

**HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2014
1:30 p.m.**

PRESENT: P. Yendell, L. Semmel, I. Davis, B. Donohue, E. Gott, D. LeFeber, C. DiPasquale, W. Wadsworth, I. Coyle

ABSENT: B. Carman,

OFFICE FOR THE AGING – JESSICA WILKINS

Action Item(s) To Be Reported

1. AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN OF THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO SIGN THE FOLLOWING CONTRACT(S) FOR THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE AGING: LIVINGSTON COUNTY AREA TRANSPORTATION SERVICE, NOYES MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Livingston County Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to sign the following contract(s) for the Livingston County Office for the Aging, according to the term(s) designated, subject to review by the County Attorney and County Administrator:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Livingston County Area Transportation Services 4390 Gypsy Lane Mt. Morris, NY 14510 For: Transportation to Senior Nutrition Centers	4/1/14-3/31/15	\$6,500.00

<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Local Share</i>	<i>Budgeted ?</i>
NYS OFA Community Service for the Elderly = \$4,875.00	\$1625	Yes X No

Director's Comments:

Provides rides to and from the Senior Nutrition Sites through the Livingston Area Transportation Service. Riders are asked to contribute \$1.00 per one way ride. However, no one is refused service because of inability to contribute.

Noyes Memorial Hospital 111 Clara Barton Street Dansville, NY 14437 For: Lifeline Emergency Response System	4/1/14-3/31/15	\$40,745.00
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<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Local Share</i>	<i>Budgeted ?</i>
NYS OFA Community Service for the Elderly = \$18,745 NYS OFA Expanded in home service program = \$22,000		Yes X No

Director's Comments:

Contract is for the provision of personal emergency response unit services. The local match requirement of \$19,905.00 is met by the provision of in-kind services by Noyes Hospital staff and space. Ms. Wilkins reviewed both contracts for the Committee. Mrs. Donohue questioned whether there have been any problems with the units. Ms. Wilkins explained that there have not been any problems.

Motion: Mr. Gott moved and Mrs. Semmel seconded to approve the foregoing resolution. Carried.

Informational Item(s) Written Only

1. The Office for the Aging has coordinated training to update county staff on the outreach service that will be made available to Livingston County residents, from the Alzheimer's Association of Greater Rochester. The presenter is the Dementia Special Services Coordinator, Debra Giordano. More information on these services will be presented to the Board at the May meeting.

2. Program Summary Report for Fiscal Period 4/1/2013 – 1/21/2014

Age 60 - 75 yrs = 1310
 Age 75+ = 764
 Age 85 + = 349
 Under 60 caregivers = 57
 Total served all ages = 2064

Poverty Level

100 % (\$11,490 annually or under) = 230
 150% (\$17,235 annually) = 512

Frail / Disabled (2-3 activities of daily living that are difficult to perform) = 629
 Live Alone = 544

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT - RYAN SNYDER

Action Item(s) To Be Reported

1. AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO APPOINT MEMBER(S) TO THE COMMUNITY INITIATIVES COUNCIL:

Livingston County Community Initiatives Council			
Name	Address	Rep/Title	Term
Terry Holbrook	6839 Marrowback Road, Conesus, NY 14435	Private Sector	1/1/14 – 12/31/16

Mr. Snyder explained that Mr. Holbrook was in Florida and missed his oath of office and needs to be reappointed.

Motion: Mr. Gott moved and Mrs. Semmel seconded to approve the foregoing resolution. Carried.

2. AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN OF THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO SIGN THE FOLLOWING CONTRACT(S) FOR THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY OFFICE OF WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT: WNY RURAL AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Livingston County Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to sign the following contract(s) for the Livingston County Department of Workforce Development, according to the term(s) designated, subject to review by the County Attorney and County Administrator:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Amount</u>
WNY Rural Area Health Education Center 20 Duncan Street Warsaw, NY 14569	8/4/14 – 8/8/14	up to \$4,000.00

For: Med Tech program for the Summer Youth Employment Program

<u>Funding Source</u>	<u>Local Share</u>	<u>Budgeted?</u>		
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	0%	Yes	X	No

Director's Comments: This is a new partnership with WNY Rural Area Health Education Center to provide a weeklong Med Tech program following the three-week career exploration program being provided at Genesee Valley Education Partnership.

This is for the summer program. Mr. Snyder explained that the program was changed around last year introducing career exploration for our younger youth to try and take them out of the direct worksite and give them more of a career exploration experience opportunities. He is expanding that this year and this is a new partnership to provide a match camp. This is a week long camp that will expose the kids to medical careers. This is the first year for this program. They will also be adding an Agricultural week this summer using some extra money that the BEA had. Mr. Snyder explained that he has a great staff that comes up with great ideas.

Motion: Mr. LeFeber moved and Mrs. Donohue seconded to approve the foregoing resolution. Carried.

Informational Item To Be Reported

1. Annual Teen Recognition Dinner- Mr. Snyder wanted to share his concerns on the cost increases over the

last few years for this event. Food costs are higher. Minimum wage is going up. There are more kids are being served each year. The River Hotel costs have been escalating significantly and they have not been able to find another venue. There was discussion of some short term payment options for meals this year. Mr. Gott does not feel that the program should be changed. It is a wonderful program and should continue as is. He believes that the youth should be rewarded for doing the right thing. The County does a fair amount of business at the River Hotel and there is no reason why they can not take that into consideration. Children living outside of the County, but attending school within the County are eligible to be recognized. Mr. Wadsworth has spoken with many past recipients who still remember this as a highlight of their school years.

Informational Item(s) Written Only

1. Workforce Investment Act Common Measures (PY 12, Qtr. 4)

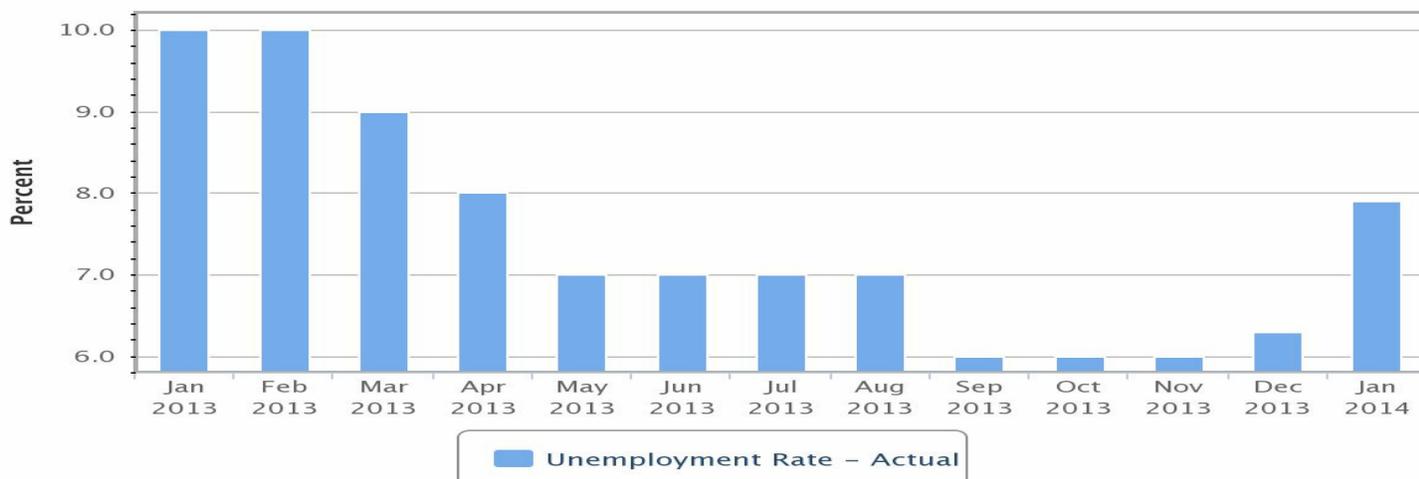
Metric	Achieved Measure	Total Enrolled in Services	Actual %	Goal %
Adults Entering Employment	803	1146	70%	57%
Adults Retaining Employment	937	1132	83%	81%

Metric	Achieved Measure	Total Enrolled in Services	Actual %	Goal %
Dislocated Workers Entering Employment	319	450	71%	53%
Dislocated Workers Retaining employment	274	341	80%	81.5%

Metric	Achieved Measure	Total Enrolled in Services	Actual %	Goal %
Youth Placed in Employment or Education	13	21	62%	66.5%
Youth Attaining Degree or Certification	12	18	67%	59%
Youth Gaining Literacy or Numeracy	2	8	25%	48%

2. Date tables created using Revelstone PM System – Pilot Department

Unemployment Rate
2013-2014



3. Office of Workforce Development Activity Report

Activity	February 2014
Counselor Assisted Appointments	62
UI Eligibility Reviews	218

Adults/Youth in Training	22
Credentials Earned	7
Employer Recruitment Events	2
Employer Job Postings	19
Job Referrals	129
Workshop Attendees	53

4.

Workforce

- Summer Youth Employment Program applications are due by April 4th. Program runs from 7/7 to 8/15.
- The Hands On Careers program will be expanded by two weeks, with plans to include career exploration in medical technology and agriculture.
- The Conesus Lake Watershed Steward Program will become a summer worksite, allowing youth to learn about conservation and invasive species detection.
- The 18th Annual Livingston County Job Fair will be held Wednesday May 21st at the River Hotel.
- Workforce Development will be offering a series of workshops at GCC Dansville leading up to graduation.

Youth Bureau

- The Teen Recognition banquet will be held Wednesday April 30th, 2014 at the River Hotel in Mt. Morris
- 104 nominees will be honored with recipients from all seventeen towns.
- \$1.3M in funding restoration is being considered as part of the state budget negotiation.
- Prevention 1st presented at the Youth Board and is available to speak with groups about fire prevention.

Community Service Block Grant

- CAN/HHA dual certification training will be held from April 2nd to May 21st at the CNR.
- Sixteen students were selected from a pool of 47 applicants.
- At least 2 students selected are currently receiving public assistance.

CENTER FOR NURSING & REHABILITATION – FRANK BASSETT

Action Item(s) To Be Reported

1. REQUEST TO DELETE ONE FULL-TIME CUSTODIAL WORKER POSITION AND CREATE ONE FULL-TIME NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANT POSITION AND REFERRING THE MATTER TO THE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE.

Director’s Comments:

Attrition presents opportunity to delete an obsolete full time Custodial Worker title (Grade 3) upon an employee’s tentative retirement 7/5/14 and in lieu create a full time Neighborhood Assistant (Grade 2) position. The County Administrator has been advised and approves of the Neighborhood Assistant position creation to properly align duties with current organization needs. The Director requests authorization to delete the full-time Custodial Worker position upon the employee’s retirement and then create and fill one full time Neighborhood Assistant position. Mr. Bassett does not have a definite retirement date yet. The Committee will wait for a specific date to delete the position.

Motion: Mrs. Donohue moved and Mr. Davis seconded to approve the foregoing resolution. Carried.

2. PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF MAY 11-17, 2014 AS NURSING HOME WEEK IN LIVINGSTON COUNTY IN CELEBRATION OF OLDER AMERICANS’ MONTH:

WHEREAS, we as Americans experience aging as the natural order of life, live longer than at any time in the past, and seek to maintain our highest level of physical function in periods of infirmity; and

WHEREAS, nursing homes at the local, state and national level provide skilled nursing and rehabilitative care for injured, disabled, or sick persons who require chronic or restorative nursing care; and

WHEREAS, the nursing homes in Livingston County provide a high quality of care and services to meet

the needs of Livingston County residents and the greater community, and

WHEREAS, nursing homes are a vital component of the local economy providing employment and economic activity beneficial to the community, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Livingston County Board of Supervisors proclaims May 11-17, 2014 as Nursing Home Week in honor of the valuable contributions Livingston County's nursing homes and their staffs make to the quality of life of our county.

Motion: Mrs. Donohue moved and Mrs. Semmel seconded to approve the foregoing resolution. Carried.

Pre-approved Informational Item(s) To Be Reported

1. Financial/Operational Updates:
 - a.) Occupancy- March occupancy as of 3/25 was 99.0%. Year to Date occupancy is 99.18%.
 - b.) Cash Flow – The CNR's Cash Flow Report as of March 21, 2014 reflects \$6,677,834.
 - c.) Budget Variance and Census – The January 2014 budget variance report will be distributed and discussed at the committee meeting.
 - d.) No update regarding IGT funds release schedule.

Mr. Bassett reported that the facility is 100% occupied today. The most recent cash flow is very strong. The percent of payer Medicaid <71% and >10% for Medicare and Private Pay is <17%. Revenues are exceeding expectations in January. Worker's Compensation is over budget due to a settlement in excess of \$60,416. The actual claims expense was \$83,875, but there was a Section 32 settlement that went through the Compensation Board in the month of January for \$89,787. IGT is approved in the state budget for up to \$500M. Mr. Bassett explained the number of public nursing homes (31), 12 have already sold. The number of public nursing homes still around in 2016/2017 is probably going to be around 12. Mr. Bassett reviewed the average rehab RUG Rates. Signage was installed yesterday for the new transitional care unit. The beds have been received and the flat screen TVs and pillow speakers have been installed. There was discussion regarding the home health training registrants. Mr. Bassett thanked Mr. Gott, Mr. Yendell, Mr. Coyle and Mrs. Donohue for joining him at the Lifespan Event last week. He was honored to receive this recognition. Mr. Gott explained that the County was also recognized for our nursing home. Mr. Bassett reviewed the history of restraint use in nursing homes and how we have eliminated tie restraints completely at the CNR. Mr. Bassett reported that the food service director was removed and the Interim Food Service Director - Sarah Pisarczyk is now covering during the transition.

Informational Item(s) Written Only

1. Reports - Absenteeism & Mandation, Agency Use, Report Card
2. Transitional Care II – Expansion of rehabilitative services remains a goal to improve financial performance by expanding Medicare services and to improve the rehabilitative experience of individuals served in the Center outside of the primary 26-bed Transitional Care Unit. New signage designating the 12-bed Park Avenue Peach Family Unit at Transitional care II was installed on March 31. This space will eliminate scatter-bed placement of rehabilitative patients, as had been the past practice.
3. Therapy Services Schedule Expansion – Effective Saturday April 5 the Therapy Department will offer dual-discipline Therapy services from 8 AM to noon. Effective April 20 the CNR will begin providing Therapy services on Sundays. This expansion results in the availability of Therapy services seven days per week to reflect the CNR's seven day per week admission practice. For individuals that are seeking, and can tolerate, Therapy seven days per week this will increase satisfaction and may result in increased referrals.
4. Average Rehab Prospective Payment System (PPS) Rate Progression – Freedom Therapy was retained in December 2013 to provide Consulting Program Management and supplemental staffing based on caseload demand. The average Rehab PPS Rate for February 2014 was \$47.75 per Rehab Medicare day higher than for the same month in 2013. See attached Average Rehab RUG's Rates graph.
5. Medicaid Managed Long Term Care - The New York State Department of Health has released a new implementation schedule indicating Livingston County nursing homes must have new Medicaid admissions enrolled in a managed care plan after that date. The New York City rollout is effective April

1. We can anticipate many changes to the program before Livingston County is affected.
6. NA/HHA Training – A class of 16 participants will start the Finger Lakes Community College Nurse Aide/Home Health Aide training program at the CNR on April 2. The class is anticipated to conclude on May 23.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH/MENTAL HEALTH – JENNIFER RODRIGUEZ

Action Item(s) To Be Reported

1. AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN OF THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO SIGN THE FOLLOWING CONTRACT(S) FOR THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH: NICHOLAS H. NOYES MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, PAS OUTREACH TECHNICAL LABORATORY, LLC, D/B/A CLEARPATH DIAGNOSTICS, NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Livingston County Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to sign the following contract(s) for the Livingston County Department of Health, according to the term(s) designated, subject to review by the County Attorney and County Administrator:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Nicholas H. Noyes Memorial Hospital	2/1/14-1/31/15	\$52/visit
Amy Pollard, CEO		\$25/in-service/meeting

111 Clara Barton St.
Dansville, NY 14437

For: Nutritional Services for Patients of the CHHA and Hospice

Funding Source	Local Share	Budgeted ?
Various third party payers	%Varies by payer	Yes x No

Director's Comments: This Contract will provide for Nutritional Services for patients in the Certified Home Health Agency and Hospice programs.

PAS Outreach Technical Laboratory, LLC	3/1/14-3/31/16	Per Rate Schedule
D/B/A Clearpath Diagnostics		
600 East Genesee Street, Suite 305		
Syracuse, NY 13202		

For: Laboratory Services for Reproductive Health and Cancer Services Program

Funding Source	Local Share	Budgeted ?
Title X Family Planning Grant	0%	Yes x No

Director's Comments: This Agreement provides for laboratory services for patients of the Reproductive Health Center and the Livingston County Cancer Prevention Partnership.

New York State Department Of Health	10/1/13 – 9/30/14	\$24,486.00
Bureau Of Early Intervention		
ESP Corning Tower, Room 287		
Albany, NY 12237		

For: Early Intervention Administration

Funding Source	Local Share	Budgeted ?
New York State Department Of Health	0%	Yes X No

Director's comments: This contract allows for the administration of the early intervention program for eligible children in Livingston County.

New York State Department Of Health	4/1/14 – 3/31/15	\$33,945.00
Bureau Of Community Environmental Health & Food Protection		
ESP Corning Tower, Room 1395		
Albany, NY 12237		

For: Adolescent Tobacco Underage Prevention Act Administration

Funding Source	Local Share	Budgeted ?
New York State Department Of Health	0%	Yes X No

Director's Comments: This Contract Allows For The Administration Of The Adolescent Tobacco Underage Prevention Act (ATUPA) In Livingston County.

NACCHO (National Association of County 12/20/13 – 7/31/14 \$3,500.00

And City Health Officials)

1100 17th Street, Northwest, 7th Floor

Washington, Dc 20036,

For: Medical Reserve Corp.

<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Local Share</i>	<i>Budgeted ?</i>
NACCHO	0%	Yes X No

Director's Comments: this is a capacity building grant for medical reserve corp.

Ms. Rodriguez reviewed the above contracts for the Committee.

Motion: Mrs. Donohue Moved And Mrs. Semmel Seconded To Approve The Foregoing Resolution. Carried.

2. PROCLAIMING APRIL 7-13, 2014 AS “NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK” AND THE THEME IS “PUBLIC HEALTH: START HERE.”

WHEREAS since 1995, the American Public Health Association, through its sponsorship of National Public Health Week, has educated the public, policymakers and public health professionals about issues important to improving the public's health;

WHEREAS seven in ten deaths in the U.S. are related to preventable diseases such as obesity, diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease, and cancer. Another striking fact is that 75 percent of our health care dollars are spent treating such diseases. However, only 3 percent of our health care dollars go toward prevention;

WHEREAS nearly one-third of all students in the U.S. do not graduate from high school on time. Students who don't graduate face lifelong health risks and high medical costs, and are more likely to engage in risky health behaviors. They are less likely to be employed and insured, and earn less-all of which continues to cycle of poverty and disparities.

WHEREAS more than half of all cancer deaths could be prevented by making healthy choices like not smoking, staying at a healthy weight, eating right, keeping active, and getting recommended screening tests.

WHEREAS food-borne contaminants cause an average of 5,000 deaths, 325,000 hospitalizations, 76 million illnesses, and costs billions of dollars annually. The five most common food-borne pathogens cost the U.S. economy more than \$44 billion each year in medical costs and lost productivity.

WHEREAS strong public health systems are critical for sustaining and improving community health: NOWTHEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED by the Livingston County Board of Supervisors, that the Supervisors -

- (1) Supports the observance of National Public Health Week to offer education on the importance of educating the public about issues important to improving the public's health;
- (2) Recognizes and applauds the Livingston County Department of Health for providing information about the importance of prevention and making healthy life choices for the residents of Livingston County;
- (3) Urges residents of Livingston County to observe this week by helping our families, friends, neighbors, co-workers and leaders better understand the value of public health and adopt preventive lifestyle habits in light of this year's theme, “**Public Health: Start Here.**”
- (4)

Motion: Mr. Davis moved and Mr. Gott seconded to approve the foregoing resolution. Carried.

Mrs. Donohue presented a resolution passed at the Community Services Board on supporting the continuation of our sheltered workshops for consideration by the Human Services Committee. The resolution was not clear and Mr. Coyle will ask NYSAC to research this issue.

The management plan was approved by the Department of Health. As soon as Chairman Gott signs the executed contract, we can begin the management contract with VNA.

Informational Item(s) Written Only

Department of Health:

1. We have applied for ASPCA funding to secure a fee/low cost Spay /Neuter Grant.
2. Cheryl Manthey has been provisionally appointed to the Secretary of the Public Health Director.
3. Our annual meeting is April 15, 2014.
4. We were named the Healthiest County in NYS for 2014, this is the second year in a row by the Robert Wood Foundation.
5. Planning for the annual Shape 5k is underway, to be held on May 3, 2014.
6. Chlamydia Prevention and Screening initiative: focus group conducted at SUNY Geneseo, revised posters as per focus group results, English and Spanish posters to be printed and placed in Mt. Morris, Geneseo and Dansville in April
7. Presentation on anatomy, birth control and STIs to male and female inmates at Livingston County Jail
8. Main Streets Go Blue county-wide media and outreach campaign completed: continue to monitor CSP and Noyes colonoscopy data

Mental Health:

1. We are recruiting a new ICM.
2. We have a new part time therapist to coordinate intakes.
3. We have applied for diversion funding through the Office of Mental Health due to the closure of St. James Mercy behavioral unit.
4. Our compliance rates on treatment plans are at 98.9% for the month of March.
5. We are working on the Annual Plan due June, 2014.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES - DIANE DEANE

Action Item(s) To Be Reported

1. PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF APRIL AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

Whereas throughout the year, the Livingston County Department of Social Services Child Protective Services Unit protects children by investigating all allegations of child abuse and maltreatment, and;

Whereas the purpose of the Child Protective Services Act of 1973 is to encourage more complete reporting of suspected child abuse and maltreatment and established the requirement that each county investigate all reports in order to protect children from further abuse and maltreatment, and;

Whereas Child Abuse and Maltreatment research shows that when parents possess six protective factors, the risk for neglect and abuse diminishes and optimal outcomes for children, youth, and families are promoted, and;

Whereas Livingston County believes that focusing on ways to build and promote the protective factors, in every interaction with children and families, is the best thing our community can do to prevent child maltreatment and promote optimal child development and therefore encourages all individuals and organizations to play a role in making Livingston County a better place for children and families, and;

Whereas April is the month to celebrate the role that Communities play in protecting children. By working together as a community, we all can play a part in promoting children's emotional well-being and strengthening families.

Now, Therefore, I, Eric R. Gott Chairman of the Board of Supervisors for the County of Livingston do hereby recognize April 2014 as National Child Abuse Prevention Month. And during this month and throughout the year, **Livingston County** is dedicated to supporting families and reducing the risk of child abuse and neglect.

Motion: Mr. Gott moved and Mr. Davis seconded to approve the foregoing resolution. Carried.

Mrs. Deane reported that we now have a woman and her child in Jemison House. She will be touring the house on Thursday and invited the any Committee member to attend with her.

Informational Item(s) Written Only

1. Status Reports

- a. Statement of Appropriations, Expenditures & Balances (Monthly) (February)
- b. Financial Assistance Program Statistics (Monthly) (February)

	<u>February</u>	<u>% change from Jan</u>
Temporary Assistance Cases (TA):	1	
Family Assistance	403	3.07%
Safety Net	390	1.04%
Total	793	2.06%

Medicaid Cases (MA):

Community	3992	0.83%
Chronic Care	220	-6.38%
Foster Care	143	-1.38%
SSI	1262	1.53%
Total	5617	0.63%

Medicaid Individuals (Monthly Premium):

These Individuals are in one of the above TA or MA.

Managed Care	6303	3.29%
Family Health Plus	1424	-4.69%
Total	7727	1.72%

Food Stamp Cases	3452	2.55%
Child Care Cases	193	-5.39%

Protective Services for Adults (PSA)	77	10.00%
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Preventive Services	52	-1.89%
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Child Protective Services (CPS):

New Assignments	44	-12.00%
New Assignments that went FAR	14	-39.13%

Foster Children	46	24.32%
Children in other than Foster Homes (FH)	9	-18.18%

2. Employees hired, resigned or retired in March:

Lisa Batlle	Layoff	HEAP Seasonal Examiner	Nunda	3/28/14
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3. The Agency will be supporting National Child Abuse Prevention month with various activities that include education and awareness about the protective factors as well as a Read to Your Child initiative where caseworkers making home visits will provide children's books to families and informational brochures. Books and signage will also be prominent in lobby at the Mt. Morris office.
4. Two computers have been set up in the lobby at the Mt. Morris office for clients to apply for SNAP benefits on-line through MyBenefits.Org.
5. Mobile Work Crew is looking for more projects at towns, villages, churches, cemeteries.

Mr. Wadsworth explained that he has been working with Frank Hollister recently and Mr. Wadsworth asked if we can assist him with the work that he does. Mr. Davis questioned any potential for an ROTC internship out of Geneseo. Mr. Coyle explained that there is space for a part time assistant now. Maybe now is the time to discuss getting help for Frank.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Gott moved and Mr. LeFeber to move into executive session for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular person.

Mr. Gott moved and Mrs. Semmel seconded to reconvene in regular session.

No action taken.

Mrs. Semmel moved and Mrs. Donohue seconded to adjourn the committee meeting at 2:28 p.m.

2:25 ADJOURNMENT

VETERAN'S SERVICES AGENCY – FRANK HOLLISTER

Informational Item(s) Written Only

1. On March 7, 2014, County Highway Superintendent Don Higgins, I and two representatives from the Canandaigua VAMC met to discuss the placement of and requirements for the mobile medical unit that is under construction and will hopefully be fully operational by September 2014. The County Highway facility has the ability to put the motor home inside one of its bays with electrical, internet and water hook-ups readily available. There is also adequate parking and a lounge area where veterans can wait for their appointment. At present, the mobile unit will be here on Fridays and have space for audiology, blood draw, mental health services, primary care visits and telehealth. This office will be working with local organizations such as RSVP and Senior Companions to assist in transporting senior veterans and their spouses to the mobile unit.
2. Service Officer Training was held at the Buffalo Regional Office on March 11, 2014. We were introduced to the newly appointed Regional Manager and Deputy Manager for Compensation and Pension. New policies and procedures were discussed for Fully Developed Claims (FDCs), which will "hopefully" expedite future claims, as long as all pertinent/required paperwork is submitted with the original claims. Those Service Officers who work "in the field" or who are County Service Officers, made the R.O. aware of the fact that we have unique situations that makes it very difficult to comply with the VA's impending mandates. Some counties do not have the budgets to implement what the VA is requiring, some counties still submit claims on VA forms by writing or typing in the information required, and those Service Officers at the R.O. very seldom have face-to-face contact with clients, but do their claims via the phone and mail the claim to the claimant to be signed. The VA is pushing for the implementation of ebenefits, utilized by the veteran, to establish and follow the individual claim. Older veterans are not computer literate and do not want to be. The VA has informed all Service Officers that around July 1, 2014, they will stop sending Rating Decisions, awards letters, request for information,

- etc. to the Service Officers, only to the claimants. Without the information provided and requested of the veteran, numerous claims could/will be lost due to the time frames responses are to be submitted.
3. The SEP program has, at this time, proven to be inadequate. After the training and submission of an application for the PIV card from the VA, no one in attendance at our CVSOA meeting can use the system established by the VA to review veteran records. If a Service Officer wants to apply for the program using his or her credit card, they can enter the system, for a short period of time. No one is willing to give the VA their credit card information. Another stalemate!
 4. From March 16 to March 18, 2014, I attend the American Legion Legislative Hill Day in Albany, NY. Legionnaires visited their local representatives and discussed important local issues. I visited Senators Gallivan and Young and Assemblymen Nojay and DiPietro as well as several other representatives from Western NY. Some of the topics discussed were: extending indefinitely, the 458b Cold War Veterans Tax Exemption, the designation of the Livingston County Veterans Memorial Highway from the Wyoming County line (20A) to 390, the implementation of the use of crossbows during hunting season, the repeal of the SAFE Act and support for 5% of all disabled veterans for state contracts.
 5. I have been working closely with staff from Genesee Community College (Veteran Advisory Committee) to establish a Veteran's Symposium. The date is May 6, 2014 from 1:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
 6. On Sunday, March 30, 2014, I will be participating in Livingston County's First Annual End Hunger Day's Informational Fair, from 1 – 3 p.m. at the United Methodist Church in Geneseo. This is sponsored by a sorority from SUNY Geneseo.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele R. Rees
Clerk of the Board