Present: Legislators Greg Kulzer, Randy LaChausse, Andrea Moroughan, John Lehman, Richard Chartrand, and Chairman Larry Dolhof.

Others Present: Legislators Tom Osborne, Jerry King, County Manager Ryan Piche, County Attorney Joan McNichol, Human Resources Director Chris Boulio and New Human Resources Director Caitlyn Smith, Treasurer Patty O’Brien, Veterans’ Services Director Stephen Kilionski, Public Health Director Ashley Waite, and reporters Nick Altmire and Julie Abbass.

Committee Chairman Greg Kulzer called the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Legislator Moroughan made a motion to accept the minutes from the June 18, 2019 committee meeting as recorded, seconded by Legislator Lehman. Motion carried.

Northern Regional Council for Independent Living – Aileen Martin & Karen Boliver
Aileen Martin is the Director for NRCIL and Karen Boliver runs the Lowville and Lyons Falls offices. The Northern Regional Council of Independent Living was started in 1987 as a disability and resource center. Aileen discussed Bridges Out of Poverty program which is possible because of a grant for $250,000 from the state. This program is all about looking at and understanding poverty in your community. Poverty is relevant to a person’s location and what resources they have available to them. Once a person understands poverty they can better assist someone facing it.

The Plan for roll out of this program will begin in September 2019 with hiring a program director, bringing trainers to this area, stocking up on materials needed for the training, and implementing trainings for not only County Departments but also for other employers. The second stage is for holding a 16 week course 2 - 3 times over the year called “Getting Ahead” which helps to analyze why a person is where they are in regards to poverty. The last stage is to develop a steering committee which will help look at each of the different communities in the county and what poverty looks like in each one of them and how to best address it.

Karen discussed the services that NRCIL offers in Lewis County such as Advocacy/Support Services; Recovery Center; Family Peer Support Services; Outreach; Transition Management Services; Psych-social Club; Self-Help Programs; and MICA Network. These programs are peer driven and designed to help individuals get back to being independent by offering them a specialized support plan. NRCIL is a passion filled organization that is action oriented. They find solutions to specific needs and assist from beginning to end.

Veterans’ Services Agency Quarterly Report – Stephen Kilionski
The second quarter was average numbers with a total of $184,504.42 of Federal funds being brought into the county. The VA “Pension” (mis-named) which was only $360.00 is really a low income assistance program for Veterans and unfortunately most do not even qualify because the income guidelines are set at poverty levels. The Blue Water Navy Bill was signed into law which should increase the disability compensation numbers for next year as this expands the territory for
agent orange related diseases to include many waterways around Vietnam. This will allow Veterans who didn’t actually step foot in Vietnam but were on ships that were contaminated with agent orange to be able to apply for benefits starting in January 2020. The VA is still waiting on a “go forward” plan on how to deal with veterans who are submitting applications now for processing and whether or not the Nehmer rule will apply for those who have dealt with medical issues in the past due to this.

The VA’s Community Care Program seems to be working well. This allows Veterans the option of treating with a local doctor instead of driving miles to a VA clinic. The program will hopefully take care of the previous issues with billing and authorizations. Steve concluded by announcing that the Vietnam Moving Wall, which is a half scale model of the real wall will be in Sackets Harbor on August 24th. He also mentioned that he is working on getting new plaques for the Courthouse Lobby.

The following dockets/motions were read:

1. Resolution authorizing addendum of the Agreement between Lewis County Community Services Department and Credo Community Center for the Treatment of Addictions (“Credo”) to provide outpatient substance abuse treatment services.
2. Resolution authorizing Lewis County Community Services Department to participate in the Healing Communities Study being conducted by Columbia University and funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse.
3. Resolution approving an Authorization Agreement between Lewis County Community Services Department and Institutional Review Board/Independent Ethics Committee for a 4-year study as one of 16 participating NYS counties, with a primary goal to reduce opioid related deaths by 40 percent. This will be achieved by enhancing our service delivery, improvising access to services, tracking data and increasing access to medication assisted therapy. **This docket and #2 docket are combined into one resolution.**
4. Resolution authorizing an Agreement between Health Research, Inc. and Lewis County Public Health for Public Health development and perform activities under a Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program required under the grant for a term of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 for an amount of $49,625.
5. Resolution authorizing Agreement between Public Health Department and Physical Powers, LLC for professional development designed to increase physical activity throughout the school day. Term of October 16, 2019 to December 31, 2019 for an amount of $1,350. **Director Waite explained this to the committee.**
6. Resolution to transfer funds in the Public Health Accounts to reallocate funds for Health Management Associates contract in the amount of $5,553.
7. Resolution authorizing the Priorities Council as the Complete Count Committee for the 2020 census. Ryan, other County official or a Legislator could be appointed to Committee. **The Committee was in agreement that Ryan should be the chair.**
8. Resolution to amend Compensation Plan of the County of Lewis to create the following HEAP positions: Social Services Program Examiner (2) Temporary full-time (Grade C20) $18.63/hr. effective September 16, 2019 through March 13, 2020 and Office Specialist (1) Temporary full-time (Grade C11) $15.02/hr. effective October 15, 2019 through April 10, 2020. **There was discussion on why there was a need for an Office Specialist now and not in the past.** **Legislator LaChausse made a motion to allow for the two Social Services**
Program Examiners but to table the Office Specialist position, seconded by Legislator Chartrand. Motion carried. Docket was then approved.

9. Resolution to amend Compensation Plan of the County of Lewis to create the following position in the Department of Social Services effective September 3, 2019, Fiscal Manager Temporary part-time not to exceed $5,600. There was discussion on why this was needed as the new Fiscal Manager was hired two years ago to give enough time for training. Ryan explained that this was needed because there are things the new Fiscal Manager hasn’t been taught yet like year-end close out and budgeting processes. Legislator Kulzer voiced his opposition by stating that he has had two years to train and that should be more than enough. Ryan cautioned that the Legislators have made it very clear that there should be no “grooming” of employees in anticipation of promotions to positions, and therefore supervisors shy away from doing that. Legislator Moser pointed out that a position was specifically created for the new Fiscal Manager two years ago knowing that individual would be moving up into the Fiscal Manager position and furthermore this would not be covered in the current budget line if the current retiring Fiscal Manager was making over $88,000 and the new Fiscal Manager started at $55,000. This adds over $5,000 more. Docket was opposed 4 to 1.

10. Resolution to appropriate funds for the Department of Social Services to reimburse Homecare for certain Medicaid Eligible Clients directly to the Office For the Aging EISEP Program for Homecare Services pursuant to Medicaid regulations in the amount of $6,000.

11. Resolution authorizing budget transfer in the Social Services Accounts for the purchase of an outdoor camera from Capital Data Processing funds in the amount of $1,949.11.

12. Resolution authorizing contract between the County of Lewis, Lewis County Department of Social Services and Multicultural Association of Medical/Legal Interpreters, Inc. to provide interpretation services with trained on-site interpreter services, telephonic and translation services to Lewis County Department of Social Services. Term June 1, 2019 through May 31, 2020. Rates: Spoken Language-Pre-booked - $55.00 per hour; Spoken Language-Same Day - $65.00 per hour; Client No Show or Cancellation without 24 hour notice for Spoken Language - $55.00 per hour; Telephonic - $1.60 per minute; and Telephonic Cancellation $1.60 per minute. The local share is 25%, federal share is 50%, and state share is 25%.

13. Resolution No. 157-2019 duplicated appropriations approved by Resolution No. 118-2019, and needs to be rescinded.

14. Resolution to appropriate Funds for Program Year 2019 for the period April 1, 2019 – June 30, 2021 for Youth per the Notice of Obligational Authority (NOA), #PY19-1, dated June 27, 2019 through the New York State Department of Labor in a total amount of $54,835.13.

15. Resolution No. 206-2019 is a duplication of Resolution No. 165-2019, and must be rescinded.

16. Resolution to approve fund transfers in the WIOA accounts to reallocate funds in the amount of $27,000.

17. Resolution to amend Compensation Plan of County of Lewis with reference to Lewis County General Hospital to create and abolish the following positions for restructuring of the Infection Control/Director of Environmental Services: Create one Full-time Clinical Coordinator and Abolish one Full-time Infection Control Nurse.
Legislator Lehman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:12 p.m., seconded by Legislator Chartrand. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Cassandra Moser, Deputy Clerk to the Board of Legislators