

Health & Human Services Committee Minutes
February 24, 2026

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

Others Present: Legislators Philip Reed, Michael Montigelli, Daniel McBride, Patrick Jareo, Robert Ferris, County Administrator Ryan Piche, Deputy Administrator Dylan Soper, County Attorney John Sabik, Conf. Asst. for Fiscal Affairs Kristy O'Shaughnessy, Community Services Director Tim Ruetten, Public Health Director Steve Jennings, Veterans Service Agency Dave Pavey, County Auditor Stefanie LaPier, Human Resources Director Valerie Nugent, Information Technology Director Sean Vincent, I.T. Security Analyst Sean Isenburgh, Insurance Director Matt Roy, Planning & Community Development Director Hartley Bonisteel-Schweitzer, Confidential Secretary Jill Jones

Chairman Doldo called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Planning & Community Development Director Hartley Bonisteel Schweitzer made a presentation to the Committee concerning the selection of a consultant to lead a comprehensive housing needs analysis. The Project goal is to conduct a 9-12 month research and analysis process to identify housing market demands, policy issues, and priority development opportunities across the County's diverse communities. There were six responses to the RFQ for this service and three of those firms were selected for interviews that took place during the week of February 9, 2026. The Interview Committee consisted of Legislator Calarco, DSS Housing & Special Initiatives Director Jillian Redder, and Planning & Community Development staff. czb inc was selected as the most qualified consultant with a contract amount not to exceed \$120,000. The scope of work will consist of three phases: Phase 1 will be a research analysis, including housing market analysis and stakeholder identification; Phase 2 will identify key issues and emerging policy direction; and Phase 3 will be the development of a draft and final report. Ms. Bonisteel Schweitzer said early analysis identifies a housing market demand typology across the County, noting that existing housing stocks will likely address over 90% of future frameworks.

Chairman Doldo offered Privilege of the Floor however no one present wished to address the Committee. Chairman Doldo requested that the minutes of the February 3rd meeting be corrected to reflect that he, not Legislator McBride voted nay on the resolution Accepting EMS funding from New York State. The Committee approved the minutes of the January meeting with the change noted by Chairman Doldo.

Chairman Doldo introduced a resolution Amending the 2025 County Budget Relative to Community Services Preschool and Early Intervention Program Expenditures and Associated Revenues and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Bartlett-Bearup seconded by Legislator Boulio and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Doldo introduced a resolution Extending an Agreement with Fort Drum Regional Health Planning Organization, Reappropriating Opioid Settlement Regional Abatement Funds and Amending the 2026 County Budget in Relation Thereto and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Calarco seconded by Legislator Grant and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Doldo introduced a resolution Authorizing an Agreement with the New York State Department of Health in Relation to Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Grant and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Freeman seconded by Legislator Cantwell and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Doldo introduced a resolution Accepting Stipend from the Fort Drum Regional Health Planning Organization and Amending the 2026 County Budget and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Bartlett-Bearup seconded by Legislator Calarco and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Doldo introduced a resolution Changing the Membership of the Jefferson County EMS Advisory Board 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 Accepting New York State Shelter Arrears Eviction Forestallment (SAEF) Program Allocation Funding from the NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance and Amending the 2026 County Budget in Relation Thereto and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Cantwell seconded by Legislator Freeman and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Doldo introduced a resolution Authorizing an Agreement with czb LLC for a County-wide Housing Needs Assessment and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Cantwell seconded by Legislator Freeman 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 Bartlett-Bearup seconded by Legislator Boulio and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Ryan Piche
Clerk of the Board