

Environment & Health

BOL Meeting Minutes - Final



Committee Chair: Ruth Walter

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

Monday, September 20, 2021

10:00 AM

Committee Room

CALL TO ORDER

Joint with the Committees on Budget & Appropriations, Public Works & Transportation, Public Safety and Parks & Recreation.

The County Board will meet pursuant to Chapter 417 of New York State Laws of 2021, allowing public bodies to meet and take action without permitting in-person public access to meetings and authorizes such meetings and public hearings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided the public has the ability to view or listen and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed. To access the meeting, please visit: <https://westchestercountyny.legistar.com>

With a quorum present, Chair Walter called the meeting to order at 10:17 AM.

Others in Attendance: Y. Valencia, A. Restiano, J. Silverberg, B. LoBello

Remote: Brian Murpy, Stewart Glass, Schott Sullivan, Chris Steers, M. Montalto, Legislators Maher, Tubiolo, Williams, Shimsky, Johnson, Gidion Grmade

Present: Committee Chair Walter, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Boykin and Committee Vice-Chair Covill

Absent: Legislator Barr

Remote: Legislator Parker and Legislator Shimsky

MINUTES APPROVAL

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. [ACT-2021-168](#) **ACT - WCC Covid Testing Services**

AN ACT authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with the Westchester County Health Care Corporation, d/b/a Westchester Medical Center, for a term commencing on October 7, 2021 and expiring on October 6, 2022, for Covid-19 nasopharyngeal testing services to WCC's staff, faculty and student for potential risk exposure to the Coronavirus Disease.

Submitted by COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY

Item was placed directly into committee.

Guests:

Brian Murphy, MBA, MSED

Vice President and Dean of Administrative Services and CFO

SUNY Westchester Community College

Yolanda Howel

SUNY Westchester Community College

Stewart Glass

SUNY Westchester Community College

Vice President Murphy and Directors Glass and Sullivan appeared before the committees to discuss the Act- WCC-COVID Testing. Westchester Community College (WCC) in compliance with The State University of New York's COVID-19 safety protocols and the public health directives issued by the Governor and the Department of Health, this Act is to enter into an agreement with Westchester County Health Care Corporation d/b/a Westchester Medical Center (WCHCC). WCHCC would provide Covid-19 nasopharyngeal testing to WCC faculty, staff and students for potential risk exposure to the Coronavirus disease, for a term commencing on October 7, 2021 and expiring on October 6, 2022. The County would pay a fee not to exceed \$1,000,000 for the term of the agreement.

Director Sullivan discussed that this testing is for the unvaccinated population on campus. SUNY mandated that all of their students to be vaccinated, and it will be on about September 27th that they will have to at least had their 1st shot. There are exemptions, religious and medical exemptions, not everyone will be vaccinated in the student population and the same is true for the employee population.

Director Sullivan explained that there is another component that is being discussed, SUNY may require us to increase our testing a surveillance testing for vaccinated people who were on the campus, both students and employees. Testing numbers may go up, which is why the estimated calculation is at that \$1 million.

On motion of Committee Vice-Chair Covill, seconded by Legislator Shimsky, the above item was signed by committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Walter, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Boykin, Committee Vice-Chair Covill, Legislator Parker and Legislator Shimsky

Absent: Legislator Barr

WO Prejudice:

2. [ACT-2021-163](#) **BOND ACT-RGP14-Water Bottle Refill Stations**

A BOND ACT authorizing the issuance of SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND (\$750,000) DOLLARS in bonds of Westchester County to finance Capital Project RGP 14 - Water Bottle Refill Stations.

Submitted by COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION, PARKS & RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH

Guests:

Kathleen O'Connor
Commissioner
Westchester County Parks Department

Peter Tartaglia
Deputy Commissioner
Westchester County Parks Department

Commissioner O'Connor, First Deputy Commissioner Tartaglia and Ken Uhle appeared before the committees to discuss RGP14- Water Bottle Refill Stations. This is a Bond Act in the amount of \$750,000 that will fund the design and installation of fast-fill, bottle fill fountains at various County Parks. First Deputy Commissioner Tartaglia that this would project would replace many of the water fountains in the County Parks system. The purpose of this project is to help visitors go green, reduce liter all while providing a sanitary water option for the public. He said these station are freezer resistant and can be used through the winter months. Mr. Tartaglia discussed that a future project will be spread these stations throughout the County Parks and Trails but this project will replace the fountains only in areas that have existing water line. Mr. Tartaglia said that the bid this out and he will get a better price, but estimating around \$3000 to \$3500 per station. Legislator Walter asked if this project will also allow for water stations to be available indoors? Mr. Tartaglia said, they will look into indoor areas, this is still in the design phase, and they will look anywhere in a park indoor or outdoor to place a refill station

On motion of Committee Chair Walter, seconded by Committee Vice-Chair Covill, the above item was signed by committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Walter, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Boykin, Committee Vice-Chair Covill, Legislator Parker and Legislator Shimsky

Absent: Legislator Barr

WO Prejudice:**II. OTHER BUSINESS****III. RECEIVE & FILE****ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Committee Vice-Chair Covill, seconded by Legislator Borgia, the Committee adjourned at 11:36 AM.