	HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE 04.08.2024
1	
2	NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE
3	
4	COMMITTEES MEETING
5	
6	* * * * * *
7	HOWARD KOPEL
8	PRESIDING OFFICER
9	* * * * * *
10	
11	HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
12	ROSE MARIE WALKER
13	CHAIRWOMAN
14	
15	County Executive and Legislative Building
16	1550 Franklin Avenue
17	Mineola, New York
18	* * * * * *
19	
20	* * *
21	Monday, April 8, 2024
22	2:28 p.m.
23	
24	TAKEN BY: KAREN LORENZO, OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER
25	
	TOP KEY COURT REPORTING, INC. (516)414-35161

	HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE 04.08.2024
1	
2	APPEARANCES
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4	CHAIRWOMAN ROSE MARIE WALKER
5	VICE CHAIRMAN MICHAEL GIANGREGORIO (ABSENT)
6	LEGISLATOR JOHN GIUFFRE (SUB)
7	LEGISLATOR MAZI MELESA PILIP
8	LEGISLATOR SAMANTHA GOETZ
9	LEGISLATOR DELIA DERIGGI-WHITTON - RANKING
10	LEGISLATOR ARNOLD DRUCKER
11	LEGISLATOR SETH KOSLOW
12	
13	
14	* * * *
15	
16	MICHAEL PULITZER
17	Clerk of the Legislature
18	
19	
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	HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE 04.08.2024				
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2	CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: I'd like to call				
3	the Health and Social Services Committee				
4	to order and ask the Clerk to call the				
5	roll.				
6	CLERK PULITZER: Thank you, Madam.				
7	CLERK PULITZER: Legislator Seth				
8	Koslow?				
9	LEGISLATOR KOSLOW: Present.				
10	CLERK PULITZER: Legislator Arnold				
11	Drucker?				
12	LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Here.				
13	CLERK PULITZER: Ranking member				
14	Delia DeRiggi-Whitton.				
15	LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Here.				
16	CLERK PULITZER: Legislator Samantha				
17	Goetz?				
18	LEGISLATOR GOETZ: Here.				
19	CLERK PULITZER: Legislator Mazi				
20	Pilip.				
21	LEGISLATOR PILIP: Here.				
22	CLERK PULITZER: Vice Chairman John				
23	Giuffre, subbing in for Michael				
24	Giangregorio?				
25	LEGISLATOR GIUFFRE: Here.				
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1	HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE 04.08.2024
2	CLERK PULITZER: Chairwoman Rose
3	Marie Walker?
4	CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Here.
5	CLERK PULITZER: We have a quorum.
6	CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Thank you.
7	There is one item on the agenda
8	today, Clerk Item 69-24. Which is an
9	ordinance supplemental to the annual
10	appropriation ordinance in connection
11	with the Health Department.
12	May I have a motion, please?
13	Motioned by Legislator Drucker,
14	seconded by Legislator Giuffre.
15	Good afternoon.
16	MS. DESIMONE: Good afternoon, Ann
17	DeSimone, Health Department.
18	Item 69-24 is two supplemental
19	appropriations. The first is in the
20	amount of \$453,766 for the Expanded
21	Services Grant from New York State
22	Department of Health. This program works
23	to reduce the spread of sexually
24	transmitted diseases through
25	surveillance, verification of treatment,

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	HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE 04.08.2024
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2	and contact investigations. The grant
3	covers salary, fringe general expenses,
4	and indirect costs, and the grant does
5	not require matching funds.
6	The second appropriation is in the
7	amount of \$20,360 for the rabies program
8	from the New York State Department of
9	Health as well. The program provides
10	rabies prevention, post-exposure
11	treatment, and education.
12	CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any questions or
13	comments from the Legislature?
14	(Whereupon, no verbal
15	response.)
16	CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any public
17	comments?
18	MS. MEREDAY: Meta J. Mereday.
19	First of all, just to see any item
20	on any of these committees is exciting
21	because the majority of them have no
22	items. So I'm just always curious as to
23	what the committees are actually doing,
24	because we waste a lot of paper to say
25	there's nothing going on.
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2	I'm always interested in making sure
3	that we are providing services to
4	residents across the board. With regard
5	to the Rabies Program, just curious as to
6	how that is being implemented.
7	Particularly, we have a lot of stray
8	animals that are running around in
9	communities. So we've got, you know,
10	raccoons, possums, things of that nature.
11	And we also have a lot of loose pets. I
12	don't know if they're personal pets, but
13	we have a lot of cats, particularly feral
14	cats, and they are compromised and
15	getting involved with other animals. I
16	just want to make sure that the actual
17	promotion of this type of program, the
18	information, is getting out to as many
19	residents as possible who have, you know,
20	who have animals and maybe have them out
21	in their yards or whatever, and come in
22	contact with some other wild animal that
23	might be rabid.
24	That's about it. But again, I
25	encourage the other committees, the

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1	HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE 04.08.2024
2	residents want to know what you're doing,
3	because a lot of this blank paper, it's
4	costing us money.
5	Thank you.
6	PRESIDING OFFICER KOPEL: Thank you,
7	Ms. Mereday.
8	Ann, can I just ask, about how many
9	rabies cases do we deal with a year?
10	MS. DESIMONE: So we have we don't
11	have any rabies right now in Nassau
12	County; knock wood.
13	CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Thank God.
14	MS. DESIMONE: We do have hundreds
15	of reports, in response to the question,
16	hundreds of reports of animal bites,
17	scratches. We respond to every single one
18	of them if we have to pick up the animal,
19	if we have to watch the animals, if
20	somebody does get bitten by an animal, it
21	could be a dog, cat, monkey, donkey
22	we've had, in other countries, people
23	travel and they come home and report that
24	they've gotten bitten or scratched by a
25	monkey we follow up. We make sure that

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	HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE 04.08.2024
1	
2	the animal is still alive after ten days.
3	And if we cannot verify that we can watch
4	the animal for ten days, we recommend
5	post-exposure prophylaxis. We do that
6	for hundreds of people in the county
7	every year.
8	CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Okay. Thank you
9	very, very much.
10	MS. DESIMONE: You're welcome.
11	CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: I always try to
12	reinforce with people that even sometimes
13	they even in playing with an animal, like
14	they get a bad scratch or whatever, how
15	easily it gets infected and that they
16	need to make sure they it's not an
17	issue of rabies, but they need to make
18	sure they get it checked out and do the
19	proper thing. I know several people have
20	ended up in the emergency room for days
21	because of it or in the hospital for days
22	on an IV or whatever. But thank you so
23	much.
24	MS. DESIMONE: You're welcome.
25	CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: All in favor of

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	HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE 04.08.2024			
1				
2	Clerk Item 69-24, signify by saying,			
3	"Aye".			
4	(Whereupon, all members of			
5	the Health and Social Services			
6	Committee respond in favor			
7	with, "Aye".)			
8	CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any opposed?			
9	(Whereupon, no verbal			
10	response.			
11	CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: This will go on			
12	to Finance.			
13	Motion to adjourn by Legislator			
14	Drucker and seconded by Legislator Pilip.			
15	All in favor of adjourning, signify			
16	by saying, "Aye".			
17	(Whereupon, all members of			
18	the Health and Social Services			
19	Committee respond in favor			
20	with, "Aye".)			
21	CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: We are adjourned			
22	and move on to Finance.			
23				
24	(Whereupon, above matter			
25	concludes, 2:34 P.M.)			

	HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE 04.08.2024				
1					
2	CERTIFICATE				
3					
4	STATE OF NEW YORK)				
5	: SS.:				
6	COUNTY OF NASSAU)				
7					
8	I, KAREN LORENZO, a Notary Public				
9	for and within the State of New York, do				
10	hereby certify:				
11	That the above is a correct				
12	transcription of my stenographic notes.				
13	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto				
14	set my hand this 8th day of April, 2024.				
15					
16	Karen Lorenzo				
17	Karen Lorenzo				
18					
19					
20					
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25					
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