I. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Ferratella called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and asked Mrs. Smith to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 6, 2021, MEETING MADE BY MR. HANNA. SECONDED BY MR. VAN CAESEELE. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

III. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

A. Community Services

1. Contract – Dr. Chapman stated Dr. Michele Lowry supervises the forensic program at the Jail and also provides part-time direct services. He requested authorization to add $6,900 to the contract for the remainder of the year. With COVID, the courts were closed and when they reopened, she had several competency evaluations to complete. Additionally there were several high-risk inmates at the Jail. He noted that he has money in the budget to cover this.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES TO AMEND THE CONTRACT WITH DR. MICHELE LOWRY TO REFLECT AN INCREASE OF $6,900 FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2021 MADE BY MR. ROUSH. SECONDED BY MR. VAN CAESEELE. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

B. Office for the Aging

1. ProAction Wellness Contract – Mrs. Baroody requested authorization to increase the ProAction Wellness contract $8,500. She noted this is due to a drastic reduction in client contributions and United Way funding. The Bone Builders exercise program, under this contract, switched to a virtual format for many months during the pandemic. They are currently doing a hybrid program with some attending in person and some attending virtually. Attendance has been down and that is why the contributions have decreased. She noted she will be using unspent EISEP funds to cover the increase to the contract.
MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING TO AMEND THE WELLNESS CONTRACT WITH PROACTION TO REFLECT AN INCREASE OF $8,500 MADE BY MR. ROUSH, SECONDED BY MR. NICHOLS. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

C. Public Health
   1. Contract – Mrs. Smith requested authorization to enter into a new contract with Stephanie Smith, Speech Language Pathologist for preschool related services. The rate is set by the State at $70.00 per session and $35.00 per group session.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH TO ENTER INTO A NEW CONTRACT WITH STEPHANIE SMITH, SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST, FOR PRESCHOOL RELATED SERVICES AT THE STATE RATES OF $70.00 PER SESSION AND $35.00 PER GROUP SESSION MADE BY MR. NICHOLS. SECONDED BY MR. VAN CAESEELE. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

   2. COVID Update – Mrs. Smith stated the vaccine information remains virtually the same. Mrs. Ferratella commented every zip code category showed an increase and that is a positive. Mrs. Smith replied it is. Within the last week there has been new interest in first-time doses. We will be holding a clinic at Gunlocke which will also be open to the community, and we have a high number that will be coming out and we are very pleased with that. Mr. Nichols asked what has been the turnout for the booster shots? Mrs. Smith replied at our Friday clinics at the Civil Defense Center, the vast majority of individuals are coming in for their booster.

Mr. Potter asked with regard to breakthrough cases, do you know which vaccine those individuals had? Mrs. Smith replied as of right now it is all three; there is not a significant difference. Mr. Potter stated he read an Israeli study which showed that the efficacy of the Pfizer vaccine decreased 30 percent over a period of time. Do you have any information on that? Mrs. Smith replied not directly, but I have read the studies. She stated that is the purpose of the booster shot. Mr. Potter commented hopefully we can get that information out to people.

Mr. Van Caeseele asked will the booster shots be available for everyone? Mrs. Smith replied it is looking like that is the direction, but we do not know for sure yet. Mr. Wheeler stated it looks like it could be a three dose course, or if there is a new variant, it could require an annual booster. Mrs. Smith stated that is yet to be determined.

D. Social Services
   1. Budget Transfer – Ms. Muller requested authorization to transfer $69,247.70 from the Contractual line to the Major Equipment line to purchase a replacement camera surveillance system for the non-secure detention facility. The current system, to the best of my knowledge, is from 1992. The new system is on State bid and we have been working with Purchasing. Mr. Wheeler explained this system will be through Day Automation and that is the vendor that we have used for all of our projects.

Mr. Nichols explained what do you mean when you say the facility is non-secured? Ms. Muller replied that means that the youth are restricted to the inside. Mr. Wheeler stated the secure detention facilities are essentially holding facilities that have wire, etc. for children. The non-secure facilities are for those children that do not meet that level of security risk and our facility is located out by the Records Facility. Ms. Prossick commented they are placed there under court order.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO TRANSFER $69,247.70 FROM THE CONTRACTUAL LINE ITEM TO THE MAJOR EQUIPMENT LINE ITEM TO PURCHASE A REPLACEMENT CAMERA SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM FOR THE NON-SECURE DETENTION FACILITY AND AMENDING THE MAJOR EQUIPMENT LIST TO REFLECT THIS PURCHASE MADE BY MR. VAN CAESEELE. SECONDED BY MR. NICHOLS. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0; Resolution Required.
Mr. Malter stated in the past we had talked about building a holding center. What is the status of that? Mr. Wheeler replied the discussions were about building a secure detention facility. Between COVID and other things, the State has put that on hold. Mr. Van Etten stated the fear is having to pay the cost to send children outside the County for treatment. Have we been bearing those costs or do we not have any children? Mr. Wheeler replied the costs were related to the transport of children to secure detention facilities. There is a shortage of beds in those facilities, but the State is working to expand the bed capacity in the Finger Lakes Region and Central New York at existing secure facilities. Ms. Lattimer asked are you indicating that the joining of counties to build a detention facility is dead? Mr. Wheeler replied not completely dead, but permanently on hold. Ms. Muller stated we will retain the 11-county consortium so if we should need something down the road it will already be intact.

Mrs. Lando asked if you are retaining the consortium, can you focus on the expansion of facilities rather than building a new one? Ms. Muller replied that is the State initiative to increase capacity. Our focus would have been an 11-county building to address the needs. We continue to work with the State to address the 11-county needs. Mr. Wheeler stated the 11-county consortium does not have a secure detention facility to look at expanding and that is driven by the State, not us.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS
A. Goals – Mrs. Ferratella stated one of the 2021 goals of the committee was to inform the public of the work we do. Recently, the Commissioner of Social Services provided a review of what they did during the pandemic and also recognized her staff, other departments and outside agencies for how they met the challenges of the pandemic. In conjunction with that, Mary Perham did a three-part series on Facebook and we have had a number of views on that. This completes our goal of informing the community about the work that our departments are doing. Thank you to the departments that participated.

Ms. Muller commented that provided me with the opportunity to thank the community for the support we received during the pandemic. The community provided donations for a number of our programs and it was amazing the donations that we have received during the last two years. It was overwhelmingly nice.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN REGULAR SESSION AND RECONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO PUBLIC OFFICERS’ LAW, ARTICLE 7§ 105.1.F. THE MEDICAL, FINANCIAL, CREDIT OR EMPLOYMENT HISTORY OF A PARTICULAR PERSON OR CORPORATION, OR MATTERS LEADING TO THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, PROMOTION, DEMOTION, DISCIPLINE, SUSPENSION, DISMISSAL OR REMOVAL OF A PARTICULAR PERSON OR CORPORATION MADE BY MR. HANNA. SECONDED BY MR. NICHOLS. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

MOTION TO ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RECONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION MADE BY MR. HANNA. SECONDED BY MR. VAN CAESEELE. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR, TO ISSUE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE NON-SECURE DETENTION FACILITY MADE BY MR. NICHOLS. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

B. Masking – Mr. Van Etten asked how much longer will masks be required in the buildings? Mr. Wheeler replied our cases are dropping. The CDC (Centers for Disease Control) guidance is that masks are required for areas of high transmission which is defined as 100 cases per 100,000 people over a 7 day rolling average. Mr. Van Etten commented there were complaints yesterday because Elections was requiring masks at the polling sites.

C. DWI Trailer – Mrs. Lando stated on behalf of the Prevention Coalition she wanted to provide an update on the DWI Trailer. Goodrich’s has been working on the trailer and they have been doing a great job. We expect that it will be ready for prom season.
MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. HANNA. SECONDED BY MR. NICHOLS. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted by

Amanda L. Chapman
Deputy Clerk
Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR**
Wednesday, December 1, 2021
9:00 a.m.

Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature’s Office
NO LATER THAN NOON
**PLEASE NOTE CHANGE**Tuesday, November 23, 2021**PLEASE NOTE CHANGE**