

**WESTCHESTER COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS
COMMITTEE ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS MEETING
JOINT WITH COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
MINUTES JANUARY 21, 2009**

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

MEMBERS G.O: Chair: Ken Jenkins; Legislators: Bronz, Burrows, Burton, Harckham, Myers, Pinto, Rogowsky, Spreckman

IN ATTENDANCE: **County Water Agency:** Gina D'Agrosa; **C.E.'s Office:** Susan Gerry, Bill Randolph, Andrew Neuman; **County Attorney's Office:** Karen Ramos; **DEF:** Tom Lauro, Jim Arnett; **CBAC/LWVW:** Barbara Strauss; **CBAC:** Fran MacEachron; **BOL:** Joanne Sold, Chris Crane, Rick Pezzullo, Kathy Delgado, Keith Eversley, Sally Schechter, Tara Bernard; **DOT:** Lawrence Salley; **BUDGET:** Anne Reasoner, John Delaney, Arthur Vietro

With a quorum present, Chair Alvarado called the Budget & Appropriations Committee to order at 10:16 a.m. With a quorum present, Chair Jenkins called the Government Operations Committee to order at 10:16 a.m.

Commissioner Lauro discussed the three items pertaining to Water District 3, WD302, which is located on the Grasslands Campus in Valhalla. NYC DEP is building a U.V. facility in Eastview which is West of the Valhalla Campus. They will be shutting down the Catskill Aqueduct from time to time and this will affect our Gates of Heaven Pumping Station that taps into the aqueduct to pump the water up to the water storage tank and then into supply lines that run under the Sprain Brook Parkway onto the Valhalla Campus. NYC DEP is building a line to the Mt. Pleasant Commerce Street Pumping Station and they will allow us to tap into this line. There are 3 huge pipes on NYC property in the cemetery – no graves are involved – and they will allow us to put our pipe next to theirs. A public hearing for the cost of \$2.5 million for design and construction administration is being requested. There already is \$4 million in the capital budget and this year an additional \$5 million was put in. There also is an amendment of \$1.8 for the total cost of all the upgrades but there are still some unknowns as New York City is not sure where the three pipes are. Commissioner Lauro explained that we have a small back-up with Greenburgh but there is not enough water there for us to use. The new station and pipes will partially be underground and it will all be tested prior to the Campus using the new facility. The water quality with U.V. will be better. New York

City expects to take the aqueduct off line in 2010 and so the design and construction have to be underway this year. The shut down by New York City will be approximately five months for each of two years. Legislator Rogowsky questioned other alternatives such as trucking in water. It would not be reliable for the hospital and jail. Legislator Rogowsky wanted to know how much water would be available and Commissioner Lauro said the pipes were designed to handle one million gallons a day with a peak of 3 million gallons. New York City designed the pipes for Mt. Pleasant and our Campus. Legislator Jenkins asked for clarification as to whether the water district is exempt from the \$10 million bond ceiling. Legislator Abinanti wanted to know if Greenburgh would be an alternative and Commissioner Lauro said it would be more expensive to upgrade this facility. Legislator Kaplowitz wanted to know if the pipe would be sized for future growth and it will be and he also wanted to know where Westchester Community College gets their water from and it is from Greenburgh.

A motion was made for Budget and Appropriations by Legislator Myers and seconded by Legislator Burton on Items A195, A195 and C107 and carried by a vote of 10-0 and for Government Operations a motion was made by Legislator Pinto and seconded by Legislator Bronz on Items 243, 244, 245 and carried by a vote of 9-0.

A motion was made by Legislator Bronz and seconded by Legislator Pinto of Government Operations to receive and file Item #248 "Smoke Free Parks." The motion was carried by a vote of 9-0. A motion was made by Legislator Pinto, seconded by Legislator Burton to accept the minutes of October 21. The motion was carried by a vote of 9-0.

The next item was A108 a bond act for WD303 a lateral main rehabilitation on the Grasslands campus. There have been experiences failures and as a result that section had to be shut down. This causes imbalances in the pressure. DEF has designed a new 8 inch main to replace the 6 inch main and this will improve the water volume and pressure. \$500,000 has been allocated for the construction and so far \$170,000 has been spent for the design. On the motion of Legislator Burton, seconded by Legislator Myers for Budget & Appropriation, the motion was passed by a vote of 10-0. On the motion of Legislator Pinto, seconded by Legislator Harckham for Item #246 in Government Operations, the motion was passed by a vote of 9-0.

Item A193 to accept a Grant from the FAA to rehabilitate a taxiway – A054A. Commissioner Salley said this is for resurfacing taxiway L and we would receive \$215,000 from the FAA, \$10,000 from the state and the balance from the Airport Special Revenue Fund so there would be no tax levy impact. On the motion of Legislator Spreckman, seconded by Legislator Harckham for Budget and Appropriation, the motion was passed by a vote of 10-0 and on the motion of Legislator Pinto, seconded by Legislator Burrows for #242 of Government Operations, the motion was passed by a vote of 9-0.

On the motion of Legislator Pinto, seconded by Legislator Myers, Government Operations was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Legislator Abinanti asked to have the Environment Committee at 10:56 a.m. join Budget & Appropriations. The Environment Committee recessed at 5:15 p.m. on January 20 after discussing various items at the airport. Legislator Abinanti explained that Item A198 was not referred to any committee at the Board meeting of January 5. Legislator Jenkins explained that Government Operations discussed this item because of it being time sensitive. Commissioner Salley explained that the FAA informed the County DOT that they would need the signed grant agreement by January 28. That meant that the Board had to approve it at the Board meeting of January 21 and it would be on A&C on January 22. There was much discussion on Item 198 and the County Attorney would have to advise the Board how it would have to be handled. The project consists of paving the road in front of Hanger D, in front of the terminal back to the traffic circle and some drainage improvements. There will be some widening of the road on the east side of the garage for emergency vehicles to have access to the terminal. Legislator Abinanti explained that because of the drainage improvements it was not necessary to have a full environment impact statement. He said that the entire airport has been under study by the DEC and the Administration as to the output into the Blind Brook. Based on the way this item is framed, the negative declaration is sufficient for this project. On the motion of Legislator Abinanti, seconded by Legislator Myers for Item A196, the motion was carried by a vote of 10-0. On the motion of Legislator Myers, seconded by Legislator Rogowsky, for Budget & Appropriation and for Environment, Item A198 the negative declaration for A0080, was approved by a vote of 10-0

On the motion of Legislator Jenkins, seconded by Legislator Rogowsky, the minutes of January 12 were approved.

On the motion of Legislator Myers, seconded by Legislator Harckham, the Environment Committee was adjourned at 11:17 a.m. and on the motion of Legislator Myers, seconded by Legislator Burton the Budget & Appropriation Committee was adjourned at 11:17 a.m.