

## WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: HEALTH SERVICES

DATE: JULY 25, 2013

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**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: OTHERS PRESENT:**

SUPERVISORS SOKOL  
CONOVER  
FRASIER  
TAYLOR  
MCDEVITT

REPRESENTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH:  
PAT AUER, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH/PATIENT SERVICES  
SHARON SCHALDONE, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF HOME CARE DIVISION  
GINELLE JONES, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION  
TAWN DRISCOLL, FISCAL MANAGER  
PAUL DUSEK, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
JOAN SADY, CLERK OF THE BOARD  
FRANK E. THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER  
SUPERVISORS GIRARD  
LOEB  
MASON  
STRAINER  
WOOD  
THOM RANDALL, *ADIRONDACK JOURNAL*  
CHARLENE DIRESTA, SR. LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

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Mr. Sokol called the meeting of the Health Services Committee to order at 9:31 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. McDevitt, seconded by Mrs. Frasier 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.*

Commencing the agenda review, Ms. Auer requested acceptance of the 2012 Health Services Annual Report which was distributed at the previous Committee meeting.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Conover and carried unanimously to accept the 2012 Health Services Annual Report as presented. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes and the necessary resolution was authorized for the August 16, 2013 Board meeting.*

Ms. Auer requested authorization for Tammie DeLorenzo, Clinical and Informatics Coordinator, to attend the Home Care Association of New York State Senior and Financial Managers Conference on September 10-11, 2013 in New Paltz, New York at a cost of \$681 for Conference fees, lodging and meals. She noted that no representatives from Warren County had attended this Conference for several years as it was expensive. She added this year the Conference would include important information on reimbursement for Medicare and Medicaid, as well as negotiating managed care contracts. Sharon Schaldone, Assistant Director of Home Care Division, stated the information would be vital due to the many changes and cutbacks in the Medicare and Medicaid system.

Motion was made by Mr. Conover, seconded by Mrs. Frasier and carried unanimously to authorize attendance at the Conference as outlined above. *A copy of the Authorization to Attend Meeting or Convention form is on file with the minutes.*

Ms. Auer requested a contract with Weston Paxxon Senior Rehab Services, LLC to provide physical and occupational services to Medicare Part A eligible patients residing at the Landing of Queensbury, for a term commencing August 19, 2013 with automatic renewal on a year-to-year basis or upon written notice by either party at least thirty days prior to the expiration of the current term. She also requested a contract with PRN Physical and Occupational Therapy Network to provide physical and occupational therapy services to Medicare Part A eligible patients residing at the Glen at Hiland Meadow Queensbury, for a term commencing August 9, 2013 with automatic renewal on a year-to-year basis, unless written notice by either party was provided at least thirty days prior to the expiration of the current term. She noted both companies provided services using the same staff and administration. She added the contract would ensure referrals were received from these two facilities.

Motion was made by Mr. McDevitt, seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried unanimously to authorize the contracts with Weston Paxxon Rehab Services, LLC and PRN Physical and Occupational Therapy Network as outlined above. *Copies of the resolution request forms are on file with the minutes and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the August 16, 2013 Board meeting.*

Ms. Auer requested to amend the current contract with Prospect Child and Family Center to reflect an organizational merger with the Center for Disability Services and a name change effect July 1, 2013 to Center for Disability Services d/b/a Prospect Center. She noted remittances for services provided to preschool children would now be sent to the Center for Disability Services in Albany instead of Prospect Center.

Motion was made by Mrs. Frasier, seconded by Mr. Conover and carried unanimously to amend the current contract with Prospect Child and Family Center as outlined above. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes and the necessary resolution was authorized for the August 16, 2013 Board meeting.*

Ms. Auer requested to amend Resolution No. 193 of 2010, which authorized a contract with Strategic Healthcare Programs, LLC to provide benchmarking and Consumer Assessment of Health Care Providers and Systems (CAHPS) surveys, in order to increase the amount not to exceed from \$6,995 to \$7,594.50. She noted each CAHPS survey would continue to cost \$1.95 for a one year term. She advised the CAHPS were patient satisfaction surveys and the company performed benchmarking services to determine the comparison between Warren County Health Services and other agencies. She explained the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) required a contracted vendor and a plan be in place to assure these services were performed in a timely manner.

Motion was made by Mr. Conover, seconded by Mr. McDevitt and carried unanimously to amend Resolution No. 193 of 2012 as outlined above. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes and the necessary resolution was authorized for the August 16, 2013 Board meeting.*

Ms. Auer requested renewal of the current contract with the New York State Department of Health (NYS DOH) to allow continued funding for the WIC (Women, Infants and Children) Program for a term commencing October 1, 2013 and terminating September 30, 2014 in an amount not to exceed \$501,934; to authorize the execution of any documents necessary to accept COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment) payments and/or any monies made available to the County under the terms of the grant; and to ratify the actions of the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors in executing the renewal of the contract. She noted they had been informed that approximately 8% of COLA payments could be expected later this year and they would await the formal notification. Mr. Conover requested the

period of time covered by the COLA and Tawn Driscoll, Fiscal Manager, replied that COLA ran from April 1, 2013 through March 31, 2013 and notification was anticipated in January of 2014. Ms. Driscoll said she anticipated approximately \$36,000 in COLA payments and the funds were usually allocated towards personal services or rents. A brief discussion ensued.

Motion was made by Mr. Conover, seconded by Mrs. Frasier and carried unanimously to renew the current contract with the NYS DOH as outlined above. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes and the necessary resolution was authorized for the August 16, 2013 Board meeting.*

Ms. Auer requested a transfer of funds in the amount of \$5,309.50 from the Health Services-Contract Expense code (A.4010 470) to the Health Services-Retirees Hospitalization code (A.4010 861) to reflect the cost of health insurance for a Nurse whose retirement had not been anticipated.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Conover and carried unanimously to approve the request for a transfer of funds as outlined above and to forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the Request for Transfer of Funds form is on file with the minutes.*

Ms. Auer requested to amend the current contract with CDPHP (Capital District Physicians Health Plan), at their request, in order to insert language required by the CMS into the Medicare schedules to include prompt pay language to ensure equitable settlement of claims, submission of requirements and clean claim definitions set forth in New York State Insurance Law 3224-a.

Motion was made by Mrs. Frasier, seconded by Mr. McDevitt and carried unanimously to amend the current contract with CDPHP as outlined above. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes and the necessary resolution was authorized for the August 16, 2013 Board meeting.*

Ms. Auer requested to amend the current contract with Ivans, Inc. to reflect the company's merger with Ability Network, Inc. and to further change the terms of the agreement to authorize the purchase and use of the web-based product, to allow the billing of an unrestricted number of Medicare Claims for an amount not to exceed \$2,433, in a form approved by the County Attorney. She advised the services of this company had been utilized since 2002 but the current product was being eliminated and the new contract was necessary in order to continue billing Medicare.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Conover and carried unanimously to amend the current contract with Ivans, Inc. as outlined above. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes and the necessary resolution was authorized for the August 16, 2013 Board meeting.*

Pertaining to the pending item concerning additional CHHA's (Certified Home Health Agencies), Ms. Auer stated this item would be removed from the pending items list and would be added to items for discussion when information was available. She reported there had been no impact to the Warren County Health Services CHHA thus far and noted the CHHA was busier than ever. She noted Attachment #5 in the Agenda was created by Ms. Schaldone in order to track the impact of the new CHHA's. Ms. Schaldone informed she would check the monthly referrals received by the CHHA and compare the number to 2012. She advised the CHHA averaged 183 new cases per month, which was significant. She noted 50% of the billing for the CHHA was Medicare and the remainder was commercial or Medicaid. She stated they would meet with Case Managers at Glens Falls Hospital and noted Peter Girard, Creative Director of the Tourism Department, was assisting in the creation of a brochure for the CHHA. Ms. Auer reported she had discussed an idea with Paul Dusek, County

Administrator, concerning the possibility of placing signs on the sides of the Health Services Fleet Vehicles to inform the public that the service was available.

Mr. McDevitt inquired about the issue with new CHHA's and Ms. Auer responded the new CHHA's would have the ability to service clients in Warren County and bill Medicare and Medicaid for those services. Ms. Auer stated the concern was that the new CHHA's would "cherry pick" their clients and leave the northern Warren County communities under-served. Mr. Taylor pointed out that Fort Hudson Nursing Home had received the certification and he asked how many organizations had also received certification. Ms. Schaldone replied that besides the Warren County CHHA there were four other CHHA's in the vicinity. Ms. Auer stated the new CHHA's were more interested in the Saratoga area for their client base; however, she added, the four new CHHA's had included Warren County on their applications.

Discussion ensued pertaining to staffing for the CHHA.

Ms. Auer pointed out a Report on Emergency Response and Preparedness Activities was included in the agenda packet.

Pertaining to the Report on Revenues and Expenditures, Ms. Driscoll commented the budget was on target for this time of year. Concerning year-to-date salaries, she stated, Regular Salaries were decreased compared to the same time period for 2012; however, she added, Part-time and Overtime salaries had increased due to a number of vacant positions. Ms. Driscoll said Attachment #3 of the Agenda had been prepared at the request of Mr. Conover and reflected a year-to-date comparison for revenues and expenditures of 2013 versus 2012 and she reviewed the document in detail. She asked if the Committee would like her to continue preparing the document on a monthly basis or if they would prefer quarterly reports. Following a brief discussion on the Report, it was the consensus of the Committee that Ms. Driscoll would prepare and present the Revenue and Expense Comparison for 2012 versus 2013 on a monthly basis.

This concluded the Health Services portion of the Committee meeting and the Westmount Health Facility portion of the meeting commenced at 9:58 a.m.

Paul Dusek, County Administrator, stated the Committee would need to enter into an executive session to discuss the proposed sale of real property due to the fact that such discussions, held in public, could affect the value of said property.

Motion was made by Mr. McDevitt, seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried unanimously that executive session be declared pursuant to Section 105 (h) of the Public Officers Law.

Executive session was declared from 9:59 a.m. to 10:18 a.m.

The Committee reconvened and Mr. Sokol noted that no action was taken during the executive session.

As there was no further business to come before the Health Services Committee, on motion made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Conover, Mr. Sokol adjourned the meeting at 10:19 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Charlene DiResta, Sr. Legislative Office Specialist