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NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

NORMA GONSALVES,
Presiding Officer

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

ROSE MARIE WALKER,
Chairwoman

1550 Franklin Avenue
Mineola, New York

Monday, January 7, 2013
1:43 P.M

REGAL REPORTING SERVICE
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A P P E A R A N C E S :

ROSE MARIE WALKER ,
Chairwoman

FRANCIS BECKER ,
Vice Chairman

VINCENT MUSCARELLA

MICHAEL VENDITTO

JUDI BOSWORTH, (Substituted by
Ranking Judy Jacobs)

DELIA DeRIGGI-WHITTON

ROBERT TROIANO

WILLIAM J. MULLER, III
Clerk of the Legislature

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LIST OF SPEAKERS

LISA MURPHY, Commissioner,
 Nassau County
 Department of Human Services.....8

JOHN SARCONE, Nassau County,
 Office of Community Development.....20

1 Health/Social Services 1-7-13

2 CLERK MULLER: I'll call the
3 Health and Social Services Committee to
4 order. I will call the roll. Legislator
5 Troiano?

6 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Here.

7 CLERK MULLER: Legislator DeRiggi
8 Whitton?

9 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI WHITTON:
10 Here.

11 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Jacobs
12 substituting for Legislator Bosworth?

13 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Here.

14 CLERK MULLER: Legislator
15 Venditto?

16 LEGISLATOR VENDITTO: Here.

17 CLERK MULLER: Legislator
18 Muscarella?

19 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Here.

20 CLERK MULLER: Vice Chairman
21 Becker?

22 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Present.

23 CLERK MULLER: Chairwoman Walker
24 is present. The first item on the calendar
25 is 139-12, a resolution to confirm the

1 Health/Social Services 1-7-13
2 county executive's reappointment of Dr.
3 Ellen J. Braunstein to the Board of Health
4 pursuant to the Section 902 of the Nassau
5 County Charter. May I please have a motion?

6 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: So moved.

7 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Second.

8 CLERK MULLER: Moved by
9 Legislator Muscarella, seconded by
10 Legislator Becker. Mr. May.

11 MR. MAY: Dr. Braunstein for the
12 Full Legislature on the 14th as is our
13 custom.

14 CLERK MULLER: Is there any
15 comment among the legislators?

16 (No verbal response.)

17 Is there any public comment?

18 (No verbal response.)

19 All those in favor please signify
20 by saying aye.

21 (Aye.)

22 All those opposed?

23 (No verbal response.)

24 Any abstentions?

25 (No verbal response.)

1 Health/Social Services 1-7-13

2 The item passes unanimously.

3 Item 24-13, an ordinance supplemental to the
4 annual appropriations ordinance in
5 connection with the Department of Human
6 Services. May I have a motion, please?

7 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: So moved.

8 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Second.

9 CLERK MULLER: Moved by
10 Legislator Muscarella, seconded by
11 Legislator Becker. Mr. May.

12 MR. MAY: Chairwoman, would it be
13 all right if we called the remaining items
14 dealing with human services?

15 CLERK MULLER: Items?

16 MR. MAY: I believe it's Item
17 Numbers 26-13, and 31 through 34-13.

18 CLERK MULLER: The only thing is
19 they have to be read because it's the first
20 time one. So it would be 26-13, an
21 ordinance supplemental to annual
22 appropriation ordinance in connection with
23 the Department of Human Services. 32-13, an
24 ordinance supplemental to annual
25 appropriation ordinance in connection with

1 Health/Social Services 1-7-13
2 the Department of Human Services, Office of
3 Mental Health, Chemical Dependency,
4 Developmental Disability Services. 33-13,
5 an ordinance supplemental to annual
6 appropriation ordinance in connection with
7 the Department of Human Services. 34-13, an
8 ordinance supplemental to annual
9 appropriation ordinance in connection with
10 the Department of Human Services, Office of
11 Mental Health, Chemical Dependency,
12 Developmental Disability Services. And
13 31-13, an ordinance supplemental to annual
14 appropriation ordinance in connection with
15 the Department of Human Services, Office of
16 Mental Health, Chemical Dependency,
17 Developmental Disability Services.

18 Can I have a motion, please?

19 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: So moved.

20 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Second.

21 CLERK MULLER: Moved by
22 Legislator Muscarella, seconded by
23 Legislator Becker. Who is here to speak on
24 this?

25 MR. MAY: We have Commissioner

1 Health/Social Services 1-7-13
2 Lisa Murphy from the Department of Human
3 Services to answer any questions on these
4 items.

5 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Happy New
6 Year.

7 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Happy New
8 Year.

9 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Just a quick
10 question. You weren't here the last time
11 when I mentioned in light of the tragedy in
12 the Connecticut in all, that since we were
13 able to identify through OLBR certain
14 additional funds that were still in the old
15 budget, that we were hoping that mental
16 health could be built up further to enable
17 us to look at that facet.

18 I mean, I know gun control is
19 very important, but the other end of that is
20 mental health services. There was a big
21 dip, and I don't have my information with me
22 right now because I'm not usually on this
23 committee.

24 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Let me
25 clarify that. There was what appeared to be

1 Health/Social Services 1-7-13
2 a big dip, but you should really be very
3 happy to hear that it really was a not a big
4 dip in mental health services.

5 What we actually did was,
6 basically all of our mental health services
7 at this point have been moved over, the bulk
8 of them, to the grant fund.

9 So the numbers that you saw were
10 reflected from the general fund but most of
11 our money in mental health was actually in
12 the grant fund and remains in the grant
13 fund.

14 In fact, we have not cut any
15 mental health program that had previously
16 existed. We had thought to implement some
17 new programs and, unfortunately, those were
18 the programs that were cut in the 2012
19 budget. But they had never actually been
20 implemented and there had never been a
21 contract there. Those were monies that we
22 were hoping to be able to use and
23 facilitate. But, in actuality, those
24 programs were never funded in that way.

25 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: So you feel

1 Health/Social Services 1-7-13
2 fairly confident that 2013, the programs
3 that are in place will be in place?

4 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Yes. We
5 have the same number of programs and, in
6 fact, we will end up probably with an
7 additional \$200,000 in mental health
8 services for the year 2013 over those
9 programs that we had in the year 2012.

10 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: That's good
11 to hear. I think it's just something that
12 we should -- not that any of us didn't give
13 proper due diligence to, but I think it's
14 pretty obvious that that's a factor that
15 everyone talks about now as far as what can
16 be done, besides gun control, what can you
17 do? It's got to be mental health.

18 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: And I would
19 encourage everyone to advocate with Albany
20 and the federal government because I believe
21 Senator Skelos had something in the paper
22 recently on that as well, we do, we need
23 more money for things like Kendra's Law, I
24 agree 100 percent with you, Legislator
25 Jacobs, there's no question about it.

1 Health/Social Services 1-7-13

2 But you should be assured that we
3 have the same level, in fact, actually more
4 this year than we did last year.

5 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: I'm
6 definitely committing right now that towards
7 the end of this year, when we are talking
8 budget, I will join with you if you are so
9 inclined to fight for more money for mental
10 health because, I'll tell you what scares
11 me, when it goes into the grant fund,
12 there's a chance, I hope it never happens,
13 that those grants don't come through.

14 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: You are 100
15 percent correct.

16 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: And if they
17 don't, there go the cuts.

18 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: I would
19 welcome your partnership in advocating that.

20 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Well, I'm
21 going to and I wish there was a way we can
22 find some right now to even increase it
23 more.

24 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Thank you.

25 CLERK MULLER: I think Legislator

1 Health/Social Services 1-7-13

2 DeRiggi-Whitton would like to speak.

3 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Do
4 you have a list of the programs that you had
5 slated to be started in 2013 that are not
6 going to be?

7 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: I can
8 supply you with that. I don't have it right
9 here with me presently. Basically, though,
10 those programs were programs that were
11 operating and that we are continuing to
12 fund. It was just that several
13 organizations were promised. We were
14 hoping, not promised, but that we were
15 hoping to be able to give them additional
16 revenue, an additional 25 to \$30,000 extra
17 dollars that we were not able to. But I
18 will supply you with that information.

19 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Okay.
20 So just to clarify what you said before, you
21 just mentioned there were programs that you
22 wanted to start but you were unable to do
23 now.

24 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Yes. There
25 were one or two that we were hoping to

1 Health/Social Services 1-7-13
2 start, and, you know, we are still hopeful
3 that somewhere we will find the funds to do
4 that, but that's really just to enhance
5 programs that we already have.

6 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: But,
7 again, as Judy said, it would be something,
8 we would just like to see what your --

9 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Absolutely.
10 No problem. I will get you that
11 information.

12 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Legislator
13 Troiano.

14 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Sorry to
15 make you speak. Thank you.

16 Just drawing your attention to
17 24-13, which is a program that takes \$22
18 million from the state and gives it to
19 alcohol and drug dependency programs.

20 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Correct.

21 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: It indicates
22 that there are some 38 medically supervised
23 outpatient programs?

24 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Yes.

25 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Do you have

1 Health/Social Services 1-7-13
2 a listing of what those programs are, where
3 they are?

4 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Again, I
5 can supply you with that, but they are
6 essentially community based programs that
7 county wide and they are community based as
8 well as school based. So high schools and
9 some middle schools throughout the county.
10 But I will get you that information.

11 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: And if you
12 can't identify today the specific programs
13 and where they are, do you have a general
14 feeling for where they are disbursed
15 throughout the county?

16 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Well, we
17 are looking at -- for the community based
18 programs that are funded in our drug and
19 alcohol programs, those are ones where we
20 have the greatest number of at risk
21 population and I can give you a basic
22 listing; we have Plainview, Old Bethpage
23 School District, we have port counseling
24 center, we have Port Washington School
25 District, Rockville Centre School District,

1 Health/Social Services 1-7-13
2 Roosevelt Educational Alcohol. That's that
3 React Program in Roosevelt. We have the
4 Roosevelt Union School District, we have
5 South Shore Child Guidance, Southeast Nassau
6 Guidance Center, Substance Abuse Free
7 Environmental Program, Tempo, Uniondale High
8 School, Valley Stream Central High School,
9 Wantagh United School District, West
10 Hempstead United School District, Westbury
11 United Free School District. YES in Oyster
12 Bay, and East Norwich, and YES, which would
13 also be the one in Massapequa. That's a
14 general listing. They have different
15 services. They have programs within the
16 schools, they have community, they have
17 counseling.

18 I can give you a more
19 comprehensive list at a later time or send
20 it to your office.

21 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: That was
22 actually very helpful. Thank you.

23 Then if we can look at 26-13
24 which provides \$863,000 for the No Wrong
25 Door Family Support System.

1 Health/Social Services 1-7-13

2 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Correct.
3 That was part the SAMSHA grant which was
4 that No Wrong Door, as you said, and that
5 works primarily with children at risk and
6 their families.

7 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: So, I'm
8 sorry, where is the money coming from?

9 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: It's a
10 federal grant. It's SAMSHA.

11 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: But we're
12 not being asked here, I don't think, to
13 accept the federal grant money. It looks
14 like we are being asked to switch it from
15 one category to another.

16 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: No. It's
17 part of our grant plan and has been
18 previously. It's always been there since we
19 started receiving the money. Every year
20 this particular grant changes. It's onset
21 back in 2009, I believe it was one where we
22 were receiving tremendous amounts of money
23 from the federal government in excess of
24 \$2.5 million a year, but it's one of those
25 grants where each year we have to put up a

1 Health/Social Services 1-7-13

2 bit more and we are now in the last year I
3 believe of this particular grant.

4 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: And this
5 program is administered by the hospital?

6 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: It's in
7 conjunction with the hospital and it's also
8 with family support systems of care. The
9 kids come in and out of the hospital. They
10 can identify. And they are coordinated
11 through the hospital through NUMC with this
12 particular community based organization.

13 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: How does
14 that work, the community based portions, how
15 does that work? You have a partner in
16 various communities that are distributing
17 the services?

18 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: This is a
19 county wide community-based organization.
20 It's really not fair to say that it's
21 community based, but it's basically a
22 not-for-profit that goes out into the
23 community where the children are and works
24 with their families there.

25 This particular organization was

1 Health/Social Services 1-7-13
2 actually selected when the original grant
3 was won, again, I would say it was in 2009
4 or '08 that the grant was originally
5 accorded to the county. It was a very big
6 media event and that's where we really got
7 the slogan, "no wrong door". The whole idea
8 being that the children and the families
9 present either at the hospital or many times
10 they're identified through social services.
11 And then they are coordinated with this
12 particular not for profit agency which then
13 works with them and their families in
14 community.

15 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Do you know
16 the name of that agency?

17 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Yes, it's
18 the Family Resource Center.

19 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Thank you.

20 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Thank you.

21 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any other
22 comments or questions from the legislators?

23 (No verbal response.)

24 Any public comment?

25 (No verbal response.)

1 Health/Social Services 1-7-13

2 All those in favor signify by
3 saying aye.

4 (Aye.)

5 Any opposed?

6 (No verbal response.)

7 The motion carries.

8 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Thank you.

9 CLERK MULLER: We have two more
10 and we'll call them in conjunction.

11 25-13, an ordinance supplemental
12 to the annual appropriation ordinance in
13 connection with the Office of Housing and
14 Community Development.

15 And 35-13, an ordinance
16 supplemental to the annual appropriation
17 ordinance in connection with the Office of
18 Housing and Community Development.

19 May I have a motion, please?

20 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: So moved.

21 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Second.

22 CLERK MULLER: Moved by
23 Legislator Walker, seconded by Legislator
24 Becker. Mr. May.

25 MR. MAY: We have Mr. John

1 Health/Social Services 1-7-13
2 Sarcone from the Office of Community
3 Development to answer any question on these
4 items.

5 MR. SARCONE: Good afternoon.
6 This is the annual funding from housing and
7 urban development. This year's funding has
8 been split into two parts; one of them is to
9 support services for the shelters across
10 Nassau County. The other one, the smaller
11 amount, is for homeless prevention.

12 Any questions?

13 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any questions
14 from the legislators?

15 (No verbal response.)

16 Any public comment?

17 (No verbal response.)

18 All those in favor signify by
19 saying aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 Any opposed?

22 (No verbal response.)

23 The motion carries.

24 MR. SARCONE: Thank you.

25 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: There being

1 Health/Social Services 1-7-13
2 no other business, can I ask for a motion to
3 adjourn?

4 LEGISLATOR BECKER: So moved.

5 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Second.

6 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Moved by
7 Legislator Becker, seconded by Legislator
8 Muscarella. All those in favor signify by
9 saying aye.

10 (Aye.)

11 Any opposed?

12 (No verbal response.)

13 We are adjourned.

14 CLERK MULLER: Veterans is next.

15 (Whereupon, the Health and Social
16 Services Committee adjourned at 1:57 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, FRANK GRAY, a Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of New York, do hereby stated:

THAT I attended at the time and place above mentioned and took stenographic record of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter;

THAT the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate transcript of the same and the whole thereof, according to the best of my ability and belief.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this _____ day of _____, 2013.

FRANK GRAY