

HEALTH & MEDICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

May 15, 2012

Present:

Lawrence Andrews
Sara Sterling
Elizabeth Young
Raymond Staats
Robin Andrews

Absent:

Kevin McDonald - notified
Edward Cross – notified

Also Present:

Becky Vinchiarello, Dep. Clerk
Nancy Winch
Michael Cole
Arthur Proper
Ronald Caponera
Jack Venesky
RoseMarie Ansel

Press: 1

Deputy Chairman L. Andrews called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M.

CHHA - Jack Venesky attended the meeting to provide a review of the RFP process for the potential sale of the Columbia County Certified Home Health Care Agency (CHHA).

He explained that Columbia County has been subject to many changes, as other Counties in the State, as far as running home care operations. Over the past few years the entity has experienced many changes from a reimbursement stand point as well as operational issues. The reimbursement system no longer equals the rising costs. NYS viewed the home care operation as an optional program which resulted in a deficit in funding.

Through regulation last fall, the State mandated that there be a cap of three CHHA's per County; one being County owned. With more competition in the future due to this cap, it was decided that the County needed to look into their options.

At this time an RFP was sent out to see if there were companies interested in purchasing the CHHA.

A list of organizations that have applied to open a CHHA in Columbia County was handed out.

R. Caponera reported that the numbers from McCarthy have been received and the CHHA has not had much of a change in terms of operations. It will continue to lose money. It lost an additional 110K from 2010 to 2011. Expenditures are going down while operational costs continue to rise.

The County's Options to address this matter:

1. Continue to do the best that they can while knowing more competition is on its way in.
2. File to go out of business. The State has 14 different steps for a County to go through in order to do this.
3. RFP – sell the CHHA.

Two responses to the RFP were received on time. One from WILLCARE and one from Centers for Specialty Care Group (Centers). Purchase summaries were passed around from both offers.

WILLCARE has experienced a gain and has reported good business while Centers has experienced losses. WILLCARE has a large amount of experience and knowledge in homecare and rural home care, while Center only serves one location. State DOH would need to approve this sale and WILLCARE has a history of being approved for these sales. WILLCARE offered \$150,000.00 for the purchase of the CHHA. Centers offered \$65,000.00.

To sell the CHHA gives the County the opportunity to choose who takes over the current employees and patients.

Signing of a management agreement was offered from WILLCARE. They would manage the business and the County would agree upon a payment rate to WILLCARE (i.e. per visit). J.

Venesky warned that the County will need to make sure there isn't a large gap between what the County offers to pay WILLCARE and what the County will be reimbursed from Medicaid.

A presentation will need to be given so that the Full Board is aware of how much it will cost the County to keep the CHHA in business.

Resolution Request: Authorization to recommend that the Full Board moves ahead with the sale of the CHHA. Motion to approve by R. Staats, seconded by S. Sterling, motion carried. Refer to Budget and Salary Review, if approved, Refer to Finance.

The Health Department would have restructuring to complete if this sale does take place.

Health Department – N. Winch

Resolution Request: Authorization for the renewal of laboratory contracts for Article 28 programs (clinic) and analyses for presence of lead. Appendix attached. Motion to approve by E. Young, seconded by R. Andrews, motion carried. Refer to Finance.

Conference Objective Form: Adjustment to last month's approval of Dianne Wolff, RN, SPHN to attend HCA Annual Membership Conference at the Saratoga Hilton, Saratoga Springs, NY. Cost is \$275 plus tolls. Dianne will attend day two of the seminar instead of day one – cost is an additional \$100. Motion to approve by L. Andrews, seconded by E. Young, motion carried.

Information:

Public Health Director's Report to Board of Health:

N. Winch was told that there is no more Lyme disease prevention grant money available from the State.

The Department did hire an Environmental Health Director and he will start on Monday.

An Overtime Report was provided for April - Total \$4,483.00. A bulk of this cost is in the home care area. Robin Andrews requested that N. Winch provide a report comparing months.

Peter Mullins of the DOH requested a committee be put together to review what the BOH responsibilities are and what the Health/Medical Serv. Committee's responsibilities are. . R. Andrews and S. Sterling agreed to sit on this committee.

Request to move into EXECUTIVE SESSION at 4:52PM by E. Young, seconded by S. Sterling, motion carried.

REASON: Personnel

Motion to return to REGULAR SESSION at 4:58PM by E. Young, seconded by S. Sterling, motion carried.

Mental Health – M. Cole

An Overtime Report was handed out. It contained all regular time pay for support staff, not time and a half.

Resolution Request – Authorization to increase the Friends of New Leaf contract by \$185,437.49 for “Recovery Center” . The Friends of New Leaf were funded a quarter of a million annually. A budget amendment will be needed. Motion to approve by R. Andrews, seconded by R. Staats, motion carried. Refer to Budget and Salary Review Committee, if approved, Refer to Finance.

Resolution Request - Request to transfer \$50,000 from .1 prescribers to .4 prescribers. Motion to approve by R. Staats, seconded by L. Andrews, motion carried. Refer to Budget and Salary Review Committee, if approved, Refer to Finance.

Resolution Request - Request to Purchase Malpractice Insurance for Psychiatrists – There are issues with Doctors not being covered by our County malpractice insurance agency. A quote from Ten Eyck was received for 45K(Houston Casualty). It was questioned if tail insurance would be needed. M. Cole proposes to use Federal Salary Share for this. The Insurance Committee is aware of this issue. R. Caponera will find out if the insurance agents relize this is for part time employees. Motion to approve by R. Andrews, with the stipulation they continue to look at costs and other options, seconded by E. Young, motion carried. Refer to Budget and Salary Review Committee, if approved, Refer to Finance.

Resolution Request -Authorization to appoint a new Alcohol and Substance Abuse subcommittee member. Motion to approve by E. Young, seconded by R. Staats, motion carried. Refer to Finance.

Resolution Request -Request to transfer \$2,000.00 from Miscellaneous Expense to Conference Expense. After discussion on the department being over budget in their Miscellaneous account there was a motion to HOLD this request by E. Young, seconded by L. Andrews, motion carried.

Conference Request - 6/19/12 –Trauma, PTSD & Traumatic Grief Conference, Poughkeepsie, NY Conference Cost - \$79.99 and mileage reimbursement (Conference closer to staff member residence). One person attending.

Conference Request – 4th Annual Collaboration of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association, Malta, NY on 6/8/12. One person attending at a cost of \$90.00. Motion to approve both conferences by E. Young, seconded by L. Andrews, motion carried.

FYI- Pending Issues Impacting the Committee

NYS DOH Medicaid Health Home application submitted 5/1/12 with Green County partnering with Hudson River Health Care, Inc. as “Provider Lead” – They will be able to get care coordination and service.

US SAMHSA Primary and Behavioral Health Integration Grant application due 6/8/12

M. Cole questioned if he would be given permission to hire a consultant for assistance with grant writing for grants from the Federal Government. After discussion it was decided it would be best for him to bring a request to the next committee seeking permission to have someone on retainer.

Pine Haven – A. Proper

Census Statistics: Percentage of occupancy was at 96% for the month of April. YTD: 95%. There were 10 admissions to Pine Haven during the month of April 2012 and 9 discharges from the facility. There were 224 Medicaid pending days for the month of March. YTD: 768

The Committee requested that A. Proper try to put a report together showing the numbers of residents at the start of the year, and then how many are added to that number throughout the year. Overtime Costs:

Total overtime hours, cost, and percentage is down from 2011's payroll and 2012's payroll 6 and 7. Total cost of payroll is less than last years and less than the previous payrolls. Many of the new hires have begun and the Activities Run Memory Care Program has been initiated. A. Proper explained that the new payroll system has caused OT in the administrative offices as they are still learning how to use it.

Resolution Request – Authorization to create and fill 2 Per Diem GR11 Cook II at a hourly rate of \$14.05699. The cooks have been running up the over time numbers. Motion to approve by L. Andrews, seconded by E. Young, motion carried. **Refer to Budget and Salary, if approved, Refer to Finance.**

Resolution Request Authorization to fill two nurses aide II (CNA) FT GR10C at a starting salary of \$28,679.00. Motion to approve by R. Staats, seconded by E. Young, motion carried. **Refer to Budget and Salary, if approved, Refer to Finance.**

.2 Purchases: Request authorization for the Administrator to purchase four low beds at the cost of \$4088.24. It is more cost effective for them to purchase this item instead of paying the rental fee. Motion to approve by R. Andrews, seconded by E. Young, motion carried.

C.O.N. Update:

The Certificate of Need application review continues to move forward with several requests made by the New York State Department of Health for additional information. Current outstanding items are the letter of interest to support the financing fee and interim interest amounts used by Orrick, Herrington and Sutcliffe, LLP and 2011 financial statements. Mike McCarthy will have the 2011 financial statements as soon as he receives additional information from the County. Community presentations were held on May 8th at Pine Haven and the Philmont Village Hall.

Future Use of the Pine Haven Building:

A meeting was held with Father Young's group on May 10th. It was attended by Senator McDonald who has assisted with a similar program in Wilton, NY. A presentation was made by Chelsea Nichols outlining possible renovations, should Father Young's organization move into the current location.

Annual Picnic:

Pine Haven's Annual picnic will be held on Thursday June 21st. Lunch and entertainment will be provided starting at noon.

R. Staats requested that reports of the Departments budgets be provided to the Committee at each meeting.

With no further business there was a motion to adjourn at 5:57PM by R. Andrews, seconded by E. Young, motion carried.

HEALTH/MENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

Lawrence Andrews, Chairman

Robin Andrews

Edward Cross

Kevin McDonald

Sara Sterling

Ray Staats

Elizabeth Young