# Law & Major Contracts BOL Meeting Minutes Published Draft



Committee Chair: David Imamura

800 Michaelian Office Bldg. 148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor White Plains, NY 10601 www.westchesterlegislators.com

Monday, September 29, 2025

10:00 AM

Committee Room

### Joint w/B&A

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Please note: Meetings of the Board of Legislators and its committees are held at the Michaelian Office Building, 148 Martine Avenue, White Plains, New York, 10601, and remotely via the WebEx video conferencing system. Legislators may participate in person or via Webex. Members of the public may attend meetings in person at any of its locations, or view it online on the Westchester County Legislature's website: https://westchestercountyny.legistar.com/ This website also provides links to materials for all matters to be discussed at a given meeting.

Legislator Emiljana Ulaj will be participating remotely from 520 White Plains Road, Tarrytown, NY 10591.

Legislator Colin Smith will be participating remotely from 1132 Main Street, Suite 1, Peekskill, NY 10566.

Joint with Budget & Appropriations committee.

With a quorum present, Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Others in Attendance: BOL: Legislators: Jewel Williams Johnson, Erika Pierce, and Judah Holstein; Legislator Catherine Parker (Remote); Committee Coordinators: Jill Axelrod, James Silverberg, Dayana Gomez, and Shatika Parker; Marcello Figueroa; Law Dept.: John Nonna, Jane Hogan-Felix, Michael Callan, John Fico, and Loren Zeitler; Guest: Joe Slaughter

Present: Legislator Imamura, Legislator Barr, Legislator Smith and Legislator Gashi

**Absent:** Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Remote: Legislator Ulaj

#### MINUTES APPROVAL

Monday, July 28th at 1:00 p.m.

On motion of Legislator Barr, seconded by Legislator Imamura, the minutes were approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Imamura, Legislator Barr, Legislator Smith and Legislator Gashi

**Absent:** Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Away: Legislator Ulaj

### I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

### 1. ACT-2025-196 ACT - Lawsuit Settlement GCVA WCH-DOE v. WMC, WCHCC and WC

Guests: Law Dept.: County Attorney John Nonna and Deputy County Attorney Taryn Langrin Please note that this item was taken out of order and discussed and voted on second.

Mr. Nonna and Ms. Hogan-Felix discussed the background and procedural history of the litigation. Ms. Hogan-Felix explained that this act will authorize the \$875,000 settlement of the lawsuit brought under the Child Victims Act, and also authorize the County to accept a payment of \$200,000 from the Westchester Medical Center as contribution to the cost of the settlement.

With a motion by Legislator Imamura seconded by Legislator Barr, the committee went into executive session to discuss legal strategy at 10:44 a.m. With a motion by Legislator Imamura seconded by Legislator Barr, the committee came out of executive session at 11:03 a.m.

On motion of Legislator Imamura, seconded by Legislator Barr, the above item was signed by committee and referred to Board of Legislators. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Imamura, Legislator Ulaj, Legislator Barr, Legislator Smith and

Legislator Gashi

**Absent:** Legislator Woodson-Samuels

# 2. <u>ACT-2025-197</u> <u>ACT - Lawsuit Settlement of Fields v. The County of Westchester,</u> Westchester Community College

Guests: Law Dept.: County Attorney John Nonna and Assistant Chief Deputy County Attorney Jane Hogan-Felix; Joe Slaughter, Esq.

Please note that this item was taken out of order and discussed and voted on first.

Mr. Slaughter discussed the underlying lawsuit. He explained that the County has three reasons to settle the case. First, there is a real risk of liability since the jury might not look favorably at the way the college handled this. Second, although potential damages in a defamation case are hard to calculate, a jury could see the plaintiff as sympathetic and entitled to a substantial amount of money. Third, the cost of continuing to litigate the case, including trial and appeal, could be significant.

With a motion by Legislator Imamura seconded by Legislator Barr, the committee went into executive session to discuss legal strategy at 10:12 a.m. With a motion by Legislator Imamura seconded by Legislator Barr, the committee went into executive session to discuss legal strategy at 10:27 a.m.

On motion of Legislator Imamura, seconded by Legislator Barr, the above item was signed by committee and referred to Board of Legislators. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Legislator Imamura, Legislator Barr, Legislator Smith and Legislator Gashi

**Absent:** Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Away: Legislator Ulaj

# 3. <u>ACT-2025-198</u> <u>ACT - Authorization to Commence an Action against Machinery Equipment Rebuilders</u>

Guests: Law Dept.: County Attorney John Nonna and Deputy County Attorney John Fico Mr. Fico said the County seeks authorization to bring a lawsuit against any and all parties responsible for the return of or reimbursement for the cost of a gearbox for the Dragon Coaster at Playland. He explained that Standard Amusements had previously sent the gearbox to Machinery Equipment Builders to be refurbished, but the County does not have an invoice or receipt from Standard.

Mr. Nonna said that the County has asked Standard to provide any information about contracts, agreements, or bills of lading regarding the gearbox, and are hoping to get that information tomorrow.

On motion of Legislator Imamura, seconded by Legislator Barr, the above item was signed by committee and referred to Board of Legislators. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Imamura, Legislator Ulaj, Legislator Barr and Legislator Smith

**Absent:** Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Away: Legislator Gashi

# 4. <u>ACT-2025-199</u> <u>ACT - Opioid Settlement - Additional Manufacturers</u>

Guests: Law Dept.: County Attorney John Nonna and Associate County Attorney Loren Zeitler Ms. Zeitler said that the settlement provides that the County will receive approximately \$850,000 from the eight defendant companies. She added that all attorneys' fees and costs will be paid out of a separate fund. She also said that all settlement funds must be used for approved uses such as prevention, treatment, education, and other types of abatement.

On motion of Legislator Barr, seconded by Legislator Imamura, the above item was signed by committee and referred to Board of Legislators. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Imamura, Legislator Ulaj, Legislator Barr and Legislator Smith

**Absent:** Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Away: Legislator Gashi

### 5. ACT-2025-200 ACT - Opioid Settlement , Purdue/Sackler

Guests: Law Dept.: County Attorney John Nonna and Associate County Attorney Loren Zeitler Ms. Zeitler said this relates to the County's claims against Purdue Pharma and the Sackler family. She explained that the Sackler family will pay \$6.5 billion to resolve all claims from around the country, with \$1 billion payable immediately and then in installments over 15 years. Of that amount, the County will receive approximately \$5 million over 15 years, with approximately \$1,250,000 distributed during the first year.

The settlement also provides that the Sackler family is permanently banned from selling opioids in the U.S., and agrees to not seek naming rights in the future with respect to any

charitable donations or organizations. She added that once the settlement is in effect, any institution that has provided naming rights to the Sackler family can remove the name from any physical facilities, academic, medical, and cultural programs, scholarships, endowments, etc.

On motion of Legislator Imamura, seconded by Legislator Barr, the above item was signed by committee and referred to Board of Legislators. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Imamura, Legislator Barr and Legislator Smith

**Absent:** Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Away: Legislator Ulaj and Legislator Gashi

# II. OTHER BUSINESS

### III. RECEIVE & FILE

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Legislator Imamura, seconded by Legislator Barr, the Committee adjourned at 1:02 p.m. by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Imamura, Legislator Barr and Legislator Smith

**Absent:** Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Away: Legislator Ulaj and Legislator Gashi