



Health & Human Services Committee

Committee Meeting

60 Central Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045
<https://www.cortlandcountyny.gov>

~ Agenda ~

Thursday, January 9, 2025

11:00 AM

Room 302

WebEx Meeting Information

<https://cortlandny.webex.com/cortlandny/j.php?MTID=m99f5d8909314d9573e8a9e3e08172bc0>

Thursday, January 9, 2025 11:00 AM | 1 hour | (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

Meeting number: 2342 881 2705

Password: TqDwbuCe923

Join by phone

+1-415-655-0001 US Toll

Access code: 234 288 12705

Call to Order

Attendee Name	Present	Absent	Late	Arrived
Committee Member Jason Prentice	☐	☐	☐	
Committee Member Douglas Bentley	☐	☐	☐	
Committee Member Cathy Bischoff	☐	☐	☐	
Committee Member Reed Cleland	☐	☐	☐	
Committee Member William McGovern	☐	☐	☐	
Committee Member Christopher Newell	☐	☐	☐	
Committee Vice-Chair Keith VanGorder	☐	☐	☐	
Committee Chair Ronald J. Van Dee	☐	☐	☐	

Minutes Approval

1. Health & Human Services Committee - Committee Meeting - Dec 5, 2024 11:00 AM

Resolutions

ON MOTION OF VAN DEE

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1

Appoint Members - Cayuga/Cortland Workforce Development Board

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2017, the Governor of the State of New York has authorized and directed the Chief Local Elected Officials of the Cortland and Cayuga Counties, which have been designated as a Workforce Area, to appoint/reappoint members to the Workforce Development Board for said Area; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the following be and hereby are appointed effective immediately to serve on the Cayuga/Cortland Workforce Development Board for a three year term and from the sector as listed below:

Name	Address	Sector	Term Ending
Brian Noteboom	181 Industrial Park Rd, Horseheads, NY	Carpenters Union Local 277	6/30/2027
Matt Horan	333 E. Washington St., Syracuse, NY	ACCES/VR	6/30/2027

ON MOTION OF VAN DEE

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2

Amend Agreement with Salvation Army for Code Blue Services - Department of Social Services

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 168-24 authorized an agreement with the Salvation Army for Code Blue Warming Center services with the Cortland County Department of Social Services for the 2024-2025 season in an amount not to exceed \$300,000; AND

WHEREAS, the Salvation Army has already served over 150 unique individuals through January 1, 2025; AND

WHEREAS, the Salvation Army needs more money to cover increased staff hours, food and space costs to continue providing the services given the increase in individuals using the service; AND

WHEREAS, the costs will be paid from expense account A60105.54800.4696; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that the County Administrator upon review and approval by the County Attorney or designee, is hereby authorized to sign an amended agreement with the Salvation Army for Warming Center services for the term November 1, 2024 – April 30, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$315,000.00.

ON MOTION OF VAN DEE

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3

Advocating for Reform and Increased Funding for New York State's Code Blue Program

WHEREAS, the New York State Code Blue policy was established as an emergency Executive Order on December 16, 2016; AND

WHEREAS, the current Code Blue policy is no longer adequate or effective given the significant changes in affordable housing availability and evolving human needs since that time; AND

WHEREAS, the requirement for Departments of Social Services to simply provide space to keep people warm during extreme weather conditions is no longer sufficient to meet the growing and complex needs of unhoused individuals; AND

WHEREAS, New York State leaders must recognize that any policy aimed at providing warm spaces for the most vulnerable individuals in our community must be comprehensive and involve the collaboration of all relevant human services agencies beyond the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA); AND

WHEREAS, the expertise and resources of agencies such as the Office of Mental Health, the Office of Addiction and Substance Abuse Services, and the Office of People with Developmental Disabilities are essential to address the multifaceted needs of unhoused individuals; AND

WHEREAS, County Departments of Social Services (DSS) are trained and equipped to deliver mandated income-based programs under the oversight of the NYS OTDA, but Code Blue services extend beyond these requirements and necessitate the involvement of additional state agencies and local service providers; AND

WHEREAS, the cost of delivering Code Blue services continues to escalate due to increasing numbers of individuals in need, rising behavioral challenges stemming from untreated mental health conditions, substance use disorders, developmental disabilities, and the rising costs of staffing, utilities, and essential supplies; AND

WHEREAS, New York State has capped the amount of funding allocated to counties for the operation of Code Blue programs, with Cortland County receiving funding equal to the expenditures of the previous year, which does not account for the annual increase in operational costs or the growing demand for services; AND

WHEREAS, the current level of funding is inadequate to cover the increased staffing and resources necessary to safely operate warming centers, and Cortland County seeks to avoid placing the burden of these rising costs on local taxpayers; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Legislature strongly urges New York State to increase their funding commitment to adequately support the continued operation of Code Blue programs and ensure the safety and well-being of vulnerable individuals during cold weather conditions; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Legislature calls for the establishment of true partnerships between County DSS and other service systems, starting at the State level, that have both the expertise and shared accountability to design the services and space to keep our most vulnerable individuals safe; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Kathy Hochul, Senator Lea Webb, Assemblymember Anna Kelles, Assemblymember Jeff Gallahan, the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC), and all others deemed necessary and proper.

ON MOTION OF VAN DEE

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4

Amend Resolution No. 189-24 for the Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) 2024 - 2028 Youth Grant Agreement - Mental Health Department

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Mental Health Department has been awarded a grant from Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for expansion and sustainability of comprehensive community mental health services for children with series emotional disturbances (SED); AND

WHEREAS, the grant award period is from October 2024 through September 2028 and award amount total is \$3,526,362.00; AND

WHEREAS, the grant has designated the funds to be used to fund specific positions and provider contracts matching the approved SAMHSA budget and action plans; AND

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Legislature adopted Resolution No. 189-24, which accepted the SAMHSA grant and designated provider contracts; AND

WHEREAS, upon review and recommendation of the Cortland County Mental health Department, Resolution No. 189-24 needs to be amended to reflect the removal of Cowley Associates, Inc. and authorize a contract with CACTC/RHI for Web Page Design and Marketing for an amount not to exceed \$38,500; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that Resolution No. 189-24 be and hereby is amended to remove Cowley Associates and insert CACTC/RHI as the approved provider for Web Page Design and Marketing; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the County Administrator, upon review and approval of the County Attorney or designee, be and hereby is authorized to execute an agreement with CACTC/RHI for Web Page Design and Marketing for an amount not to exceed \$38,500.

Discussion Items

Monthly Reports

1. Mental Health Department Monthly Report
2. Health Department Monthly Report

Adjournment