

# Budget & Appropriations

## 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

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**Monday, February 5, 2024**

**9:30 AM**

**Committee Room**

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

*With a quorum present, Chair Williams Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:34 AM.*

*Others in Attendance: GUESTS: John Nonna, Jane Hogan-Felix, Vincent Kopicki, April Gasparri, Lauren Walsh, Christopher Prashad, Francisco Tejada, Brian Hegt, Lindsay Jackson ; BOL: Emiljana Ulaj, Catherine Parker, Marcello Figueroa, Warren Watson, Greg Casciato, Lisa Hochman, Althema Goodson, Dylan Tragni, Flora White, James Silverberg, Jill Axelrod*

**Present:** Legislator Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Holstein, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Gashi

**Remote:** Legislator Smith

### MINUTES APPROVAL

#### I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. [ACT-2024-15](#) **ACT - Amend Outside Counsel Agreement with The Wicks Group, PLLC**

AN ACT authorizing the County of Westchester to further amend an outside counsel agreement with the Wicks Group, PLLC for the provision of various legal services related to the Westchester County Airport, by increasing the not-to-exceed cap by an additional SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND (\$75,000) DOLLARS.

***SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND LAW & MAJOR CONTRACTS***

Joint with LMC.

Guest: Law Department

County Attorney John Nonna

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*This Act would authorize the County of Westchester to further amend an outside counsel agreement with the Wicks Group, PLLC for the provision of various legal services in connection with the Westchester County Airport, by increasing the not-to-exceed cap by an additional \$75,000. This firm has specific expertise including, but not limited to, compliance with federal law and FAA regulations, application and enforcement of the terminal use procedures, the terminal use agreement and airport tenant agreements within the regulatory environment, as well as developments in airport law.*

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

**Aye:** Legislator Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Holstein, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Gashi

2. [ACT-2024-19](#) **ACT - Lawsuit Settlement of Bocek v County of Westchester**

AN ACT authorizing the County Attorney to settle the lawsuit of John Bocek and Tonya Bocek v County of Westchester, in the amount of ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND (\$175,000) DOLLARS, inclusive of attorney's fees.

**SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND LAW & MAJOR CONTRACTS**

Joint with LMC.

Guest: Law Department

Deputy County Attorney Jane Hogan-Felix

*Ms. Hogan-Felix discussed the item with the committee. She requested that the committee go into executive session to discuss litigation strategy and settlement negotiations.*

*With a motion by Legislator Barr and seconded by Legislator Woodson-Samuels, the Committee entered executive session at 9:40 AM for the purposes of discussing legal strategy. With a motion by Legislator Pierce and seconded by Legislator Woodson-Samuels, the Committee came out of executive session at 10:02 AM.*

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

**Aye:** Legislator Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Holstein, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Gashi

3. [ACT-2024-16](#) **BOND ACT-SBB16-Blind Brook WRRF Effluent Forcemain**

A BOND ACT authorizing the issuance of THREE MILLION (\$3,000,000) DOLLARS in bonds of Westchester County to finance Capital Project SBB 16 - Blind Brook WRRF Effluent Forcemain.

**SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION**

Joint with PWT.

Guests: Department of Environmental Facilities

Commissioner Vincent Kopicki

Deputy Commissioner Nat Federici

*This Bond Act is for the investigation, design and construction management for repair or replacement of the pipeline. Some of the issues seen include a blockage and a crack in the pipe which was repaired with an emergency contract in 2023. Water discharged into the Sound from this pipe is fully treated and clean water. Passing this item would help avoid future issues. Storm water is discharged by the municipality and if it falls into the facility then it is discharged through the storm water line. The Blind Brook plant is not a combined sewer system plant as in other areas.*

On motion of Legislator Woodson-Samuels, 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 Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Holstein, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Gashi

4. [ACT-2024-17](#) **BOND ACT-SW034-Heavy Equipment and Vehicle Replacement**

A BOND ACT authorizing the issuance of EIGHT HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$800,000) DOLLARS in bonds of Westchester County to finance Capital Project SW034 - Heavy Equipment and Vehicle Replacement.

**SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION**

Joint with PWT.

Guests: Department of Environmental Facilities

Commissioner Vincent Kopicki

Deputy Commissioner Nat Federici

*This Bond Act is an ongoing replacement or purchase of new heavy equipment. They are looking to purchase two trailer mounted mobile generators, which can be used in emergency conditions where either there is no fixed generator present, or as a back up to an existing fixed generator. Increasing weather related outages that have created the need for this purchase.*

On motion of Legislator Woodson-Samuels, 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 Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Holstein, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Gashi

5. [ACT-2024-12](#) **BOND ACT-A0139-Fuel Farm Improvements**

A BOND ACT authorizing the issuance of EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND (\$850,000) DOLLARS in bonds of Westchester County to finance Capital Project A0139 - Fuel Farm Improvements.

**SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND PUBLIC**

**WORKS & TRANSPORTATION**

Joint with PWT.

Guests: Department of Public Works & Transportation

Airport Manager April Gasparri

Deputy Airport Manager Francisco Tejada

Assistant to the Commissioner Brian Hegt

*This operational enhancement project request of \$850,000 is to replace the current infrastructure as it is aging and replacing it now will allow for continuity in operations. In 2023 the airport dispensed over 43 million gallons of jet A fuel and this project will allow for timely efficiency in delivering the fuel. Currently there is only one pump fueling and this project will serve as a back up to the current system. The lifespan is expected to be about the same, over 30 years. Designing will be in-house and construction will be placed for bidding.*

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

**Aye:** Legislator Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Holstein, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Gashi

6. [ACT-2024-13](#) **BOND ACT-A0142-U.S. Customs and Border Protection Fac. and West Side Deicing Ramp**

A BOND ACT authorizing the issuance of TWO MILLION, ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$2,100,000) DOLLARS in bonds of Westchester County to finance Capital Project A0142 - U.S. Customs and Border Protection Facility and West Side Deicing Ramp.

**SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION**

Joint with PWT.

Guests: Department of Public Works & Transportation

Airport Manager April Gasparri

Deputy Airport Manager Francisco Tejada

Assistant to the Commissioner Brian Hegt

*The request of \$2,100,000 is the estimation for the entire project. This project passed the Type II SEQRA and also required a map change of their FAA airport layout plan as it triggers a national environmental analysis. In 2016 the United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP) requested from the County an independent facility including equipment and processing tools up to their current standards. This facility will bring the standard to federal regulations. Since this is a new building, they have a goal to make it as energy efficient as possible. The screening process at this facility is for general aviation passengers and flight crews crossing the international border inbound and plays a role for those heading outbound, not for commercial airlines. This project will also create a common-use deicing collection pad will be for general aviation on the west side, which currently does not have access to this important environmental resource. Currently about eight percent of the airport's deicing fluid – all from the aircraft on the west side of the airport - goes directly into the sewers.*

On motion of Legislator Woodson-Samuels, seconded by Legislator Williams, the above item was signed by committee and referred to Board of Legislators. The motion carried by the

following vote:

**Aye:** Legislator Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Holstein, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Gashi

7. [ACT-2024-14](#) **BOND ACT-A0147-Terminal Systems Infrastructure**

A BOND ACT authorizing the issuance of FIVE MILLION, THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$5,300,000) DOLLARS in bonds of Westchester County to finance Capital Project A0147 - Terminal Systems Infrastructure.

**SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION**

Joint with PWT.

Guests: Department of Public Works & Transportation

Airport Manager April Gasparri

Deputy Airport Manager Francisco Tejada

Assistant to the Commissioner Brian Hegt

*This is a two-part project of \$5.3 million addressing the baggage handling (\$2.17 million) and the addition of a back-up generator (\$3.125 million). Baggage handling refers to commercial passengers' checked luggage and with the current system in place, there have been either delays in baggage arrivals for passengers and/or they travel on different flights. Funding for this project will improve baggage screening functionality as well as upgrading the electronic systems to function more efficiently. At this moment there is one back-up generator is undersized and shared with the parking garage. Although it is still in working condition, during an outage it does not give power to everything that is needed and in turn negatively affects passengers. The new generator will be able to provide all of the energy needed for a smooth transition.*

On motion of Legislator Tubiolo, 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 Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Holstein, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Gashi

**II. OTHER BUSINESS**

**III. RECEIVE & FILE**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Legislator Williams, seconded by Legislator Tubiolo, the Committee adjourned at 11:11 AM. by the following vote:

**Aye:** Legislator Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Holstein, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Gashi

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