



# Budget & Appropriations

## BOL Meeting Minutes - Final

Committee Chair: Catherine Borgia

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

---

Monday, July 26, 2021

10:00 AM

Committee Room

---

### CALL TO ORDER

Meeting jointly with the Committees on Public Works & Transportation and Public Safety

**Please Note: Chairwoman Catherine Borgia will be joining the meeting remotely. Her address will be: Clear View School and Day Treatment Center, 480 Albany Post Road, Briarcliff, NY 10510**

With a quorum present, Chair Borgia called the meeting to order at 10:11 AM.

Others in Attendance: MaryJane Shimsky, Colin Smith, Terry Clements, James Silverberg, Alessandra Restiano, Greg Casciato BOL Remote: Alfreda Williams (not eligible to vote), Kitley Covill BUDGET: Larry Soule, Michael Dunn Budget Remote: Gideon Grande WCC Remote: Dr. Miles, Brian Murphy, Dean Brown, Prince Guerra CSEA 9202 Remote: Suzanne Paribello, Henry Samoyedny WCCFT Remote: Deirdre Verne, James Werner PUBLIC SAFETY Remote: James Provenzano

### MINUTES APPROVAL

#### Monday, July 19, 2021 10AM Minutes

On motion of Legislator Cunzio, seconded by Legislator Barr, the minutes were approved. The motion carried unanimously.

### I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

#### 1. [2021-452](#) ACT - WCC 2021/22 Budget

An ACT adopting the Westchester County Community College Operating and Capital Budget and making appropriations for the operation of the Westchester County Community College for the 2021/2022 school year.

**Submitted by COMMITTEE ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS**

#### **Budget only**

**Guests: Dr. Belinda Miles, President, Brian Murphy, CFO & Dean of Administrative Services- WCC; Budget Director Larry Soule, Deputy Budget Director Gideon Grande and Michael Dunn, Budget Analyst for WCC** Dr. Miles, Brian Murphy and Sean Brown from Westchester Community College appeared before the committee to discuss the 2021-2022 Westchester Community College Budget Act. The Budget Act will take effect on September 1, 2021 and is in the amount of \$114,686,000.00 for operating expenses and \$3,169,000.00 for capital projects. Personal Services \$95,542,106; Purchase of Equipment \$219,000; Materials and Supplies \$3,699,053; Expenses \$15,225,921; Capital Budget \$3,169,000.

Sean Brown read a statement from Dr. Miles, who was traveling out of state, into the record.

*Dr. Miles joined the meeting remotely midway.*

*Chairwoman Borgia of the Budget & Appropriations Committee asked about tuition assistance and what percentage of students received assistance? Dr. Miles said she would get more definitive data but at the last look, it was about 40% are Pell eligible which are also TAP eligible.*

*Chairman of the Board Boykin asked about how much Federal money the College had received to date. Mr. Murphy responded they have received \$7.7 million from the CARES Act (Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act); \$26 million from the American Rescue Plan; and \$15.7 million from CRRSAA (Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act). Mr. Murphy explained that of the \$26 million they have received from the American Rescue Plan, approximately \$13.141 million went to the students and \$13.8 million went to the institution. The College is waiting for direction from SUNY and the State on how to spend the funds designated to the institution. Chairman Boykin asked about when we will hear from the State regarding guidelines? Dr. Miles stated that the meetings have begun and hoping the direction will come in quickly., and they plan to use the funding to help close the gap in their budget as a result of revenue losses as a result of enrollment shifts.*

*Chairman Boykin asked about the capital budget, and are there any plans for projects? Mr. Murphy explained that they are currently using the facilities Master Plan for the capital program, the College will be submitting a new Master Plan in September.*

*Chairwoman Borgia asked if there are projects that they would like to have done in the future? Dr. Miles said the new Master Plan speaks to the new needs of the College. We have done some reassessment as we look at the potential for more remote learning and what physical spaces are actually needed how we build out of some of the extension variances. She noted that they are looking at helping or adults get back into the workforce and what kinds of programs and infrastructure needed for those programs.*

*Legislator Walter asked about any plan to incorporate sustainable energy projects into the master plan for capital. Dr. Miles said yes, they have a very vocal student body and a sustainability committee within the faculty senate that has reached out to public private partnerships to see if they can make use of the land in efforts to meet their sustainability efforts. The committee had discussion on the plans for solar panels and sustainable efforts in the current capital programs. Mr. Guerra went through the current programs that have sustainable aspects.*

*Legislator Johnson asked do we know how many adjunct faculty they have? Mr. Murphy discussed they do not have the dollar amount not the actual faculty. He will get the numbers to Legislator Johnson. Legislator Johnson asked if they get benefits? Mr. Murphy said that many of the adjunct are in the retirement system, but there are not health benefits associated with being an adjunct. Legislator Johnson asked if they know if the College is on par with other college's in relation to adjuncts. Dr. Miles stated they will send the committee a critical analysis of peer institutions to see if they are on par.*

On motion of Legislator Cunzio, seconded by Legislator Johnson, the above item was signed by committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Committee Chair Borgia, Legislator Barr, Legislator Boykin, Legislator Cunzio, Committee Vice-Chair Gashi, Legislator Johnson, Legislator Maher, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Walter and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

**Absent:** Legislator Parker and Legislator Williams

2. [2021-443](#) **BOND ACT-WCC89-Administration Building Expansion-Renovation**

A BOND ACT authorizing the issuance of ONE MILLION, THREE HUNDRED SIXTY THOUSAND (\$1,360,000) DOLLARS in bonds of Westchester County to finance Capital Project WCC89 - Administration Building Expansion/Renovation.

**Submitted by COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION**

*Joint with PWT*

*Guests: CFO & Dean of Administrative Services Brian Murphy & Prince Guerra - WCC*

*Prince Guerra, Superintendent of Buildings for WCC discussed capital project, WCC89- Administration Building Expansion- Renovation. This is a Bond Act in the amount of \$1,360,000 to finance the County's 50% share of the cost of construction of improvements to the Administration Building at the College.*

*Phase one will consist of hiring professional services to upgrade the HVAC and Plumbing Systems of the Administration building. The building currently has (3) 25-ton unit(s) and a 30-ton unit. These units are past their useful life and in need of replacement. The phase shall include the complete replacement of each unit with new energy-efficient units that will serve the heating and cooling requirements of the building. This phase will also have some plumbing upgrades to service connections beyond their useful life.*

*Chairwoman Borgia asked how many phases are associated with this project, Mr. Guerra noted there are 4 phases.*

On motion of Legislator Johnson, seconded by Legislator Woodson-Samuels, the above item was signed by committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Committee Chair Borgia, Legislator Barr, Legislator Boykin, Legislator Cunzio, Committee Vice-Chair Gashi, Legislator Johnson, Legislator Maher, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Walter and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

**Absent:** Legislator Parker and Legislator Williams

3. [2021-442](#) **BOND ACT-WCC82-Site Upgrade Campus Wide**

A BOND ACT authorizing the issuance of FOUR HUNDRED THIRTY ONE THOUSAND (\$431,000) DOLLARS in bonds of Westchester County to finance Capital Project WCC82 - Site Upgrade Campus Wide.

**Submitted by COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION**

*Joint with PWT*

*Guests: CFO & Dean of Administrative Services Brian Murphy & Prince Guerra - WCC*

*Prince Guerra, Superintendent of Buildings for WCC discussed capital project, WCC82- Site Upgrade Campus Wide. This is a Bond Act in the amount of \$431,00 to finance the County's 50% share of the cost of construction of Area Three Phase parking lot facilities and related site improvements at the College.*

*This project will focus on parking improvements and general site improvements between the Student Center, Physical Education Building, parking lots 9 and 10, and a portion of the campus loop. The Site work upgrades include re-paving 50,000SF of parking and improvements to storm drainage, site lighting, signage, walkways, and landscaping.*

*Chair Gashi of the Committee on Public Works & Transportation asked if there will be addition of electric vehicle charging station. Mr. Guerra stated that this project is to redo the parking*

spaces in effort to fit more parking spaces, and it was not specifically designed as a sustainability project.

Chair Gashi asked does this apply to the recent legislation just passed by the Board. he asked would this be regarded as a substantial upgrade to a parking lot that would require or is it maybe already sufficiently addressed with the existing charging stations?

Chairwoman Borgia asked what are the timeline intentions with respect to additional charging stations? Mr. Guerra stated that is still under investigation as discussed earlier, that Dr. Miles is looking to partner with public private partnerships in efforts to improve sustainability at the College.

Chair Gashi continued by asking if we approve this project would we be in violation of the recent legislation passed if this does not include any charging stations.

Mr. Guerra stated that this phase does not include any charging stations but the project WCC82, phase 2 includes 2 charging stations that power 4 vehicles in area 82, which is a different lot but the same capital program.

The members questioned whether the charging stations need to be in the current lot being voted on or if it applies to the entire project?

Legislator Shimsky suggested that we amend the committee report to include a sentence that we could put as a paragraph anywhere, to reflect that this project will include electric vehicle charging stations.

The following sentence was added to the committee report:

"It is contemplated that this work will be completed in conjunction with other work to create electric vehicle charging station in these lots."

On motion of Legislator Tubiolo, seconded by Legislator Barr, the above item was signed by committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Committee Chair Borgia, Legislator Barr, Legislator Boykin, Legislator Cunzio, Committee Vice-Chair Gashi, Legislator Johnson, Legislator Maher, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Walter and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

**Absent:** Legislator Parker and Legislator Williams

#### 4. [2021-427](#) **IMA-School Resource Officers-Lakeland School District**

AN ACT authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into an intermunicipal agreement with the Lakeland Central School District whereby the County will assign three (3) uniformed police officers to act as School Resource Officers for the District at the Walter Panas High School, the Van Cortlandtville Elementary School and the Lincoln-Titus Elementary School.

**Submitted by THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD**

#### **Joint with PS**

**Guests: Captain Greer & Lieutenant Provenzano- Department of Public Safety**

Lieutenant James Provenzano appeared before the Committee to discuss item #2021-427-IMA-School Resource Officers-Lakeland School District. This is an IMA with the Lakeland Central School District to which the County will assign three uniformed police officers to act as School Resource Officers at the following three District's schools: 1.) the Walter Panas High School; 2.) the Van Cortlandtville Elementary School; and 3.) the Lincoln-Titus Elementary School. The proposed IMA will be for a term of five years, commencing upon the opening day of school in September, 2021 and expiring in the last day of school in June, 2026. Lieutenant Provenzano discussed that the SRO's duties will consist of

*working with the Schools to maintain a safe campus environment conducive to learning, including, inter alia, investigating allegations of criminal incidents in accordance with Department's policies and procedures; working to prevent juvenile delinquency through close contact and positive relationships with students; working closely with school administrators and developing and implementing classes in crime prevention, drug abuse prevention, and safety; and serving as a good role model for students. In addition, the SRO's will work in collaboration with the Schools to address crime and disorder problems, gangs, and drug activities affecting or occurring in or around the Schools, as well as develop or expand crime prevention efforts for students. The SRO's will not be permitted to conduct extended questioning of a student in the Schools unless the student's parent/guardian has been contacted and provided an opportunity to be present.*

*Chairwoman Borgia asked about how the financing works for SRO's since they are in the schools and then working County details as well? Lieutenant Provenzano responded that typically during the summer months, the SRO's are reassigned to the Parks patrol or another detail within the County. These officers will then be assigned back to the schools when they reopen. Legislator Borgia asked for a breakdown of who is paying the officer when they are conducting other County functions? Mr. Grande responded that he will put the answer in writing and send it to the Legislators.*

*Chair Smith asked about the Safe Summers program and what else is offered working with the schools and the community? Lieutenant Provenzano responded that they participate in summer camps. Recently they attended a 4th grade camp where they were able to have a back and forth discussion and answer questions for the kids. They also meet with high school aged kids and discuss the dangers with smoking and vaping and drinking. Recently they did an underage sale program in Cortlandt which was successful, there were no underage alcohol sales observed. This is a program where they invite the community to side on with the County police that it is bad to sell alcohol to underage kids.*

*Legislator Maher asked if the Department of Public Safety knows why this school district wants SRO's and if they are concerned more with gang violence or a potential active shooter? Lieutenant Provenzano responded that it is more of a community policing initiative to have the police officers interact with the community itself. The community had requested that the County police interact with the community at their camps this summer as well as a continuation of our ongoing interaction. He noted that this is not directly related to the possibility of gang violence or an active shooter, but that there is a larger component to it than just school violence.*

*Chairwoman Borgia stated that during her time as Town Supervisor in Ossining that there were SRO's in the middle and high schools that proved to be very good relationships. They did a lot of education that was positive.*

*Legislator Cunzio stated that we have had superintendents at this table who have supported this and the only reason this is coming before us is because they are contracting with the County. Many school districts have their own local police officers in their schools and utilize them in their elementary schools with the idea of community.*

*Legislator Gashi discussed that he is a graduate of the Lakeland school district and living in that area to this day, the SRO program is extremely popular and that he has not heard of complaints in this area concerning Lakeland.*

*Legislator Clements stated that in throughout the police reform task force and the continuation that is currently going on to review the recommendations, one thing keeps coming up and that is that community policing is very important and that interaction is very important in building trust. She added that she believes it builds trust, helps diversify the police department and is a*

*very positive thing for the community.*

*Chair Boykin discussed that White Plains has had a very successful program with the White Plains Police Department for many years. He stressed how important it is and how powerful an impact bringing together kids and the community with the officers who patrol their community.*

*Legislator Johnson discussed that different communities experience community policing and SRO's differently. Some may see it as protection whereas others may see it as surveillance. He stated that it is important that we look at how communities feel and see how that will affect our policy decisions going forward.*

*Legislator Johnson voted without prejudice (WOP). Legislator Maher voted no.*

On motion of Legislator Cunzio, seconded by Legislator Boykin, the above item was signed by committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Committee Chair Borgia, Legislator Barr, Legislator Boykin, Legislator Cunzio, Committee Vice-Chair Gashi, Legislator Johnson, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Walter and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

**Nay:** Legislator Maher

**Absent:** Legislator Parker and Legislator Williams

## **II. OTHER BUSINESS**

## **III. RECEIVE & FILE**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Legislator Tubiolo, seconded by Legislator Walter, the Committee adjourned at 12:01 PM.