

**Health & Human Services Committee**  
**April 29, 2025**  
**Minutes**

**Members Present:** Committee Chair Anthony Doldo, Legislators Robert Cantwell, Tina Bartlett-Bearup, Karen Freeman, Christopher Boulio, Frances Calarco, Board Chair William Johnson

**Others Present:** Legislators Philip Reed, Michael Montigelli, Daniel McBride, James Nabywaniec, Patrick Jareo, Robert Ferris, Steel Potter, County Administrator Ryan Piche, Deputy Administrator Dylan Soper, County Attorney John Sabik, Office for the Aging Director Bethany Munn, Community Services Director Tim Ruetten, Public Health Director Steve Jennings, County Auditor Stefanie LaPier, Human Resources Director Valerie Nugent, Information Technologies Director Sean Vincent, Planning Director Michael Bourcy, Confidential Secretary Jill Jones, Confidential Secretary Jaimie Lee

Chairman Doldo called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and offered Privilege of the Floor however no one present wished to speak. The Committee approved the minutes of the March meeting as written.

Community Services Director Tim Ruetten and Lewis County Community Services Director Anna Platz made a presentation to the Committee concerning the Bi-County Mobile Crisis Program. Mr. Ruetten explained that through an analysis of the mental health calls for both counties, and the funding mechanisms set up for the mobile crisis program, it was determined that a bi-county approach would be best for this program. They said the purpose of the program is to deliver person-centered, trauma-informed, high-quality and effective behavioral health support to those in the community experiencing a behavioral health crisis and offer alternatives to hospitalization when appropriate. The goal of the program is to maintain people safely in the community, reduce unnecessary hospitalizations, and reduce the risk of future crisis. Services may be provided to children and adults who are experiencing, or are at risk of experiencing, a behavioral health crisis which may include all or a subset of: telephonic triage and support; a mobile crisis response in the community; telephonic crisis follow-up; and/or in-person follow-up from the initial crisis. Mr. Ruetten said the focus will be on this treatment not making it easier to hospitalize people. Mr. Ruetten and Ms. Platz answered questions of legislators related to the program.

Chairman Doldo introduced a resolution Authorizing an Agreement with G.R.O. Energy Solutions LLC of Jefferson County for Provision of Home Modification Program Services and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Boulio seconded by Legislator Bartlett-Bearup and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Doldo introduced a resolution Authorizing an Agreement for Provision of Housekeeping Services for Older Adults of Jefferson County and entertained a motion for

consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Cantwell seconded by Legislator Calarco and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Doldo introduced a resolution Authorizing Agreements with New York State Department of Education Approved Agencies for the Provision of Special Education Services for Preschool Children with Disabilities and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Boulio seconded by Legislator Freeman and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Doldo introduced a resolution Authorizing Agreements with Established Rates for Provision of Related Services in Connection with the Program for Preschool Children with Disabilities and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Boulio seconded by Legislator Calarco and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Doldo introduced a resolution Authorizing Amended Agreements with the Home Care Association of New York State and Iroquois Healthcare Association Related to Additional Funding for the Community Medicine and Paramedicine Programs and Amending the 2025 County Budget in Relation Thereto and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Cantwell seconded by Legislator Bartlett-Bearup and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Doldo introduced a resolution Appointing Member to Jefferson County Public Health Services Professional Advisory Committee and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Cantwell seconded by Legislator Bartlett-Bearup and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

There being no further business of the Committee, on a motion by Legislator Boulio seconded by Legislator Bartlett-Bearup and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Piche", written in a cursive style.

Ryan Piche  
Clerk of the Board