

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 27, 2021

10:00 AM

Committee Room

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting joint with the Committees on Budget & Appropriations, Public Works & Transportation and Public Safety.

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 10:15 AM.

Others in Attendance: Y. Valencia, A. Restiano, J. Silverberg, Legislators Damon Maher and Margaret Cunzio

Remote: Legislators Vgashi, Tubiolo, Smith, Williams, Johnson; Deputy Commissioner Gerald, Warden Vollmer, William Fallon, Director of Admin. Services

Present: Committee Chair Walter, Legislator Borgia and Legislator Boykin

Remote: Legislator Barr, Committee Vice-Chair Covill, Legislator Parker and Legislator Shimsky

MINUTES APPROVAL

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. [ACT-2021-169](#) **BOND ACT(Amended)-BCR50-Infirmarium-Suicide Prevention Area**

A BOND ACT (Amended) authorizing the issuance of an additional THREE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND (\$350,000) DOLLARS in bonds of Westchester County to finance Capital Project BCR50 - Infirmarium/Suicide Prevention Area.

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

Guests:

Michael Gerald
Deputy Commissioner

Karl Vollmer
Warden

William Fallon
Director of Admin. Services
Department of Corrections

Deputy Commissioner Gerald, Warden Vollmer and William Fallon of the Department of Corrections discussed BCR50 - Infirmity/Suicide Prevention Area ("BCRSO"). The Amended Bond Act, in the total amount of \$950,000 which includes \$600,000 in previously authorized bonds of the County, would finance the cost of design in connection with renovations to the County Correctional Facility to provide for a staff-efficient suicide prevention watch area. The Department of Corrections has advised that additional financing is required because the scope of BCRSO has evolved from a stand-alone building to renovation of existing space in the jail. The Department seeks to use existing space in the Jail (J-Block) by retrofitting existing space to accommodate a suicide prevention area. The Department has advised that this will minimize construction costs and expedite completion of the project. Since design was already started on a stand-alone building, many internal specifications from that design will be used for this renovation project. Following bonding authorization, design will be scheduled and is anticipated to take nine months to complete. Design is being undertaken by a consultant. Construction is estimated to take twelve months to complete and will begin after award and execution of the construction contracts. Previously authorized the issue of bonds to finance a portion of BCR50, as follows: Bond Act No. 85-2013 in the amount of \$600,000 to finance design in connection with BCRSO. These bonds have not been sold. Accordingly, it is now requested that Bond Act No. 85-2013 be amended to increase the total amount authorized by \$350,000, for a total authorized amount, as amended, of \$950,000. The Planning Department has advised that based on its review, the above-referenced capital project has been classified as a "Type II" action pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQR") and its implementing regulations, 6 NYCRR Part 617.

This renovation will allow one officer to be able to watch up to five residents within a 25 ft distance. This will facilitate better views and a better atmosphere for the residents. Legislator Maher asked for the current resident count in which there are 706 total residents and 229 are federal inmates; all male. Legislators have asked for before and after photos and any comparison photos of other facilities nationwide.

On motion of Legislator Borgia, 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 Barr, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Boykin, Committee Vice-Chair Covill, Legislator Parker and Legislator Shimsky

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

1. [2021-489](#) **HON. CATHERINE PARKER - Removal of Parcel from Westchester County Sewer District - 3830 Purchase Street, Purchase**

Forwarding a Resolution from the Town of Harrison, Village of Harrison, requesting a parcel of property located at 3830 Purchase Street, Purchase, be removed from the Westchester County Sewer District.

COMMITTEE REFERRAL: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH

On motion of Legislator Borgia, seconded by Committee Vice-Chair Covill, the above item was received, filed, and approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

WO Prejudice:

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator Barr, seconded by Committee Vice-Chair Covill, the Committee adjourned at 12:37 PM.