

**COMMITTEE MEETING  
INDIAN LAKE, NY  
THURSDAY  
SEPTEMBER 19, 2013**

**BUDGET MEETINGS  
9:00 AM**

Present: Brian Towers, Bill Farber, Bob Edwards, Frank Mezzano and Bob Kleppang

Community Services – Bob K. stated that he wants to keep the Case Manager salary line, but not fund it at this point. He is waiting to see if there will be funding to support it.

Bob K. stated there is something happening right now that will impact future budgets and that is that the St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center will be closing. He knows that the people in St. Lawrence County are fighting to keep it open. The north county counties, Jefferson, Lewis, St. Lawrence, Franklin, Clinton, Essex and Hamilton have been advocating. They met with the LMH Commissioner last week along with some people from the Mohawk Valley Psychiatric Center which is our hospital and will become the center for all of the North Country. That will present some real problems logistically. The State has already set a precedent with Orange and Oneida County; we expect we will get some enhanced funding in the form of reinvestment to make up for the loss of those services in our area.

Bill feels there is a precedent and we need to continue to stand with the northern counties but if it ends up closing then we need to make sure we are positioned on that front as well.

Frank stated that Bob's budget is pretty straight forward.

Bill stated the \$8,000 growth is related to the fact that reinvestment isn't increasing and our costs are going up. It is related to things that were 100% funded and are no longer at 100% because our total appropriated cost is greater than the entirety of the reinvestment funding stream.

Bob reported that Barb Anderson will be retiring and her salary is fully funded which will impact the budget. When they find an adequate replacement there will be a substantial reduction in that salary.

Bill stated in terms of expenses and contractual costs he asked Bob if he had anything that we need to be aware of. Bob stated the only contract salary increase request, which he feels is appropriate, is Cynthia Lane; she is requesting \$10.00 more per unit. She has not received a raise since she started contracting with the County. This will put her at the same level as the social workers.

Bill reported to Bob that Probation was awarded the grant. The grant is between Community Services, Department of Social Services and Probation. Bill stated that is \$40,000 that allows them to free up \$30,000 of Roberta's TFFS money and put \$5,000 towards child psychiatry through Bob's department and \$5,000 to support software for Probation. Bill stated the benefit on the CCSI side is when Home Run receives referrals from the schools they are not going to need to run the DSS check to see whether or not someone is income eligible before they can make a decision. Bob stated that makes it more seamless.

As there was no further business, Bob left at this time.

Department of Social Service – Roberta and Susie entered.

Roberta reported that their total budget is down. Personal services are down due to Clara's retirement.

They did not put in for an automobile, Tracy is ok with this. She has been trying to mandate that the employees use the county cars for travel to training because of the mileage reimbursement.

Their contractual lines are down due to losing a few contracts. They are not going to be receiving Domestic Violence money this coming year. Medical transportation is coming out due to the State taking that over as well as the CST grant that was eliminated. That may become a problem as she tries to get people employed; they were using that to help purchase vehicles for them and help pay for gas cards for job searching.

Day Care - remains the same, which is a grant that she is expecting to come in.

The Home Run Program - they are asking for a \$5,174 increase in their contact.

6101.401 - They are not going to be doing the MMIS medical reimbursement this year, another State take over.

6102.401 - Susie read a short description on how the County shares will be dispersed from a letter she received from NYSAC. A short discussion took place on what percentage they should use for the budget and it was decided to keep it at \$660,000.

Summer Youth – They have not received the funding for that yet so they decided to keep it at zero.

Job Training for WIA – there was a increase of \$1,500. Frank asked, but your revenue went down \$3,500. Susie stated that Kim didn't put all the money we were appropriated in the 2013 budget. Then we received the figures for 2014 which was cut back due to not spending it. Bill stated this is an increase in appropriations from 2013 to 2014 from \$8,500 to \$10,000 and the total revenue that is available to the County for WIA is what is down but we weren't utilizing that previously.

Point of Entry – Roberta reported that she hasn't received anything as of yet. Bill asked if Roberta felt that we would receive something and she stated she didn't think so.

On revenues – Repayments – Roberta kept it the same, she stated it depends; they don't have any control on that, its money that comes in from repayments for medical assistance or possibly a lien. Bill asked what the past two or three year history looked like, Susie did not have that information with her. Frank stated he had the past five years from the Comptroller's Office but he has not checked it yet.

State and Federal revenues are down due to expenses being down.

Safety Net – We are at 71% for County share which they had to transfer money into this year. Roberta stated because of that they are going to be doing aggressive work in WIA. Roberta stated that this skyrocketed this year. These are single individuals with no dependents between

years 21 to 65. Bill asked historically how many do we get in in a year. Roberta stated during the winter months they usually get 6 to 7, last winter they had 15 and they also had a couple of people that entered a drug or alcohol rehab which inflates her safety net budget.

Brian Wells entered at this time.

Roberta reported that she met with a couple of people yesterday and had suggestions of making work teams that would take people out and have them help cut brush or snow shoveling etc.

Brian Towers asked what the county's share was, Roberta stated they were down. Bill stated appropriations are down \$83,000 and revenues are down \$66,000.

As there was no further business, Roberta and Susie left at this time.

Public Health – Beth entered.

Beth stated that she missed Kristen King's line and did not put anything in there.

2960.401 – Preschool – Beth feels she will be ok with her request for this line.

4010.102 – Director of Patient Services – Beth stated that she agreed that once the Board hires a Director of Public Health she will take a decrease of \$5,000 in her salary. So she decreased her salary for 2014 by \$5,000.

Frank asked Bill where they are with hiring a new director. Bill stated that they are done with the first round of interviews and they are now setting up for the second round with two candidates. Both candidates are very strong and he feels the Board should be able to make a decision after the interviews next week. Brian Towers asked if they will have the information from the State before they do the second round interviews. Bill stated the Health Department will not evaluate multiple resumes for us, we have to tell them our preferred candidate and at that point they will do a detailed evaluation of the resume.

4010.107 – Avis Warner wasn't on the step and grade when she was first hired which needs to be done. Bill discussed how this happened. Bill will work with Beth on this salary but he needs to clarify some questions with Kim first.

4010.110 On-Call - no changes

4010.402 – Upkeep of Car – Beth decreased \$2,000 and increased 4050.402 by \$2,000

Bill asked Beth where are we with paying Helping Hands. Beth reported that the payments are down due to smaller caseload, PT is also down.

4050.101 Public Health Director – Put in \$70,000 as a place holder

4050.120 – Clerk/Computer Support Aide – Kristen King – Beth didn't put in anything because she missed this line.

Frank asked for some back ground as to why Beth is not replacing two positions. Beth explained with the Affordable Care Act what is happening is that everyone is going to have insurance; everyone is going to have a primary care physician; everyone is going to have a pediatrician etc.

What has historically been the case is that Public Health has always been the safety net so that when people don't have insurance or they have to drive fifty miles one way to get their child immunized they could come to Public Health and the service is provided. Because of the Affordable Care Act we have a medicaid redesign program that is changing the system dramatically. That means what we were able to do in the past we can't do anymore.

4050.201 – Automobiles – Beth spoke with Tracy and she will be buying two new cars this year.

4052 – Immunization – This is money in and money out.

4059.1 and 4059.8 – Early Intervention – Beth reported that .1 and .8 are the only lines that we can get reimbursement on, not any of the .4's.

3446 – Physically Handicapped Children's Program – Needs to be decreased to \$500.00 because we haven't used this line in many years

2280.3000 – Other Gov't/Warren Co OFA – Needs to have \$2,500 in this line

1689.1000 – Other – Preschool – Beth increased this line to \$10,000.

As there was no further business, the meeting ended.