

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

March 20, 2013

PRESENT:

Elizabeth Young, Chairwoman
Matt Murell
William Hughes, Jr.
Edward Cross
Arthur Bassin
Ellen Thurston

ALSO PRESENT:

Angela Rothermel, Asst. Dep Clerk
Becky Vinchiarello, Dep. Clerk
Kary Jablonka
Gary Flaherty
Michaele Williams-Riordon
Jessica Nabozny
Sarah Sterling
Michelle Ublacker
William Fisher
Paul Mossman

Press: 1

Chairwoman E. Young called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M

Department of Social Services- P. Mossman

Annual Reports 2010- Motion to approve by W. Hughes, Jr., Seconded by E. Cross, motion carried.
2011 Annual report - was distributed for review by supervisors.

2012 – DSS Highlights

Resource/Fraud- \$180 thousand reported in cost savings, \$827 thousand in recovery money.

Child Support- \$6.3 million in 2012, \$6 million in 2011, and \$5.9 million in 2010, all in collection,

Temporary Assistance- There is a very big demand for services in this area. 668 applications have been reported for these services.

Homeless- Numbers have stabled to 25, including families and children.

Services- Foster care at 119 at the end of 2012. The number of JD/PINS placement in residential settings, 6-15, from 2011 to 2012. A discussion on PINS referrals ensued.

Fiscal- 2010 was over budget and 2011 was better. Local share decreased for 2010 and 2011.

Resolution Request: Authorization for a final 2012 transfer of \$1,556,000.00 from and to accounts within the department of Social Services. This transfer is necessary to move fund from accounts that are not being fully utilized to other accounts within the department that require additional funds. Motion to approve by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by E. Cross, motion carried. **Refer to Budget and Salary Review Committee, if approved, Refer to Finance.**

DSS Building Renovation Update- The Department met with an architect and gave him a tour. They sent a work sheet with the top priorities, and day to day operations. The department will come back to the committee with a proposal for the renovations, dates, and cost.

Telephone System/VOIP- The department is getting the Voice Over Internet Phone system, and they are able to switch their computers over to the state system using their existing wiring, which will result in about \$60,000 in savings.

Resolution Request - Authorization for the Commissioner of Social Services to enter into a contract with 3N Document Destruction, Inc., for the purpose of on-site shredding of confidential documents. Motion to approve by E. Cross, seconded by W. Hughes, Jr., motion carried. **Refer to Finance.**

Resolution Request- Authorization for the Commissioner of Social Services to fill the following vacant, budgeted positions effective April 11, 2013; pending approval of Budget and Salary Review on March 28, 2013 and Finance Committee on April 2, 2013:

One (1) Caseworker, FP15, 2013 Step 1 salary \$41,020; vacancy due to resignation.

One (1) Social Welfare Examiner, GR12, 2013 Step 1 salary \$32,818; vacancy due to termination.

One (1) Child Support Specialist, GR12, 2013 Step 1 salary \$32,818; vacancy due to internal appointment to another position. Motion to approve by E. Cross, seconded by W. Hughes, Jr., motion carried. **Refer to Budget and Salary Review Committee, if approved, Refer to Finance.**

Office For The Aging- K. Jablonka
Program/Management Updates

Federal Sequestration- K. Jablonka stated that some of this can be absorbed with good management. 2,300 meals (in the amount of \$9,900) will be affected because of this sequestration. Program

operations may need to be closed a certain number of days per year. The ways in which sequestration will affect DSS was also discussed.

Resolution Request- Authorization to amend Resolution 86-2013 to increase the salary from \$17,790 to \$22,653 to fill a vacant Nutrition Site Manager position. This reflects expanded work day of 7 hours to accomplish additional tasks at the Philmont location. The position will be split between Philmont and Copake. If this position is not filled the nutrition site will have to be closed. Motion to approve by A. Bassin, seconded by M. Murell, motion carried. **Refer to Budget and Salary Review Committee, if approved, Refer to Finance.**

Request to move into EXECUTIVE SESSION by E. Thurston, seconded by E. Cross at 5:40 P.M, motion carried.

REASON- Personnel

Motion to RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION by E. Thurston, seconded by W. Hughes, Jr., at 5:52 P.M, motion carried.

Youth- J. Nabozny

Funding/Application Update

OCFS received 2013 funding but ended up taking another cut. There is a possibility that some of their budget may be reinstated. All claims have been sent to OCFS, some are waiting to be paid.

Reorganization Update- A letter has been drafted to the State Representative, but will not be approved until June or July. Funding in 2014 will significantly change. J. Nabozny thinks Stop DWI should stay under the Youth Bureau umbrella, This will be discussed with the Chairman and County Attorney.

Award Ceremony Update- The Thursday of the Award Ceremony falls on spring break this year. The nominees are still coming but attendance will be very low. For this reason, J. Nabozny would like the ceremony to be held at 401 State Street. April 29th is the tentative date. She request the Ceremony to be held in the Board room and Reception be held in the Committee room.

Veterans- G. Flaherty

Employment/ Walmart- Walmart has agreed to hire 1,000 returning veterans. Two veterans have already been hired right on the spot.

Honor a Vet-Begins Monday March 25th.

Vitenam Veterans Serves March, 30. 2012- A ceremony will be held at the courthouse.

Reintegration- When someone gets out of prison they get integrated back into the community, G. Flaherty has found attorneys who will meet with Veterans for free if given the space to do so.

A Chef Program offered by Veterans was also discussed.

Fair Housing- William Fisher

- Thanked Chairman Grattan for Proclamation presentation
- Outreach program on Fair Housing will be held at Columbia Greene Community College Tuesday March 26th, 2013.
- Poster contest entries will be judged April 2nd, 2013.
- A presentation on the history of Fair Housing, Emancipation Proclamation to Present, will be given.

With no further business, there was a motion to adjourn at 6:50 P.M by E. Cross, seconded by W. Hughes, Jr., motion carried.

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