

**ONEIDA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF AUGUST 22, 2022**

Members present: Mr. Bob Thome, Jr. (Chair), Mr. Ted Cushing

Members via Zoom: Mr. Jim Winkler, Mr. Anthony Rio, Ms. Linnaea Newman

Staff: Ms. Mary Rideout, Mr. Jason Dailey, Ms. Jeri Driscoll

1. Call to Order. Approval of Agenda:

The regular meeting of the Oneida County Social Services Committee was brought to order at 9:00 a.m. by Mr. Bob Thome, Jr., Chairperson. The Chairperson noted that the meeting had been properly posted and mailed in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Laws. Motion by Mr. Ted Cushing, seconded by Mr. Bob Thome to approve the agenda as posted. All ayes; motion carried.

2. Minutes of Social Services Committee – July 26, 2022:

Motion made by Mr. Ted Cushing, seconded by Mr. Bob Thome, to approve the Social Services Committee Minutes of July 26, 2022 minutes as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

3. Future Meeting Dates and Location:

Meeting dates in the month of September and December were discussed. Meetings will be held on the following dates at 9:00 a.m. in the County Board Room:

September 26, 2022

October 24, 2022

November 28, 2022

December 19, 2022

4. Public Comment:

No comments.

Veterans Services:

1. Operation Green Light:

Mr. Jason Daily presented the Resolution for Operation Green Light. Motion by Mr. Ted Cushing, seconded by Mr. Jim Winkler to approve the Resolution to be presented to the County Board. All ayes, motion carried.

2. Northwoods Veterans Homestead Update:

Minutes from the last Northwoods Veterans Homestead was given to the committee. The committee did not have any questions or concerns. Informational only, no action needed.

3. 2022 Financial & Statistical Reports:

The Statistical Report was reviewed by the committee. There were no Line Item Transfers and one Voucher. Motion by Mr. Ted Cushing, seconded by Mr. Jim Winkler to approve the Voucher and Statistical Report as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

4. Public Comment:

No comments.

5. Agenda items for future meetings:

- Mr. Sage the New Director from VA Medical Introduction/Presentation at the September or October meeting.
- Northwoods Veterans Homestead Update
- PACT
- Usual Agenda Items

Social Services:

1. 2023 Information Technology Plan:

Ms. Mary Rideout presented the changes to the Technology Plan and Upgrade Schedule. Items that are more system wide costs were transferred from the Social Services budget to the ITS budget. Eventually this will reducing duplication of costs when Social Services is on the County Server. This reduced the Social Services budget by about \$10,000. Motion by Mr. Ted Cushing, seconded by Ms. Linnaea Newman to approve the 2023 Technology Plan and Upgrade Schedule as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

2. 2023 Social Services Budget:

Ms. Mary Rideout presented the 2023 budget. The County tax levy would be \$2,016,447 including the ADRC. This is an increase of \$132,454. This includes moving staff to 2080 from 1950 hours, the additional Social Work position as well as the Lead Social Work positions. The department absorbed a lot of the cost within the budget. The committee recommended submitting the budget as it is and address any issues that arise at the Administrative Committee. It was suggested to have the total additional hours to bring everyone to the 2080 when it is brought to the Administrative Committee. Motion by Mr. Ted Cushing, seconded by Ms. Linnaea Newman to approve the 2023 Social Services Budget and bring to the Administrative Committee. All ayes, motion carried.

3. Update on Closure of Lincoln Hills/Copper Lake:

Ms. Mary Rideout explained that the Wisconsin Department of Corrections has selected a site for a new Type 1 facility in the city of Milwaukee. Many steps remain before construction of a new facility can begin. It will probably be years before the closing of Lincoln Hills/Copper Lake. Informational only, no action needed.

4. Professional Foster Parent Utilization:

Ms. Mary Rideout explained the different Foster Care Programs including the Professional Foster Parent Program. This program is a Milwaukee County Program in which a Foster Parent is paid a higher contracted rate, similar to a salary, but are not allowed to work outside of the home as the youth have high needs. Oneida County Social Services is looking at the Professional Foster parent for one of our youth. It will cost approximately \$60,000-\$70,000 more per year than the average Foster Care Program. The Department is working with the Department of Children and Families (DCF) and Corporation Counsel on this program. The cost is higher than treatment foster care but it is less than Residential, Lincoln Hills or Hospital Placements. There is also a lot of monitoring that is done by the Social Services and the Child Placement Agency. This does not create an employment situation, as the PFP is licensed through a Child Placing Agency (CPA), and payments to the PFP go through the CPA. Informational only, no action needed.

5. ADRC Update:

Ms. Mary Rideout gave an ADRC Update:

- Home delivered meals are still the most popular although the in-person meals are increasing some.
- The ADRC have many groups that are coming as well as additional groups that are being worked on such as Art Start – Spark Alliance and Cycling without Age.
- Fully staffed at the ADRC.
- Flu Clinic will be starting in mid-September.

6. Agency Update: Staffing, Building Staff Turnover, Building Project Update, Child Support Month:

Staffing/Vacancies:

- Sophia Africano has accepted the Social Work position. She is not able to relocate to our area until mid-September, but she has been hired as an LTE with us so that she can do her 40 hours of pre-service training before her official start date.
- Many Counties are experiencing significant vacancies. Our turnover rate has been low in 2021 and so far in 2022. Ms. Mary Rideout explained the turnover in 2020, 2021 and so far in 2022.

Building Project Update:

- Building and Grounds is still working with the contractor on scheduling. Staff have been working very hard to clean up the area that will be remodeled.

Child Support Awareness and Appreciation Month:

- August is Child Support Awareness month.

6. 2022 Financial & Statistical Reports, Vouchers, Audit of Payments and Line Item Transfers:

The committee reviewed the Financial/Statistical Reports, Vouchers, Audit of Payment and Worker's Compensation Report. The projected 2022 deficit for the Department of Social Services is approximately \$433,179.

- Motion by Mr. Ted Cushing, seconded by Ms. Linnaea Newman to approve Financial and Statistical Reports, Vouchers, Line Item Transfers and Worker's Compensation Report as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

7. Public Comment:

No Comments.

8. Agenda Items for future Meetings:

- Budget
- Usual Agenda Items

9. Adjourn:

There being no further business to be brought before the Committee, it was moved by Mr. Bob Thome, Jr. to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 a.m. The next meeting of the Social Services Committee will be Monday, September 28, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. in the County Board Room.

Mr. Anthony Rio, Secretary

Mr. Bob Thome Jr., Chair

Date: August 22, 2022