

Office of the County Administrator
Historic Courthouse
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Ryan Piche
County Administrator

Dylan Soper
Deputy County Administrator



May 21, 2026

TO: Members of Health & Human Services Committee

FROM: Ryan Piche, County Administrator

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the initials 'RP' inside an oval.

SUBJECT: Health & Human Services Committee Agenda

Please let this correspondence serve as notification that the Health & Human Services Committee will meet on ***Tuesday, May 26, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.*** in the Board of Legislators' Chambers.

Following is a list of agenda items for the meeting:

Presentation:

Preschool Budget Discussion – Tim Ruetten, Community Services Director

Homeless Data Review – Karen Marcum, DSS Commissioner
Jillian Redder, DSS Director of Housing & Special Initiatives
Ryan Piche, County Administrator
Dylan Soper, Deputy County Administrator

Resolutions:

1. Authorizing Agreements for the Provision of Rent for Congregate Meal Sites for Nutrition Program Services through the Office for the Aging and Amending the 2026 County Budget in Relation Thereto
2. Authorizing an Agreement with ACR Health for Homelessness Street Outreach and Amending the 2026 County Budget in Relation Thereto
3. Authorizing Agreements with New York State Department of Education Approved Agencies for the Provision of Special Education Services for Preschool Children with Disabilities
4. Authorizing Agreements and Establishing Rates for Provision of Related Services in Connection with the Program for Preschool Children with Disabilities

5. Amending the 2026 County Budget for Community Services Mental Health Programs and Authorizing an Amended Agreement with the Mental Health Association
6. Amending the 2026 County Budget in Relation to the New York State Department of Health Lead Rental Registry Grant Program
7. Appointing Members to the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Advisory Board

Informational Items:

1. Monthly Department Reports:
 - Office for the Aging
 - Community Services
 - Public Health
 - Social Services
 - Veterans Service Agency

If any Committee Member has inquiries regarding agenda items, please do not hesitate to contact me.

RP:jdj

c:	Office for the Aging	Veterans Service Agency
	Community Services	County Attorney
	Public Health/EMS/Medical Examiner	County Treasurer
	Social Services	

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS
Resolution No. _____

Authorizing Agreements for the Provision of Rent for Congregate Meal Sites for Nutrition Program Services through the Office for the Aging and Amending the 2026 County Budget in Relation Thereto

By Legislator: _____

Whereas, The Office for the Aging provides Nutrition Service Programs that are approved by the New York State Office for the Aging for Title III-C1 funds for Congregate Nutrition Program Services, and

Whereas, The Office for the Aging recommends authorizing agreements to add two congregate meal sites to serve Jefferson County residents 60 years and older, and

Whereas, The Watertown Senior Center and Black River American Legion have agreed to provide facility space at a rate of \$100 per day of use for the period of June 1, 2026, through December 31, 2027.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County is authorized to enter into agreements with Watertown Senior Center, 167 Polk Street, Watertown, NY and Black River American Legion, 113 East Dexter Street, Black River, NY to provide congregate meal sites Congregate Nutrition Program Services at the rate of \$100 per day, effective June 1, 2026, through December 31, 2027, and be it further

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized and directed to execute the agreements on behalf of Jefferson County, subject to the approval by the County Attorney as to form and content, and be it further

Resolved, That the 2026 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Increase:

Revenue		
01432000 93772	State Aid Programs for Aging	\$32,000
Expenditure		
01677200 04210	Building/Property Rental	\$32,000

Seconded by Legislator: _____

State of New York)
) ss.:
County of Jefferson)

I, the undersigned, Clerk of the Board of Legislators of the County of Jefferson, New York, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of Resolution No. _____ of the Board of Legislators of said County of Jefferson with the original thereof on file in my office and duly adopted by said Board at a meeting of said Board on the _____ day of _____, 20____ and that the same is a true and correct copy of such Resolution and the whole thereof.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said County this _____ day of _____, 20 ____.

Clerk of the Board of Legislators

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS
Resolution No. _____

Authorizing an Agreement with ACR Health for Homelessness Street Outreach and
Amending the 2026 County Budget in Relation Thereto

By Legislator: _____

Whereas, Jefferson County has realized a dramatic increase in individuals experiencing homelessness and housing instability, and

Whereas, Statistical trends indicate that the ongoing opioid epidemic has directly contributed to heightened rates of housing displacement, underscoring the critical need for proactive, targeted field engagement to connect vulnerable individuals with stable, permanent housing solutions, and

Whereas, Jefferson County Community Services has been provided with Regional Abatement funding to assist in the reduction of opiate related issues in the amount of \$155,350 of which \$141,147 is included in the 2026 budget, and

Whereas, ACR Health has demonstrated an ongoing commitment to regional health equity and possesses the specialized expertise, infrastructure, and existing community presence necessary to deliver optimized, data-driven street outreach services.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to execute an agreement with ACR Health for the provision of a Homelessness Street Outreach and Engagement Program in an amount not to exceed \$155,350, for a term commencing June 1, 2026, and expiring no later than May 30, 2027, subject to approval of the County Attorney as to form and content, and be it further

Resolved, That the 2026 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Increase:

Revenue		
01431000 92735	OASAS Opioid Settlement Funds	\$14,203
Expenditure		
01432000 04712	Contracted Mental Health Program	\$14,203

Seconded by Legislator: _____

State of New York)
) ss.:
County of Jefferson)

I, the undersigned, Clerk of the Board of Legislators of the County of Jefferson, New York, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of Resolution No. _____ of the Board of Legislators of said County of Jefferson with the original thereof on file in my office and duly adopted by said Board at a meeting of said Board on the _____ day of _____, 20____ and that the same is a true and correct copy of such Resolution and the whole thereof.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said County this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Clerk of the Board of Legislators

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS
Resolution No. _____

Authorizing Agreements with New York State Department of Education Approved Agencies for the
Provision of Special Education Services for Preschool Children with Disabilities

By Legislator: _____

Whereas, New York State Education Law requires that municipalities enter into agreements with agencies approved by the New York State Commissioner of Education to offer special education services to preschool children with disabilities who are determined by the board of education of local school districts to require placement in such special education programs, and

Whereas, The New York State Commissioner of Education has approved providers of services and has set rates for all special education program services, and

Whereas, In conjunction with the operation of the Special Education Services for Preschool Children with Disabilities Program, it is necessary to enter into contracts with approved services providers at said established rates.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, Pursuant to Section 4410 of the New York State Education Law, Jefferson County is hereby authorized to enter into agreements for the term July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, for the provision of special education services to children ages three through five with disabilities with the following New York State Education Department approved service providers:

<u>Provider</u>	<u>Service</u>
Alexandria CSD	Evaluations
ARC Jefferson-St. Lawrence NY	Evaluations Special Education Classroom Special Education Itinerant Teaching
Belleville Henderson CSD	Evaluations
Building Blocks SLP, OT & PT Family Services, PLLC	Evaluations
Carthage CSD	Evaluations Special Education Itinerant Teaching
Central Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired	Evaluations
Copenhagen CSD	Evaluations
General Brown CSD	Evaluations
Jefferson-Lewis BOCES	Evaluations

Lyme CSD	Evaluations
Milestones Children's Center	Evaluations Special Education Classroom Special Education Itinerant Teaching
South Jefferson CSD	Evaluations Special Education Itinerant Teaching
Thousand Islands CSD	Evaluations
Treehouse Hourly Child Care Center, LLC	Evaluations Special Education Classroom Special Education Itinerant Teaching
Watertown CSD	Evaluations Special Education Classroom

and be it further

Resolved, That the need for such special education services is to be determined by local School Boards of Education, at rates established by the New York State Commissioner of Education as certified by the Director of the Budget of the State of New York, and shall be in a form and contain such terms and conditions as may be acceptable to the New York State Commissioner of Education, and be it further

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators and the Director of Community Services are hereby authorized and directed to execute such agreements on behalf of Jefferson County, subject to approval by the County Attorney as to form and substance, and be it further

Resolved, That the Director of Community Services is hereby directed to send a letter notifying local school boards of education of the rates of each of the special education service providers and the percentage of local share of such cost.

Seconded by Legislator: _____

State of New York)
County of Jefferson) ss.:

I, the undersigned, Clerk of the Board of Legislators of the County of Jefferson, New York, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of Resolution No. _____ of the Board of Legislators of said County of Jefferson with the original thereof on file in my office and duly adopted by said Board at a meeting of said Board on the _____ day of _____, 20____ and that the same is a true and correct copy of such Resolution and the whole thereof.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said County this _____ day of _____, 20 ____.

Clerk of the Board of Legislators

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS

Resolution No. _____

Authorizing Agreements and Establishing Rates for Provision of Related Services in Connection with the Program for Preschool Children with Disabilities

By Legislator: _____

Whereas, The Program for Preschool Children with Disabilities provides a variety of related services to children aged three to five years with certain disabilities, such services to be provided in the least restrictive environment, be it home or agency based, and

Whereas, Chapter 243 of the Laws of 1989 requires that counties maintain a list of appropriately certified or licensed professionals to deliver related services to preschool children with disabilities and set a reasonable reimbursement rate for such services, subject to the approval of the New York State Education Department.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That, pursuant to Section 4410 of the Education Law, Jefferson County enter into an agreement with each of the following parties for the provision of the indicated service(s), and be it further

Resolved, The term of said agreement shall be for the period July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 in accordance with the requirements of the State Education Law and regulations:

<u>Provider</u>	<u>Service</u>
315 Therapy for PT, OT and SLP, PLLC	Speech Therapy Physical Therapy Occupational Therapy
Alexandria CSD	Speech Therapy Physical Therapy Occupational Therapy 1:1 Aide
ARC Jefferson-St. Lawrence NY	Speech Therapy Physical Therapy Occupational Therapy
Belleville Henderson CSD	Speech Therapy Physical Therapy Occupational Therapy 1:1 Aide
Building Blocks SLP, OT & PT Family Services, PLLC	Speech Therapy Physical Therapy Occupational Therapy

Carthage CSD	Speech Therapy Physical Therapy Occupational Therapy 1:1 Aide
Michelle Carr, CCC-SLP	Speech Therapy
Central Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired	Orientation and Mobility Teacher of the Visually Impaired
Copenhagen CSD	Speech Therapy Physical Therapy Occupational Therapy 1:1 Aide
General Brown CSD	Speech Therapy Physical therapy Occupational Therapy 1:1 Aide
Jefferson-Lewis BOCES	Audiological Teacher of the Deaf
Lewis County Hospital	Speech Therapy Physical Therapy Occupational Therapy
Lyme CSD	Speech Therapy Physical Therapy Occupational Therapy 1:1 Aide
South Jefferson CSD	Speech Therapy Physical Therapy Occupational Therapy 1:1 Aide
Thousand Islands CSD	Speech Therapy Physical Therapy Occupational Therapy 1:1 Aide
Treehouse Hourly Child Care Center. LLC	Speech Therapy Physical Therapy Occupational Therapy

Watertown CSD

Speech Therapy
Physical Therapy
Occupational Therapy
1:1 Aide

and be it further

Resolved, That the rates of payment for Preschool Related Services for the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027 are hereby established as follows:

Related Service	Type	Maximum Related Service Half-Hour On-Site Rate	Maximum Related Service Half-Hour Off-Site Rate
AIDE-1:1 Related Services	Individual	\$10.00	-
AIDE-1:1 Related Services	Group	\$8.00	-
Audiology	Individual	\$53.00	\$73.00
Audiology	Group	\$44.00	\$62.00
Orientation and Mobility	Individual	\$53.00	\$73.00
Orientation and Mobility	Group	\$44.00	\$62.00
Occupational Therapy	Individual	\$53.00	\$73.00
Occupational Therapy	Group	\$44.00	\$62.00
Occupational Therapy Assistant	Individual	\$53.00	\$73.00
Occupational Therapy Assistant	Group	\$44.00	\$62.00
Physical Therapy	Individual	\$53.00	\$73.00
Physical Therapy	Group	\$44.00	\$62.00
Physical Therapy Assistant	Individual	\$53.00	\$73.00
Physical Therapy Assistant	Group	\$44.00	\$62.00
Speech Therapy	Individual	\$53.00	\$73.00
Speech Therapy	Group	\$44.00	\$62.00
Teacher of Hearing-Impaired	Individual	\$53.00	\$73.00
Teacher of Hearing-Impaired	Group	\$44.00	\$62.00
Teacher of Visually Impaired	Individual	\$53.00	\$73.00
Teacher of Visually Impaired	Group	\$44.00	\$62.00

and be it further

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to execute such agreements on behalf of Jefferson County, and be it further

Resolved, That the Director of Community Services is hereby authorized and directed to take such steps and execute such documents as may be necessary to secure approval of the rates established herein by the New York State Education Department.

Seconded by Legislator: _____

State of New York)
County of Jefferson) ss.:

I, the undersigned, Clerk of the Board of Legislators of the County of Jefferson, New York, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of Resolution No. _____ of the Board of Legislators of said County of Jefferson with the original thereof on file in my office and duly adopted by said Board at a meeting of said Board on the _____ day of _____, 20____ and that the same is a true and correct copy of such Resolution and the whole thereof.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said County this _____ day of _____, 20 ____.

Clerk of the Board of Legislators

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS
Resolution No. _____

Amending the 2026 County Budget for Community Services Mental Health Programs and
Authorizing an Amended Agreement with the Mental Health Association

By Legislator: _____

Whereas, The Community Services Department is requesting the reallocation of excess State Aid and County funds to the Mental Health Association to better align with County Mental Hygiene priorities within Mental Health Agency Programs to ensure the quality of existing mental health services, and

Whereas, The 2026 County Budget needs to be amended to reflect the current funding levels.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized and directed to execute an amended agreement with the Mental Health Association for this additional funding, with the approval of the County Attorney as to form and content, and be it further

Resolved, That the 2026 County Budget is amended as follows:

Increase:

Expenditure		
01432000 04721	Mental Health Assn	\$142,028

Decrease:

Expenditure		
01432000 04712	Contract Mental Health Prog	\$142,028

Seconded by Legislator: _____

State of New York)
County of Jefferson) ss.:

I, the undersigned, Clerk of the Board of Legislators of the County of Jefferson, New York, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of Resolution No. _____ of the Board of Legislators of said County of Jefferson with the original thereof on file in my office and duly adopted by said Board at a meeting of said Board on the _____ day of _____, 20____ and that the same is a true and correct copy of such Resolution and the whole thereof.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said County this _____ day of _____, 20 ____.

Clerk of the Board of Legislators

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS

Resolution No. _____

Amending the 2026 County Budget in Relation to the New York State Department of Health
Lead Rental Registry Grant Program

By Legislator: _____

Whereas, By Resolution 336 of 2024 and Resolution 59 of 2025 Jefferson County accepted a grant and authorized an agreement with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) Lead Rental Registry Program for \$554,200 in annual funding for the period April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2029 to address lead exposure concerns in pre-1980 rental units in the City of Watertown, and

Whereas, The NYSDOH has increased the annual award of funding by \$35,775, bringing the total amended award funding amount to \$589,975.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Board of Legislators hereby accepts said additional funding and authorizes the Chairman of the Board of Legislators to execute an amended agreement and any and all future amendments and agreements with the NYSDOH relative to this grant, subject to approval by the County Attorney as to form and content, be it further

Resolved, That the 2026 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Increase:

Revenue		
01405000 93452	St Aid PH Other (Grants)	\$ 35,775

Expenditure		
01405500 01100	Personal Services	\$ 19,775
01405500 04415	Advertising	3,000
01405500 04416	Professional Fees	4,000
01405500 04585	Operating Supplies	5,000
01405500 04613	Training	4,000

Seconded by Legislator: _____

State of New York)
County of Jefferson) ss.:

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In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said County this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Clerk of the Board of Legislators

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS
Resolution No. _____

Appointing Members to the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Advisory Board

By Legislator: _____

Resolved, That the following individuals be and are hereby appointed as members of the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Advisory Board for terms to expire as indicated below:

<u>Members</u>	<u>Term to Expire</u>
New Appointments:	
John Green, MD	12/31/2027
Kelley Tiernan, CEO	12/31/2027

and be it further

Resolved, That Resolution No. 137 of 2026 is hereby amended to correct the term of Benjamin R. Hodson, MD to expire on 12/31/2027.

Seconded by Legislator: _____

State of New York)
) ss.:
County of Jefferson)

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In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said County this _____ day of _____, 20 ____.

Clerk of the Board of Legislators
