

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: HUMAN SERVICES

DATE: APRIL 29, 2010

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS STRAINER
GIRARD
STEC
VANNESS
TAYLOR
BENTLEY

OTHERS PRESENT:

CHRISTIE SABO, DIRECTOR, OFFICE FOR THE AGING
WILLIAM RESSE, DIRECTOR, EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING
ADMINISTRATION
SHARON SANO, SENIOR COUNSELOR OF EMPLOYMENT &
TRAINING ADMINISTRATION
DENISE DiRESTA, DIRECTOR OF VETERANS' SERVICES
FREDERICK MONROE, CHAIRMAN
NICOLE LIVINGSTON, DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD
KEVIN GERAGHTY, BUDGET OFFICER
SUPERVISOR LOEB
SUPERVISOR MCCOY
TODD LUNT, DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES
DON LEHMAN, *THE POST STAR*
JOANNE COLLINS, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:

SUPERVISOR SOKOL

Mr. Strainer called the meeting of the Human Services Committee to order at 9:32 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. VanNess, seconded by Mr. Bentley and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2010 Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Christie Sabo, Director of the Office for the Aging, who requested permission to attend the ACCU (Aging Concerns Unite Us) workshop to be held in Albany, New York, from June 7 - 9, 2010.

Motion was made by Mr. VanNess, seconded by Mr. Stec and carried unanimously to approve the travel request as outlined above. A copy of the Authorization to Attend Meeting or Convention is on file with the minutes.

Ms. Sabo announced that the annual Volunteer Picnic would be held on June 17, 2010 at the Elks Lodge. She stated that further details would follow.

Privilege of the floor was extended to William Resse, Director of the Employment & Training Administration (ETA), who distributed copies of the agenda to Committee members, a copy of which is on file with the minutes.

Mr. Resse requested approval to appoint Michael Irish to the Workforce Investment Board (WIB), for the period May 21, 2010 through June 30, 2013. He noted that Mr. Irish was the Human Resources Manager for the Fort William Henry Resort in Lake George, New York.

Motion was made by Mr. Bentley, seconded by Mr. Stec and carried unanimously to approve the

request to appoint Michael Irish to the WIB as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the May 21, 2010 Board meeting. A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.

Addressing the Budget outlook for July 2010 through June 2011, Mr. Resse stated that the Warren County ETA would receive an estimated 50% increase in funding. He explained that the sources of funding for the ETA were comprised of annual base formula funding for which unused portions could be carried over, supplemental funding which varied each year, summer TANF (Temporary Assistance for Need Families) funding, and 2009 Stimulus funding for which the remainder was expended in 2010. Mr. Resse stated that discussions had been held with Paul Dusek, County Attorney/Commissioner of Administrative & Fiscal Services, which included his proposed retirement date in June 2010 and he recommended that the position be filled by a full-time Director. Mr. Girard asked if Mr. Resse could assist with the search and selection of a candidate and he replied affirmatively. Mr. Resse offered to work limited hours on a temporary part-time basis to provide the necessary training for the new Director.

Continuing, Mr. Resse asserted the value of the Summer Youth Employment Program on both a national and local level by providing services and opportunities to youth from which the communities at large would ultimately benefit. He underscored the need for TANF funding to ensure the continuation of youth programming. Mr. Resse apprised that Sharon Sano, Senior Counselor, coordinated the youth programs which included oversight of the part-time ETA staff member. He informed of the possibility of an infusion of significant sums of Federal funds for the Summer Youth Employment Program, which if received, he said, would increase the Department's workload thereby causing a need to increase the hours for the part-time staff member. Final funding notices, he said, had not been received.

Sharon Sano, Senior Counselor, stated that receipt of the notice of Federal funding was anticipated in May. She apprised of the extensive preparation required with regard to summer programming and she noted that applications were being accepted. Applicants, she stated, were informed of the uncertainty of programming for the summer and therefore encouraged to seek alternative employment opportunities. Mr. Resse estimated enrollment for the Summer Youth Employment Program to be half of the 150 enrolled last year, which had increased due to the receipt of 2009 Stimulus funding. Mr. Resse reminded the Committee of the Elevate America e-Learning Program which was available to the general public and included Microsoft products.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Denise DiResta, Director of Veterans' Services, who distributed copies of the agenda to the Committee members, a copy of which is on file with the minutes. Ms. DiResta requested authorization for a contract with Sterling Solutions, Inc., to provide the Veterans Information Management System (VIMS), an electronic database system for use by the Veterans' Services Office, at a start up cost of \$1,450 for the first year, and a maintenance cost of \$450 per year thereafter, for the period commencing May 14, 2010 through May 13, 2011.

She noted that four companies with similar products had been reviewed prior to the final decision. She added that the cost was included in the departmental budget.

Motion was made by Mr. Stec, seconded by Mr. VanNess and carried unanimously to approve the request for a contract with Sterling Solutions, Inc., as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the May 21, 2010 Board meeting. A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.

Mr. Stec noted that he and Mr. Strainer had met with Todd Lunt, Director of Human Resources, and Ms. DiResta to discuss the database systems. Ms. DiResta reported the number of claims processed in 2010 as follows:

- January 7 claims
- February 4 claims
- March 5 claims
- April 13 claims

She stated that overall production had escalated subsequent to the addition of the part-time staff person in the Veterans' Office. She further noted that the Saratoga County Veterans' Services Office had contracted with VIMS and reported that 350 files were processed within a three month time period. Lastly, Ms. DiResta asserted that the new part-time staff member showed consistent initiative and was an asset to the Department.

There being no further business before the Human Services Committee, on motion by Mr. VanNess and seconded by Mr. Girard, Mr. Strainer adjourned the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanne Collins, Legislative Office Specialist