

**WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**COMMITTEE: MENTAL HEALTH**

**DATE: NOVEMBER 25, 2014**

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**COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESENT:**  
SUPERVISOR McDEVITT

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

ROBERT YORK, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES  
KEVIN GERAGHTY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AMANDA ALLEN, DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**  
SUPERVISORS GIRARD  
SEEBER

FRANK E. THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER  
SUPERVISOR SIMPSON  
SAMANTHA HOGAN, ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO THE CLERK OF THE BOARD

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Mr. McDevitt called the meeting of the Mental Health Committee to order at 11:54 a.m.

Mr. McDevitt noted that Supervisor Girard was unable to attend today because he was recovering from an unexpected medical procedure. He pointed out that in the absence of Supervisors Girard and Seeber, Chairman Geraghty, would serve to make the quorum for the Committee meeting.

Motion was made by Chairman Geraghty seconded by Mr. McDevitt and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the previous Mental Health Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Robert York, Director of the Office of Community 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, Mr. York stated that because Warren County did not offer mental health services directly, arrangements were made through contracts with local not-for-profit agencies to provide community mental health services pursuant to the provisions of the Mental Hygiene Law. He then presented the request for new contracts with several agencies to provide mental health services for the term commencing January 1, 2015 and terminating on December 31, 2015 for a total amount of \$2,603,615.00. He listed the agencies as follows:

- Mental Health Association - \$841,062.00
- Behavioral Health Services of Glens Falls Hospital - \$587,150.00
- Liberty House - \$251,381.00
- C.W.I., Inc. - \$44,879.00
- Council for Prevention - \$226,075.00
- 820 River St., Inc. - \$189,037.00
- Parsons Children & Family - \$325,624.00
- PEOPLE, Inc. - \$138,407.00

Motion was made by Chairman Geraghty, seconded by Mr. McDevitt and carried unanimously to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolution was authorized for the December 19<sup>th</sup> Board meeting; *a copy of the request is on file with the minutes.*

Mr. York advised the next two agenda items consisted of requests for new contracts to provide respite services, as follows:

- Northeast Parent & Child Services in an amount not to exceed \$26,104.00, for the term commencing 01/01/15 and terminating 12/31/2015; and

- Wait House in an amount not to exceed \$19,260, for the term commencing 01/01/15 and terminating 12/31/15.

Motion was made by Chairman Geraghty, seconded by Mr. McDevitt and carried unanimously to approve both requests as presented and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the December 19<sup>th</sup> Board meeting; *copies of the requests are on file with the minutes.*

Concluding his agenda review, Mr. York provided an update on the continuing efforts to develop new services within the community to meet specific needs, such as a State funded Mobile Crisis Service for both children and adults which would lessen demand for mental health related emergency room visits, and hospitalizations and high cost services.

Chairman Geraghty asked if Mr. York had noticed an increase in firearm-related reportings within the mental health community, due to the enactment of the Safe Act. Mr. York responded affirmatively, noting that there had been a steady stream of three to four reports generated per week through the Safe Act Portal; he added that initially the number of reports has been a little higher. Mr. York explained the professionals that assisted individuals with mental health issues were only required to report if they felt the individual would engage in dangerous behavior.

Chairman Geraghty stated that he felt Warren County was very fortunate to have Mr. York's guidance, and Mr. McDevitt agreed.

As there was no further business to come before the Mental Health Committee, on motion made by Chairman Geraghty and seconded by Mr. McDevitt, Mr. McDevitt adjourned the meeting at 11:59 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Samantha Hogan, Assistant Secretary to the Clerk of the Board