

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: HEALTH SERVICES

DATE: JUNE 9, 2009

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS SOKOL
THOMAS
CHAMPAGNE
O'CONNOR
STRAINER
PITKIN

OTHERS PRESENT:

BARBARA TAGGART, ADMINISTRATOR OF WESTMOUNT HEALTH FACILITY
BETSY HENKEL, COMPTROLLER OF WESTMOUNT HEALTH FACILITY
BRENDA HAYES, DIRECTOR OF COUNTRYSIDE ADULT HOME
FREDERICK MONROE, CHAIRMAN
AMY BARTLETT, FIRST ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY
TRISH NENNINGER, SECOND ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY
HAL PAYNE, COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND FISCAL SERVICES
JOAN SADY, CLERK OF THE BOARD
SUPERVISOR SIMMES
SUPERVISOR TAYLOR
SUPERVISOR VANNESS
TODD LUNT, DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES
SKIP STRANAHAN, WARREN COUNTY RESIDENT
ALYSON MARTIN, *THE POST STAR*
CHARLENE DiRESTA, SR. LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:

SUPERVISOR SHEEHAN

Mr. Sokol called the meeting of the Health Services Committee to order at 12:00 p.m.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Brenda Hayes, Director of Countryside Adult Home, who distributed copies of the agenda to the Committee members; *a copy of the agenda is on file with the minutes.*

Ms. Hayes stated that she had discussed the staffing requirements for a 48-bed facility with the New York State Department of Health. As a result, she said, she was requesting to abolish two additional positions, the first of which was a Case Manager position, base salary of \$34,178. She advised that a Case Manager position was not necessary for a facility of under 50 beds and the current census was 42 residents. Mr. Sokol stated that the Case Manager position had been discussed last year as assisting in expediting the Medicaid application process at Glens Falls Hospital and he asked if the abolishment of this position would cause any delays in the application process. Ms. Hayes responded that they had been unable to arrange the necessary training for the employee and therefore; she added, the position was currently not assisting in the application process.

Motion was made by Mr. Champagne, seconded by Mr. Thomas and carried unanimously to abolish the position of Case Manager at Countryside Adult Home, base salary of \$34,178; thereby amending the Department's Table of Organization and to forward same to the Personnel Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Ms. Hayes advised that the second position being considered for abolishment was an Activity Director position, base salary of \$30,222. She said that if the Facility had a census of over 50 residents, an Activity Director was required for ½ hour per day for each individual over 50. She added that the Facility had not had over 50 residents in a long time and the positions had been

filled in anticipation of the Facility reaching full capacity. She advised that she had included in the agenda packet a letter that explained how the elimination of the two positions would effect the Facility and it's residents, as well as a plan for continuation of the activities for the residents.

Mr. Champagne asked if these were union positions and Ms. Hayes responded affirmatively. Mr. Sokol asked if there would be a loss of any activities and Ms. Hayes replied in the negative and added that she would schedule the activities which would be directed by either herself, other staff members or the residents themselves. Mr. Pitkin recommended that the activity level of the residents be monitored to ensure that there was no decrease in activity.

Following a brief discussion, motion was made by Mr. Champagne, seconded by Mr. Pitkin and carried unanimously to abolish the position of Activity Director at Countryside Adult Home, base salary of \$30,222; thereby amending the Department's Table of Organization and to forward same to the Personnel Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Ms. Hayes exited the meeting at 12:08 p.m.

Trish Nenninger, Second Assistant County Attorney, stated that the Committee needed to enter into an executive session for the giving and receiving of legal advice under attorney/client privilege relating to the County's rights regarding the Department of Health survey.

Motion was made by Mr. Champagne, seconded by Mr. Pitkin and carried unanimously that executive session be declared pursuant to Section 108 (3) of the Public Officers Law.

Executive session was declared from 12:09 p.m. to 12:24 p.m.

The Committee reconvened.

Ms. Taggart requested to abolish the position of Cleaner at Westmount Health Facility, base salary of \$22,897; thereby amending the Department's Table of Organization.

Motion was made by Mr. Pitkin, seconded by Mr. Thomas and carried unanimously to abolish the position of Cleaner at Westmount Health Facility, base salary of \$22,897; thereby amending the Department's Table of Organization and to forward same to the Personnel Committee.

Pursuant to the executive session, motion was made by Mr. Champagne, seconded by Mr. Strainer and carried unanimously to authorize a settlement of Westmount Civil Money Penalties in the matter of the survey relating to the elopement of a resident, for an amount not to exceed \$65,000, with an understanding that the settlement include a term of reduction of 35% of the penalty and filing financial hardship papers as further allowed under regulations. *The necessary resolution was authorized for the June 19, 2009 Board meeting.*

Motion was made by Mr. Pitkin, seconded by Mr. Champagne and carried unanimously to authorize a consulting contract with the New York Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (NYAHS), in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 for further review of the Facility

operations. *The necessary resolution was authorized for the June 19, 2009 Board meeting.*

As there was no further business to come before the Health Services Committee, on motion made by Mr. Strainer and seconded by Mr. Pitkin, Mr. Sokol adjourned the meeting at 12:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlene DiResta, Sr. Legislative Office Specialist