



Health & Human Services Committee

Committee Meeting

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

~ Minutes ~

Thursday, August 8, 2024

11:00 AM

Room 302

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 AM by

Attendee Name	Organization	Title	Status	Arrived
Douglas Bentley	Cortland County, NY	Committee Member	Present	
Cathy Bischoff	Cortland County, NY	Committee Member	Present	
Reed Cleland	Cortland County, NY	Committee Member	Present	
William McGovern	Cortland County, NY	Committee Member	Present	
Christopher Newell	Cortland County, NY	Committee Member	Present	
Keith VanGorder	Cortland County, NY	Committee Vice-Chair	Present	
Ronald J. Van Dee	Cortland County, NY	Committee Chair	Present	
Savannah Hempstead	Cortland County, NY	Clerk of the Legislature	Present	
Kevin Fitch	Cortland County, NY	Ex-Officio Member/Chair of the Legislature	Present	
Rob Corpora	Cortland County, NY	County Administrator	Present	
Lisa Perfetti	Cortland County, NY	Deputy Public Health Director	Present	
Rebecca Main	Cortland County, NY	Public Health Program Manager	Present	
Kristen Monroe	Cortland County, NY	Commissioner of Social Services	Present	
Amy Buggs	Cortland County, NY	Grants Administrator	Present	
Shannon Phillips	Cortland County, NY	Employment & Training Director	Present	
Pearl Reed-Klein	Cortland County, NY	Director of the Area Agency on Aging	Present	
Tom Tedesco	Cortland County, NY	Director of Veterans Services	Present	
Sharon MacDougall	Cortland County, NY	Director of Community Services	Present	
Margaret Spaulding	Cortland County, NY	Grants Administrator	Present	
Beau Harbin	Cortland County, NY	Board Member	Present	
Kris Valentine	Cortland County,	Board Member	Present	

Behnke	NY			
Sandra Price	Cortland County, NY	Board Member	Present	
Kim Cameron	Cortland County, NY	Planning Board Member	Present	
Laurie Leonard	Cortland County, NY	Personnel Officer	Present	
Paul Heider	Cortland County, NY	Board Member	Present	
Mitchel Eccleston	Cortland County, NY	Board Member	Present	
Nicole Compton	Cortland County, NY	Paralegal	Remote	
Ashley Millard	Cortland County, NY	Deputy Clerk of the Legislature	Remote	
Nicole Anjeski	Cortland County, NY	Public Health Director	Present	
Doug Schneider	Cortland Standard	Reporter	Present	
Conor Wight	CNY Central News	Multimedia Journalist	Present	

Minutes Approval

1. Health & Human Services Committee - Committee Meeting - Jun 13, 2024 11:00 AM

RESULT:	ACCEPTED
----------------	-----------------

Resolutions

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 – Appointment of Youth Board Members - Health Department

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
	Next: 8/22/2024 6:00 PM
MOVER:	Cathy Bischoff, Committee Member
SECONDER:	Reed Cleland, Committee Member
AYES:	Bentley, Bischoff, Cleland, McGovern, Newell, VanGorder, Van Dee

ON MOTION OF VAN DEE

RESOLUTION NO.

Appointment of Youth Board Members - Health Department

WHEREAS, the members of the Cortland County Youth Board are appointed by the Cortland County Legislature; AND

WHEREAS, Youth Representatives on the Board serve one year terms and all other members serve three year terms; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the following person be and hereby is appointed as members of the Cortland County Youth Board, to serve without compensation for the following terms:

NAME	CAPACITY	ADDRESS	TERM ENDING
Alicia Wheaton	Probation	60 Central Ave, Cortland NY	12/31/2026

Andrew Ray	Community Member	4376 Meadow Lane, Cortland NY	12/31/2026
------------	------------------	-------------------------------	------------

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 – Appoint Member to Cortland County Board of Health

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
	Next: 8/22/2024 6:00 PM
MOVER:	Reed Cleland, Committee Member
SECONDER:	William McGovern, Committee Member
AYES:	Bentley, Bischoff, Cleland, McGovern, Newell, VanGorder, Van Dee

ON MOTION OF VAN DEE

RESOLUTION NO.

Appoint Member to Cortland County Board of Health

WHEREAS, due to the resignation of Nicole Villapiano, M.D., a vacant position for a physician exists on the Cortland County Board of Health; AND

WHEREAS, New York State Regulation requires that the County Legislature may choose the medical members of the Board of Health from a list of physicians submitted by the County Medical Society; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that Erica Skipton, M.D., c/o Guthrie Cortland, 134 Homer Ave., Cortland, NY 13045 be and hereby is appointed to said Board to fill the remainder of the term of Nicole Villapiano, M.D., starting September 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2024; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that Erica Skipton. c/o Guthrie Cortland, 134 Homer Ave., Cortland, NY 13045 be and hereby is appointed to said Board as a Medical Provider Representative member for a four month term beginning on September 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2024.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 – Appoint Members - Older Americans Act Advisory Council

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
	Next: 8/22/2024 6:00 PM
MOVER:	Reed Cleland, Committee Member
SECONDER:	William McGovern, Committee Member
AYES:	Bentley, Bischoff, Cleland, McGovern, Newell, VanGorder, Van Dee

ON MOTION OF VAN DEE

RESOLUTION NO.

Appoint Members - Older Americans Act Advisory Council

WHEREAS, the By-Laws of the Older Americans Act Advisory Council of the Cortland County Area Agency on Aging state membership shall be 15-25 voting members with at least fifty percent of the membership to be at least sixty years of age that represent target group seniors according to the Older Americans Act of 1965, as amended, and shall also include representatives of health care provider organizations, including veterans and supportive services provider organizations, be broadly representative of all aspects of the county, and include local elected official and the general public; AND

WHEREAS, Article 4, Section 2, states the Ex-Officio members of the Council shall include: the Director of the Office for Aging and the Director of the Cortland County Veterans Services Agency; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the following be and hereby appointed to the Older Americans Act Advisory Council effective upon adoption of this resolution by the Cortland County Legislature:

Name	Capacity	Term Expiration
Pearl Reed-Klein, PhD	Director of Office for Aging	Ex-Officio
Thomas Tedesco	Director of Veterans Affairs	Ex-Officio

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 – Create Senior Mental Health Clinician & Community Mental Health Manager - Abolish SPOA Coordinator - Mental Health Department

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
	Next: 8/22/2024 6:00 PM
MOVER:	Christopher Newell, Committee Member
SECONDER:	Reed Cleland, Committee Member
AYES:	Bentley, Bischoff, Cleland, McGovern, Newell, VanGorder, Van Dee

ON MOTION OF VAN DEE

RESOLUTION NO.

Create Senior Mental Health Clinician & Community Mental Health Manager - Abolish SPOA Coordinator - Mental Health Department

WHEREAS, the needs of the Mental Health Department will be better served by creating one Senior Mental Health Clinician and one Community Mental Health Manager position and abolishing one SPOA Coordinator position; AND

WHEREAS, the Health & Human Services Committee recommends the creation of one Senior Mental Health Clinician and one Community Mental Health Manager position and the abolition of one SPOA Coordinator position; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that one full time position of SPOA Coordinator (CSEA, Grade 21, \$28.4879-36.0584/HR, competitive class, full time with benefits) hereby is abolished effective August 22, 2024 at midnight; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that one position of Senior Mental Health Clinician (CSEA, Grade 28, \$37.2145-47.1041/HR, competitive class, full time with benefits) and one position of Community Mental Health Manager (Management, Grade 10, \$57,528-76,569/YR, competitive class, full time with benefits) be created effective August 23, 2024 at 12:01 am with approval to fill.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 – Create One Caseworker Position - Department of Social Services

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
	Next: 8/22/2024 6:00 PM
MOVER:	Reed Cleland, Committee Member
SECONDER:	Cathy Bischoff, Committee Member
AYES:	Bentley, Bischoff, Cleland, McGovern, Newell, VanGorder, Van Dee

ON MOTION OF VAN DEE

RESOLUTION NO.

Create One Caseworker Position - Department of Social Services

WHEREAS, New York State has provided Cortland County with an allocation of \$165,385 in Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds to hire a staff person to provide case

management services for families who are having difficulty stabilizing their households and transitioning towards greater financial security; AND

WHEREAS, the needs of the Department of Social Services will be better served by creating one (1) position of Caseworker; AND

WHEREAS, the Health and Human Services recommends the creation of this position; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that one (1) position of Caseworker (Grade 18, CSEA, \$25.5703-32.3653/hr, competitive class, full time, 40 hrs/week, with benefits) be created with approval to fill on August 22, 2024; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the position is contingent upon continued funding and will be abolished once said funding is exhausted; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the 2024 County budget be amended as follows:

Increase

Expense:

A60105.51005.FCS	Salary- FCS	\$18,509.00
A60105.51020.FCS	Overtime- FCS	\$4,000.00
A60105.58020	Retirement-FCS	\$2,221.00
A60105.58030	FICA-FCS	\$1,416.00
A60105.58040	Workers Comp-FCS	\$600.00
A60105.58060	Health Insurance-FCS	\$6,961.00
A60105.58062	Dental-FCS	\$30.00
A60105.58065	Vision- FCS	\$7.00
A60105.52005.FCS	Furniture-FCS	\$1,500.00
A60105.52060.FCS	Equipment- FCS	\$1,600.00
A60105.54000.FCS	Phones- FCS	\$230.00
A60105.54005.FCS	Office Supplies-FCS	\$1,500.00
A60105.54045.FCS	Travel-FCS	\$200.00
A60105.54078.FCS	Fuel-FCS	\$200.00
A60105.54300.FCS	Vehicle Repairs-FCS	\$400.00
A60105.54301.FCS	Vehicle Lease-FCS	\$3,000.00
A60105.54800.FCS	Program Expense-FCS	\$30,361.00

Increase

Revenue:

A601044.44689.FCS	Federal Revenue	\$72,735.00
-------------------	-----------------	-------------

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 – Authorize Agreement with the Salvation Army for Code Blue Services - Department of Social Services

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
	Next: 8/22/2024 6:00 PM
MOVER:	Reed Cleland, Committee Member
SECONDER:	William McGovern, Committee Member
AYES:	Bentley, Bischoff, Cleland, McGovern, Newell, VanGorder, Van Dee

ON MOTION OF VAN DEE

RESOLUTION NO.

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

WHEREAS, the NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance requires counties to implement regulations in Title 18NYCRR Section 304.1, titled Protection of Vulnerable Homeless Persons, otherwise referred to as “Code Blue,” to provide shelter during inclement weather when air temperatures are at or below 32 degrees Fahrenheit; AND

WHEREAS, the Salvation Army has agreed to contract with Cortland County to provide Warming Center services for the 2024-2025 season; AND

WHEREAS, a majority of the costs will be paid from expense account A60105.54800.4696. If other revenue sources are made available to cover the portion of costs ineligible for Code Blue due to disqualifying temperatures during the duration of the contract, they will be used to allow the Warming Center services to remain open continuously during the contract period; 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 agreement with the Salvation Army for Warming Center services for the term November 1, 2024 – April 30, 2025 in an amount not to exceed \$300,000.00.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 – Authorize Agreement for Use of Opioid Reserve Funds - Code Blue Warming Center/Salvation Army

RESULT: APPROVED [6 TO 1]

Next: 8/22/2024 6:00 PM

MOVER: Reed Cleland, Committee Member

SECONDER: Cathy Bischoff, Committee Member

AYES: Bentley, Bischoff, Cleland, McGovern, Newell, Van Dee

NAYS: Keith VanGorder

ON MOTION OF VAN DEE

RESOLUTION NO.

Authorize Agreement for Use of Opioid Reserve Funds - Code Blue Warming Center/Salvation Army

RWHEREAS, the Cortland County Department of Social Services (DSS) 2023 homeless population demographic data demonstrates that approximately 44% of the unhoused population face substance addiction and mental health challenges; AND

WHEREAS, the DSS 2023 data also shows that approximately 62% of individuals placed in DSS emergency housing options are discharged from placement due to non-compliant behavior; AND

WHEREAS, a significant portion of those individuals discharged due to noncompliance are struggling with substance addiction and mental health issues; AND

WHEREAS, other Cortland County substance abuse databases clearly illustrate that an overwhelming number of Cortland County residents’ overdoses and substance use disorders involve the opioid fentanyl; AND

WHEREAS, DSS ineligible/sanctioned homeless clients’ options for emergency overnight housing are limited to, when available, overnight warming centers, which provide sheltering and bedding such as the Cortland County Salvation Army; AND

WHEREAS, Cortland County has contracted with the Salvation Army to be the sole source

provider of overnight warming center services in Cortland County from approximately November through April; AND

WHEREAS, the state monies used to fund the Salvation Army contract for these services, due to governing regulations, periodically prevent the Salvation Army from being continuously open to provide overnight warming center services during any given authorized contract; AND

WHEREAS, the erratic closing and opening of Salvation Army warming center services during the contractual term is disruptive to the recovery process for unhoused individuals with substance use disorder and mental health issues, and undermining to recovery case management support provided by substance abuse treatment and housing placement specialists such as Cortland County's Catholic Charities Critical Intervention Team; AND

WHEREAS, New York State Mental Hygiene Law § 25.18 and the NY Opioid Settlement Fund Schedule C - Approved Uses, explicitly sanctions the use of opioid settlement funds for "housing services" and such "housing services shall be appropriate, based on the individual's current need and state of recovery"; AND

WHEREAS, New York State Finance Law § 99-nn, Mental Hygiene Law § 25.18 and NY Opioid Settlement Fund Schedule C -Approved Uses, encourages the use of opioid funds in a manner that places "an emphasis on programs that provide a continuum of care" that includes "screening and assessment" and "that support critical time interventions (CTI)" and services for "individuals who face immediate risks and service needs" and, lastly may be used to supplement existing state funded program services; AND

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Salvation Army overnight warming center services are on the continuum of care from emergency to transitional to permanent housing options for homeless individuals at risk for or with substance use disorders; AND

WHEREAS, the application of opioid funds for the permitted use of housing can be used to supplement the state funded Salvation Army overnight warming center operations and thereby, when under contract with Cortland County, maintain a continuously open and accessible overnight warming center for homeless individuals at risk for or with substance use disorders; AND

WHEREAS, a continuously open, accessible overnight warming center provides homeless individuals at risk for or with substance use disorders a stable temporary place to begin the path to recovery, facilitates screening and assessment activities, and supports the case management and treatment services of Catholic Charities Critical Invention Team for unhoused individuals at risk for or with substance use disorders; AND

WHEREAS, the Health and Human Services Committee and Finance and Administration Committees of the Cortland County Legislature recommend allocating up to \$25,000 of the Opioid Settlement Reserve Fund to the Salvation Army to enable the Salvation Army to provide continuous open overnight emergency shelter housing to homeless individuals at risk for, or with, substance use disorder; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Legislature be and hereby authorizes the allocation of up to \$25,000 of the Opioid Settlement Reserve Fund to the Salvation Army to enable the Salvation Army to provide continuous open overnight emergency shelter housing to homeless individuals at risk for, or with, substance use disorder.

Discussion Items

Monthly Reports

1. Health Department Monthly Report

RESULT:	POSTPONED TO DATE CERTAIN (NO VOTE)
----------------	--

Next: 9/13/2024 11:00 AM

2. Department of Social Services 2Nd Quarter Statistics

RESULT:	POSTPONED TO DATE CERTAIN (NO VOTE)
----------------	--

Next: 9/13/2024 11:00 AM

Executive Session

It was MOVED by Mr. Cleland, Seconded by Mr. McGovern, and unanimously approved by voice vote of members present, to enter into an executive session for discussions regarding proposed litigation, with Kevin Fitch, Paul Heider, Cathy Bischoff, Sandy Price, William McGovern, Mitchel Eccleston, Douglas Bentley, Chris Newell, Kris Valentine Behnke, Reed Cleland, Beau Harbin, Keith VanGorder, Ron VanDee, Savannah Hempstead, Rob Corpora, Victoria Monty and Kristen Monroe permitted to stay in the room. MOTION CARRIED.

An executive session was held from 11:27 a.m. to 12:14 p.m., at which time on motion of Mr. McGovern, seconded by Mr. Cleland, it was unanimously approved by voice vote to exit executive session.

Adjournment

The meeting was closed at