

**HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2018  
2:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Michael Amo, Chairman  
Katie Bonelli, Mike Anagnostakis, Kevindaryán Luján, Janet Sutherland,  
Laurie R. Tautel, Peter V. Tuohy

ALSO

PRESENT: L. Stephen Brescia, Chairman  
Michael D. Paduch, Minority Leader  
Barry J. Cheney, Legislator  
James M. Kulisek, Legislator  
Kathy Stegenga, Legislator  
Antoinette Reed, Legislative Counsel  
Steven M. Neuhaus, County Executive  
Harry Porr, Deputy County Executive  
Wayne Booth, Director, Operations and Cost Control  
Darcie Miller, Commissioner of Social Services and Mental Health  
Irene Kurlander, Deputy Commissioner of Social Services  
Todd Craner, Fiscal Director, Department of Social Services  
Ann Marie Maglione, Director, Office for the Aging  
Danielle Diana-Smith, Assistant Director, Office for the Aging  
Dina Sena, Fiscal Manager, Office for the Aging  
Kevin Monaghan, Nutrition Program Director, Office for the Aging  
Christian Farrell, Director of Veterans' Services  
Stephen Knob, Director, Employment and Training Administration  
Deborah Slesinski, Deputy Budget Director  
Colleen Grogan, Chief Budget Analyst

Mr. Amo opened the committee meeting at 2:03 p.m. and asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. All committee members were present with the exception of Mr. Tuohy who arrived at 2:10 p.m.

On the agenda were the highlighted important issues from the Department of Social Services monthly report.

Ms. Miller reported that they continue to see a decrease in Temporary Assistance, and Family Assistance. Foster Care numbers have seen a slight increase and homelessness in Orange County continues to be of great concern and both Chris Molinelli, President of the Continuum of Care and Terri Torchio, Director of Economic Independence, Orange County Department of Social Services agree to come before the Human Services committee in November.

Ms. Miller presented the 2019 recommended budget for the Department of Social Services.

Legislators Paduch, Amo, Anagnostakis and Stegenga expressed their concerns on the procedure of merit raises, how the percentage is determined, possible flat number as opposed to percentage and why the Legislature is not included and/or supplied with the information prior to budget meetings.

Mr. Anagnostakis agreed that it is a huge concern but they as the Human Services committee can adjust budget lines.

Ms. Bonelli commented that while they have been receiving a great deal of information on this issue she would suggest the discussion on merit raises be brought to the Special Ways and Means committee as it affects more than just this department. In addition, Leigh Benton, Chairman of the Ways and Means committee is prepared to address this issue and any others that may come before the committee.

Mr. Amo stated that he would like to have the Ways and Means committee discuss the issue of salary wage adjustments and how they as a Legislature would like it handled. He expressed his frustration that the County Executive's budget has all these mandatory items in it, but they as a Legislature have no say on them and are stuck with them. Something different must be done, but he does not know what that would be.

Mr. Anagnostakis commented that he has also spoken to Mr. Benton about this issue and he understands that this would be discussed at the November 1, 2018 Special Ways and Means committee meeting.

Mr. Anagnostakis moved to approve the 2019 recommended budget for the Department of Social Services, seconded by Mr. Luján.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Knob presented the 2019 recommended budget for the Employment and Training Administration.

Mr. Anagnostakis moved to approve the 2019 recommended budget for the Employment and Training Administration, seconded by Ms. Sutherland.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Ms. Maglione presented the 2019 recommended budget for Office for the Aging.

Ms. Tautel moved to approve the 2019 recommended budget for Office for the Aging, seconded by Ms. Sutherland.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Luján moved to approve the 2019 Capital Plan for Office for the Aging, seconded by Ms. Bonelli.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Farrell presented the 2019 recommended budget for Veterans' Services.

Mr. Tuohy moved to approve the 2019 recommended budget for Veterans' Services, seconded by Mr. Luján.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Ms. Tautel moved to approve the 2019 Capital Plan for Veterans' Services, seconded by Ms. Sutherland.

Motion carried. All in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 4:59 p.m.