

Health

BOL Meeting Minutes - Final



Committee Chair: Jewel Williams Johnson

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

Monday, July 24, 2023

10:00 AM

Committee Room

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.

Joint w/ HSHRE, LEG and B&A

With a quorum present, Chair Williams Johnson called the meeting to order at 12:04 PM.

Others in Attendance: HEALTH: Renee Recchia (remote); DSS: John Befus (remote); BOL: Legislator Damon Maher, Legislator David Tubiolo, Legislator Terry Clements, Legislator Tyrae Woodson-Samuels, Legislator Jose Alvarado, Lisa Hochman (remote), Shatika Parker and James Silverberg

Present: Committee Chair Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Imamura, Legislator Parker and Committee Vice-Chair Pierce

Absent: Legislator Smith

MINUTES APPROVAL

July 11th, 2023 at 1PM Minutes

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. [2023-185](#) **IMA-Mandated Preventive Respite Care and Services-Rockland County**

AN ACT authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into an Intermunicipal Agreement with Rockland County in order to provide mandated preventive respite care and services to eligible children at risk of foster care placement and their families residing in Rockland County, on a space available basis, for the term commencing on March 1, 2023 and expiring on February 28, 2026.

COMMITTEE REFERRAL: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, HUMAN SERVICES, HUMAN RIGHTS & EQUITY AND HEALTH

Chair Williams Johnson introduced this item as being taken up by the Committees on Budget and Appropriations and Human Services, Human Rights and Equity. Deputy Commissioner Befus explained that this legislation enables the department to continue their inter-municipal

agreement with Rockland County for some of the slots at the sanctuary center, known as the Crisis Respite Program. This is a short-term 14-bed sanctuary shelter operated on the Grasslands Campus since 1994 and offers essential temporary respite services for youths between the ages of 14 and 17 for both males and females. The current contract is \$412,832 with Children's Village as a long-time provider of the program. In 2013 Rockland County's shelter closed and since then, Westchester County has been able to provide access to slots at the program as needed and if available. In 2023, Westchester has referred 57 youths with an average stay of 13 days and this partnership helps to offset the costs for local operating expenses. This facility has made very minimal calls for emergency services, such as the police and fire departments. Deputy Commissioner Befus added that the Fiscal Impact Report shows a higher revenue in comparison to the expenses which is attributed to the net savings from the program. This extra money goes to purchase of services which can provide the ability to execute other preventative programs.

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

Aye: Committee Chair Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Imamura, Legislator Parker and Committee Vice-Chair Pierce

Absent: Legislator Smith

2. [2023-238](#) **ACT-WCHCC & PC - X-ray Services for TB Patients**

AN ACT authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into a tri-party agreement with the Westchester County Health Care Corporation and Westchester Medical Center Advanced Physician Services, P.C. for a term commencing January 1, 2023 and terminating December 31, 2027 pursuant to which the County will refer patients for x-ray services and tuberculosis-related services.

COMMITTEE REFERRAL: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND HEALTH

Guests:

Renee Recchia, Deputy Commissioner of Westchester County Department of Health *Deputy Commissioner Recchia shared that this is a long-standing Act with the Medical Center with two components specifically related to Tuberculosis (TB) services and management of the Health Department. The first piece is regarding chest x-rays for those who test positive through skin or Quantiferon tests to help determine treatment. The \$45 rate is set by Medicaid and is at no cost to those referred by the Department of Health for these services. The second part is related to the event of having active cases of TB and the patient is refusing treatment, this allows for the person to be detained through a court order by the Commissioner of Health if such action is required.*

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

Aye: Committee Chair Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Imamura, Legislator Parker and Committee Vice-Chair Pierce

Absent: Legislator Smith

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Committee Vice-Chair Pierce, seconded by Legislator Barr, the Committee adjourned at 12:21pm.