

**WESTCHESTER COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS  
COMMITTEE ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS MEETING  
JOINT WITH COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
MINUTES DECEMBER 4 2009**

**MEMBERS B&A:** Chair: Jose Alvarado, Legislators:  
Jenkins, Myers, Oros, Harckham, Kaplowitz,  
Abinanti, Burton

**MEMBERS OF GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS:** Chair: Ken  
Jenkins, Burton, Harckham, Myers, Pinto

**IN ATTENDANCE:** **Music Conservatory:** Carol Shiffman;  
**Medical Center:** Gary Brudnicki, Michael  
Israel, Anthony Mahler, Kara Bennorth;  
**Student:** Joanne Marie Pepe; **WCC:** Joe  
Hankin, Anne D'Orazio; **Budget:** Anne  
Reasoner, Arthur Vietro; **CEO:** Bill Randolph;  
**DSS:** Diane Atkins, Daphne Swinton;  
**WESTCOP:** Winston Ross; **Finance:** Kathy  
Thorsberg

Chair Alvarado called the Committee on Budget and Appropriations to order at 10:15 a.m.

There was a discussion with the Medical Center (WCHCC). Mr. Israel arrived at the Medical Center in 2005 with a vow to restore financial stability to it. It has been profitable since 2006. They have minimal investment income, minimal endowment to work from so when they show a positive on line, it is from operations. In 2010, they will be showing a surplus of \$4-1/2 million. Their net assets at the end of this year will be minus \$10 million In the years 2010 to 2011 the assets and liabilities will equal one another. In 2004-2005 the medical center had no cash but at the end of this year they will have \$130 million in cash which is about 65 days. Since he has been there, they have invested over \$120 million to improve the technology and the facilities. The number of discharges projected for this year will be 25,200, up from last year and with the rebuilding of the OBGYN department they expect admissions to be up 700 to 800 over this year. Based on reductions in state aid and the \$12.5 million in

services that we are cutting, the Medical Center expects \$94 million in actual and proposed reductions for 2010. Their projection of a surplus of \$4.6 million did not include our \$12.5 cut so they will have to make that up. Medical Center has identified five businesses within the Medical Center. They are the hospital, the 100 bed behavioral health center, 18 bed short term rehabilitation services, the Taylor Care Center and the Correctional health services. Taylor Care was closed in 2009 and 150 positions were eliminated and 190 residents were moved. The Taylor Care lost about \$10 million a year. Correctional Health is losing about \$2.5 million a year. The structure of the contracts doesn't cover their costs. When asked why, they cited cost increases associated with finalizing union contracts, indirect costs of managing the contract, transportation of the prisoners, and putting a prisoner in a semi private room which blocks the use of that room for patients. Mr. Israel felt the County wanted the Medical Center to provide this service and this was all the County could afford. Legislator Jenkins has requested a schedule of the differences and costs and a copy of the contract with Corrections. Legislator Oros suggested making whole the prisoners contract and not giving the Medical Center the \$12 million. He also questioned the increase in personnel expenses by 53 percent from 2006. This was due to union contracts and adding a net of 300 nurses. Legislator Oros requested a list of employees from 2006 and he also wanted to know why contractual went up from \$27 million to \$36 million and he would like a breakdown of what is in contractual. The IGT revenue for next year is listed as \$70 million. If that disappears, every public hospital in the United States would go out of business. There was discussion of the \$40 million capital expenditure. Legislators Oros and Abinanti requested a list of everything we have done for the Medical Center and everything they have paid us for. A breakdown of utility costs was also requested. It was suggested in the future to have a meeting with the Medical Center to discuss what their plans for the future are.

Chair Jenkins called the Committee on Government Operations to order at 11:39 a.m.

A257 WCC Agreement Employees (CSEA) and A258 WCC Agreement Federation of Teachers: The employees contract is for four years ending December 31, 2009 amounting to just under \$5

million and the teachers contract is for three years ending August 31, 2011 and is just short of \$7 million. The funding is in the budget. On the motion of Legislator Kaplowitz, seconded by Legislator Burton for Budget and Appropriations, the motion was carried by a vote of 8-0 (Alvarado, Burton, Kaplowitz, Myers, Harckham, Oros, Abinanti, Jenkins). On the motion of Legislator Harckham, seconded by Legislator Myers for Government Operations, the motion was carried by a vote of 5-0 (Jenkins, Burton, Harckham, Myers, Pinto).

On the motion of Legislator Burton, seconded by Legislator Pinto, Government Operations was adjourned at 11:43 a.m.

Mr. Ross was present for a discussion on WESTCOP. He received \$150,000 in 2008 and he would appreciate receiving \$150,000 for 2009 to improve technology. He is hoping after this year he will not need any more money.

On the motion of Legislator Jenkins, seconded by Legislator Burton, the minutes of December 1 and 2 were approved.

On the motion of Legislator Jenkins, seconded by Legislator Myers, Budget & Appropriations was adjourned at 11:59 a.m.