WESTCHESTER COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, EFFICIENCY & SAVINGS

Tuesday, March 30, 2010, 12:00 pm

MEETING MINUTES

<u>GOES Committee Members Present</u>: Hon. Michael B. Kaplowitz, Chair; Legislators Bill Burton, Alfreda Williams, Bernice Spreckman, L. Williams.

In Attendance: BOL: T. Bernard, M. Montalto; CEO: G. Oros, K. Delgado.

With a quorum present, the GOES Committee was called to order at 12:01 pm.

ITEM(S) FOR DISCUSSION:

CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF 'PARTS A1 and B' OF THE NYS JOINT LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE

The Committee members continued their review of the submissions for the State Package from both the Legislature and the County Executive's (CE) Office.

The focus today was on the CE's submissions for 'Package A1', which were presented to the Committee members by CE Chief of Staff George Oros.

After a lengthy discussion, the Committee decided to circulate a revised draft of 'Package A1' among the legislators, and meet next weeks to discuss the feedback. Mr. Oros and the Committee members agreed.

Conceptually, on the motion of Legislator Burton and seconded by Legislator Spreckman, the Committee approved, 5-0, to include the following proposals in the revised draft of 'Package A1':

- Oppose Executive Budget Regarding Medicaid Disallowance;
- Maintain TANF Funding for the County's Summer Youth Employment Program;
- Preserve Community Optional Preventative Services (COPS) Funding;
- Oppose any Cost Shift/Mandate to Fund Adult Protective and Domestic Violence Services;
- Maintain capped Foster Care Block Grant & accept a new, funded Kinship Guardianship Program.

Lastly, on the motion of Legislator Spreckman, seconded by Legislator A. Williams, the Committee voted 5-0 to approve the addition of 'Pension Reform' to 'Package A1'. This would entail the creation of a Tier 6 level (new) employee, for which their pension would be a defined contribution (similar to a 401K) and would not include overtime pay in its calculations. On behalf of the County Executive, Mr. Oros agreed to these two votes. Chair Kaplowitz reminded everyone that the reason the Committee was asking for consensus with the County Executive's Office, is that this is the annual Joint State Legislative Package, which by definition carries the wishes of both, co-equal branches of government. Chair Kaplowitz also stated that since that is the requirement for the State Package, if there is an item that either the Legislature objects to, or the Executive Branch objects to, it simply would not be included in the Package.

There was no further business before the Committee.

On the motion of Legislator Myers, seconded by Legislator Burton, the GOES Committee adjourned at 1:35 pm.