. Delaney, Jr. . Motion carried.