PROCEDURAL MINUTES
HEALTH, SOCIAL, EDUCATIONAL & ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING
ROOM 318 PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512

Chairwoman Montgomery, Legislators Addonizio & Russo

Wednesday 6:00 p.m. November 18, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Chairwoman Montgomery. Legislator Russo led in The Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call, Legislator Russo and Chairwoman Montgomery were present. Legislator Addonizio was absent.

Item #3 - Proclamations – National Runaway Prevention Month – Putnam County Youth Bureau

Chairwoman Montgomery presented a proclamation recognizing November as National Runaway Prevention Month to Putnam County Youth Bureau Director Janeen Cunningham and Home Health Supervisor Jessica Felton of Green Chimneys.

Item #4 - Acceptance of Minutes – For May 13, 2026, June 10, 2026, August 12, 2026 and September 9, 2026 Meetings

The minutes were accepted as submitted.

Item #5 - Approval – Board of Health – Reappointment of Dr. Nesheiwat

Chairwoman Montgomery made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution. Seconded by Legislator Russo. All in favor.

Item #6 - Approval – Budgetary Amendment 26A090 – Dept. of Health – Children's Home-Based Speech & Therapy Services

Chairwoman Montgomery made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution. Seconded by Legislator Russo. All in favor.

Item #7 - Approval – Budgetary Amendment 26A091 – Dept. of Health – Pre-K Care at Private Institutions Adjustments For Enrollment

Chairwoman Montgomery made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution. Seconded by Legislator Russo. All in favor.

Item #8 - Approval – Budgetary Amendment 26A092 – Dept. of Health – Preschool Special Ed Evaluations

Chairwoman Montgomery made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution. Seconded by Legislator Russo. All in favor.

Item #9 - Approval – Budgetary Amendment 26A094 – Dept. of Health – Early Learning Center Preschool Itinerant Services

Chairwoman Montgomery made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution. Seconded by Legislator Russo. All in favor.

Item #10 - Approval – OSR – Grant Application Field Hall Foundation – Home Safety and Environmental Support Program

Chairwoman Montgomery made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution. Seconded by Legislator Russo. All in favor.

Item #11 - Presentation / Discussion – DSS & OSR – Update on County Food Security Initiative Plans (Resolution#221- Cornell Cooperative Extension, Second Chance Foods)

Chairwoman Montgomery stated that Bountiful Meals was reimbursed at approximately $1.56 per meal distributed in Putnam County.

Commissioner of Social Services, Mental Health & Youth Bureau Sara Servadio outlined plans for bulk farm purchases, pantry distribution and cold storage through the Putnam County Food System Coalition, and additional refrigeration for Bountiful Meals at two (2) libraries and the Department of Social Services (DSS). She reported that Acting Commissioner of Finance Alexandra Gordon confirmed the contracts were executed and funds were being processed, so that no further action would be needed.

Chairwoman Montgomery expressed concern about DSS staffing and funding and stated that food security would remain a standing agenda item until the County has an overall plan.

Legislator Regan supported DSS oversight if adequately staffed and funded.

Town of Southeast resident Scott Seaman urged prompt release of the funds.

Item #12 - Presentation / Discussion – DSS – 2026-2027 Code Blue Shelter Process

Commissioner Servadio reported that no proposals met the requirements for a 24-hour shelter, and so DSS must oversee Code Blue with CoveCare Center from November 1 through March 31. She stated that a case manager will conduct daily check-ins with participants to connect them with services, and that a new request for proposals will be issued in Spring 2027.

In response to questions from Legislators Sayegh and Regan, Commissioner Servadio stated under Code Blue, participants stay in these shelters overnight, and that warming locations are offered under a separate program, where the County can open them as needed. Commissioner Servadio stated that DSS arranges food assistance, provides after-hours screening and observes a 30-day limit at each motel.

Chairwoman Montgomery raised coordination with municipalities, libraries and fire departments for daytime warming locations and stressed the need for staffing and resources for DSS.

Legislator Crowley raised tenancy concerns about stays exceeding 30 days.

Town of Southeast resident Scott Seaman urged adequate funding and staffing for DSS.

Item #13 - Approval – Budgetary Amendment 26A088 – DSS – Code Blue Allocation from Office of Temporary Disability Assistance (OTDA)

Chairwoman Montgomery made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution. Seconded by Legislator Russo. All in favor.

Item #14 - Approval – Budgetary Transfer 26A084 – DSS – NY State Aid Shelter Arrears Assistance

Chairwoman Montgomery made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution. Seconded by Legislator Russo. All in favor.

Item #15 - Approval – Budgetary Amendment 26A085 –DSS – Co-Occurring System of Care

Chairwoman Montgomery made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution. Seconded by Legislator Russo. All in favor.

Item #16 - Approval – Budgetary Transfer 26A086 – DSS – Adjusted OMH State Aid To Be Passed Through to Provider Agencies

Chairwoman Montgomery made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution. Seconded by Legislator Russo. All in favor.

Item #17 - Approval – Budgetary Amendment 26A089 – DSS – Opioid Settlement Trust Funds Agency Awards

Chairwoman Montgomery made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution. Seconded by Legislator Russo. All in favor.

Item #18 - FYI – Budgetary Transfer 26T313 – DSS – Rural Suicide Prevention Project

Duly Noted.

Item #19 - FYI – Budgetary Transfer 26T329 – DSS – Cover Remaining Expenses for CAC Grant

Duly Noted.

Item #20 - Update / Discussion – DSS – Proposed Mental Health Plan (Letter of Necessity from County Executive – Allocation of $2.1M Assigned to Mental Health)

Chairwoman Montgomery stated that the Community Services Board minutes did not reflect the spending plan submitted by County Executive Byrne, and of the $2.1 million, $380,152 was approved for mobile crisis coverage and the remaining $1,719,848 will stay in assigned fund balance until a plan is approved and will not lapse at year-end. She stated that first responder and employee wellness initiatives were funded separately in the 2027 budget.

Commissioner Servadio reported that DSS expects to expand mobile crisis coverage to 24 hours by year-end. She outlined a law enforcement referral process, school-based programs

and clinics, possible crisis stabilization services at Putnam Hospital, and work on an Assertive Community Treatment team.

Chairwoman Montgomery stated her support for regional partnerships to improve access in western Putnam and that the plan would remain a standing agenda item.

Legislator Gouldman suggested exploring the Putnam Valley firehouse as a service location.

Legislator Crowley supported discussions with Putnam Hospital and use of New York-Presbyterian satellite locations.

Town of Southeast resident Scott Seaman supported expanding school-based and community services and urged adequate resources for DSS.

Item #21 - Other Business

None.

Item #22 - Adjournment

There being no further business at 7:22 p.m., Chairwoman Montgomery made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Legislator Russo. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Administrative Assistant, Mary Dechiaro