

Health & Human Services Committee
February 23, 2021
Minutes

Members Virtually Present:

Committee Chair John Peck, Legislators Allen Drake, James Nabywaniec, Jeremiah Maxon, Robert Ferris, Corey Grant, and Anthony Doldo

Others Virtually Present:

Legislators Robert Cantwell, William Johnson, Michael Montigelli, Daniel McBride, Patrick Jareo, Frances Calarco, County Attorney David Paulsen, Conf. Asst. for Fiscal Affairs and Information Technology Director Gregory Hudson

Others Present:

Board Chair Scott Gray, County Administrator Robert Hagemann, Deputy Administrator Sarah Baldwin, Confidential Secretary Jill Jones

Chairman Peck called the virtual meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He advised that the meeting is being conducted under the extraordinary circumstance of a public health emergency (COVID-19), and under Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 202.1; without permitting public in-person access to the meeting, authorizing the meeting to be held partially or completely with members appearing by remote conference call or similar service, and the meeting is being live streamed via the web and recorded, including the participation of the members appearing by remote link.

With regard to the minutes of the January meeting, Legislator Doldo requested that they be changed to reflect that the Fire Advisory Board meeting took place in September, not October as noted during discussion of the EMS Advisory Board resolution. The Committee approved the minutes with the one change as noted.

Chairman Peck introduced a resolution Authorizing Agreements with the City of Watertown (Citibus) for Transportation Services for the Elderly and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Ferris seconded by Legislator Nabywaniec and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

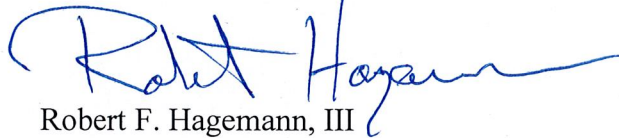
Chairman Peck introduced a resolution Authorizing Agreement with Samaritan Medical Center for Use of Facilities to the Medical Examiner Program and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Doldo seconded by Legislator Grant and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Peck introduced a resolution Amending 2021 County Budget Relative to Additional Revenue From the Redlich Horwitz Foundation for Family First Readiness Funding and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Doldo seconded by Legislator Nabywaniec and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Peck said that Jefferson County is finally receiving Covid-19 vaccines and hoped we could get back on track with that endeavor and keep our positive Covid cases trending down, and our Covid vaccine numbers increasing. Board Chair Gray advised that the clinic scheduled for this Friday was booked in 40 minutes and the Tuesday clinic next week is for 1b (workforce) and 1c (people with comorbidities) vaccine groups. He said when our partner agencies are reallocating doses to the County for the JCC clinic they may be for specific designated groups. There was discussion concerning the 1b workforce group and how there are many workers that should qualify and are not on the specific list of people eligible and how New York State is inconsistent with federal officials in that regard. Legislator Cantwell asked if a business could be considered essential, but the employees not have access to the vaccine. Chairman Gray confirmed that is correct, and added that quarantining can also be different for certain essential businesses. He said there are very few businesses that have exemptions in terms of quarantining such as law enforcement, paid fire fighters and health care workers, and there are strict measures in place when they go to work under quarantined conditions, they are to be separated from everyone else at work, and are only allowed to go to work and come home.

There being no further business of the Committee, on a motion by Legislator Doldo seconded by Legislator Ferris and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert F. Hagemann, III
Clerk of the Board