WESTCHESTER COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS COMMITTEE ON RULES MINUTES OF MEETING: FEBRUARY 1, 2010

In Attendance:

Committee Members: Legislators Thomas Abinanti, Chair; Kenneth Jenkins and James Maisano Staff: Joanne Sold

The meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m. by Chair Abinanti.

The Chair noted that Legislator Williams would be participating by telephone.

Resolution designating the newspapers for official publications of all local laws, notices and other matters required by law was reviewed and discussed. It was noted by the Chair that five newspapers have been designated. Legislator Maisano asked whether additional publications could be added after approval of the resolution. Legislator Jenkins indicated that additional publications could be added at a later date.

Motion to approve the resolution was moved by Legislator Maisano and seconded by Legislator Jenkins. Motion was approved 3-0.

Resolution to revise, eliminate and/or amend certain staff titles and salary ranges for employees of the Board of Legislators was reviewed and discussed. Legislator Jenkins noted that the Acting Commissioner of Human Resources recommended that rather than abolishing titles the resolution should provide that these titles will not be used this term. It was agreed that this provision would be so modified.

The members discussed the salary ranges. Legislator Maisano suggested that several maximum salaries be lowered. Legislator Jenkins noted that these salaries were currently in place for the titles and that the maximum salary for the Chief of Staff/Assistant to the Chairman position was less than the salary earned by the previous employee in that position. In addition, Legislator Jenkins noted that the current salaries for management positions in the County Executive's office are higher than any of the proposed maximum salary ranges for Board of Legislator employees. Legislator Jenkins further noted that the current budget allocation for employees would not increase with any staffing changes.

Additional changes to salary ranges were discussed to create consistency. Changes to several titles were discussed and modified.

Legislator Maisano stated that it was important to hold the line on salary increases and be fiscally responsible.

Motion to approve the resolution as amended was moved by Legislator Jenkins and seconded by Legislator Maisano. Motion was approved 3-0 with Legislator Maisano voting in favor without prejudice.

Resolution provided by the County Attorney's Office to amend the rules of the Board relating to attendance at committee meetings by telephone conference call and videoconferencing was discussed. The legal opinion from the County Attorney as to whether the Board of Legislators may authorize County legislators to attend and participate in committee meetings by conference call and/or videoconferencing to: (1) be marked "present" for attendance purposes; (2) to establish a quorum; and (3) to vote on agenda items was discussed. A minor modification to the resolution was suggested.

Motion to approve the resolution as amended was moved by Legislator Maisano and seconded by Legislator Jenkins. Motion was approved 3-0.

There being no other business before the Committee, on motion of Legislator Maisano and seconded by Legislator Jenkins, Legislator Abinanti adjourned the meeting at 1:45 p.m.