

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: HEALTH SERVICES

DATE: JANUARY 4, 2011

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: OTHERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS SOKOL	PAT AUER, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH/PATIENT SERVICES
THOMAS	PAUL DUSEK, COUNTY ATTORNEY/ADMINISTRATOR
CHAMPAGNE	JOAN SADY, CLERK OF THE BOARD
TAYLOR	SUPERVISORS GIRARD
LOEB	KENNY
MCDEVITT	STEC
WOOD	VANNES
	DON LEHMAN, <i>THE POST STAR</i>
	CHARLENE DIRESTA, SR. LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

Mr. Sokol called the meeting of the Health Services Committee to order at 10:32 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Thomas and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the previous Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Pat Auer, Director of Public Health/Patient Services, who distributed copies of the agenda to the Committee members; *a copy of the agenda is on file with the minutes.*

Ms. Auer requested authorization to offer the Influenza (flu) vaccine at no charge to individuals who were not insured and would otherwise not receive the vaccine. She explained that the Health Services Department had received 300 doses of the flu vaccine through the assistance of the New York State Department of Health (NYS DOH) in cooperation with pharmaceutical manufacturers and there had been no charge to Warren County. Ms. Auer pointed out that the vaccine had been readily available this year and attendance in the clinics had decreased as compared to 2009. She said she was requesting the administration charge of \$15 be waived in order to administer the doses to individuals who would not otherwise receive a flu vaccination due to financial circumstances. Ms. Auer clarified that she was not requesting to amend the resolution which authorized the fees charged for vaccinations which had been purchased by the County.

Motion was made by Mr. McDevitt, seconded by Mr. Champagne and carried unanimously to authorize the offering of the flu vaccine at no charge to individuals who were not insured and would otherwise not receive the vaccine. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes and the necessary resolution was authorized for the January 4, 2011 Organization Meeting.*

Mr. Sokol asked Ms. Auer if she intended to reduce the amount of doses ordered for next year. Ms. Auer responded if the vaccine was as readily available next year, as it had been this year, the amount of doses ordered would be reduced. Mr. Sokol questioned if the lower attendance at the clinics could be attributed to the economy and Ms. Auer replied the majority of the people who visited the flu clinics were elderly citizens on Medicare. She added that people who usually attended the flu clinics and paid privately had most likely received their yearly flu vaccination from one of the numerous pharmacies or doctor's offices that had offered them this year. She advised it would be beneficial to know the number of doses administered by the various pharmacies and doctor's offices; however, she added, these entities were not required to report the information.

Paul Dusek, County Attorney/Administrator, announced that an executive session would be necessary to discuss pharmaceutical litigation that involved multiple counties.

Motion was made by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mrs. Wood and carried unanimously that executive session be declared pursuant to Section 105 (d) of the Public Officers Law.

Executive session was declared from 10:36 a.m. to 10:40 a.m.

The Committee reconvened.

Pursuant to the executive session, motion was made by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried by majority vote with Mr. McDevitt abstaining to authorize the County Attorney and the Chairman of the Board to participate in settlement negotiations pertaining to the following pharmaceutical litigation matters: Merck; Novartis; Schering/Warrick; TAP; and Watson. *The necessary resolution was authorized for the January 4, 2011 Organization Meeting.*

As there was no further business to come before the Health Services Committee, on motion made by Mr. McDevitt and seconded by Mrs. Wood, Mr. Sokol adjourned the meeting at 10:41 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlene DiResta, Sr. Legislative Office Specialist