

**Legislative Programs, Education and Community Services Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes**

DATE & TIME: February 2, 2021 – 5:15pm
LOCATION: Powered by Zoom / Dial in by phone: (646) 558-8656
Meeting ID: 915 5695 2701
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chairman James Delaune
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Jay Mahler, Nettie Tomshaw
PRESENT: Deputy Chair Thomas Corcoran, Legislators Peter Criswell, John Parete, Mary Wawro
ABSENT: None
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Jenn Zell, Acting Chief of Staff & Secretary to the Board of Trustees, SUNY Ulster
Jamie Capuano, VP for Administrative Services, SUNY Ulster
Marc Rider, Deputy County Executive
Brian Cahill, 2020-2021: Chair, Economic Development, Tourism, Housing, Planning & Transit Committee
Susan Koppenhaver Director Office For The Aging
Mark Cozzupoli, Director, Ulster County Veteran Services Agency
Patricia Doxsey, The Daily Freeman

Chairman Delaune called the meeting to order at 5:18pm

Motion No 1: Motion to Approve Minutes and Transcript of the December 1, 2020 Meeting
Motion By: Legislator Criswell
Motion Seconded By: Deputy Chair Corcoran
Discussion: None
Voting in Favor: Legislators Delaune, Corcoran, Criswell, Parete, Wawro
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Minutes Approved

Motion No. 1 **Moved to approve the meeting minutes of December 1, 2020**

SUNY Ulster Update :

**Jenn Zell, Acting Chief of Staff & Secretary to
the Board of Trustees [for and on behalf of
President Alan Roberts]**

SUNY Ulster

Refer to annexed transcript

SUNY Ulster Administrative Update:

**Jamie Capuano,
Vice President for Administrative Services,
SUNY Ulster**

Refer to annexed transcript

Resolutions for March 2, 2021 Session:

Resolution No. 9 – Amending Funding Sources For Capital Project No. 483 – Public Safety Training Center – To Reflect Increase In State Share Of Construction Costs – Ulster County Community College

Motion By: Legislator Parete
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Corcoran

Voting in Favor: Legislators Delaune, Corcoran, Criswell, Parete, Wawro
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution adopted

Motion No. 2 **Moved to adopt Resolution No. 9**

Resolution No. 39 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$60,300.000 Entered Into By The County – A&T Healthcare, LLC – Office For The Aging

Motion By: Legislator Corcoran
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Voting in Favor: Legislators Delaune, Corcoran, Criswell, Parete, Wawro
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution adopted

Motion No. 3 **Moved to adopt Resolution No. 39**

Resolution No. 40 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$83,300.00 Entered Into By The County – Family Home Health Care, Inc. – Office For The Aging

Motion By: Legislator Criswell
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Corcoran

Voting in Favor: Legislators Delaune, Corcoran, Criswell, Parete, Wawro
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution adopted

Motion No. 4 **Moved to adopt Resolution No. 40**

Resolution No. 41 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$59,185.00 Entered Into By The County – Gateway Community Industries, Inc. D/B/A Gateway Hudson Valley – Office For The Aging

Motion By: Legislator Criswell
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Wawro

Voting in Favor: Legislators Delaune, Corcoran, Criswell, Parete, Wawro
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution adopted

Motion No. 5 **Moved to adopt Resolution No. 41**

Resolution No. 42 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$56,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Unlimited Care, Inc. – Office For The Aging

Motion By: Legislator Wawro
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Voting in Favor: Legislators Delaune, Corcoran, Criswell, Parete, Wawro
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution adopted

Motion No. 6 **Moved to adopt Resolution No. 42**

Resolution No. 43 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$450,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Willcare, Inc. D/B/A Willcare – Office For The Aging

Motion By: Legislator Criswell
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Wawro

Voting in Favor: Legislators Delaune, Corcoran, Criswell, Parete, Wawro
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution adopted

Motion No. 7 **Moved to adopt Resolution No. 43**

Resolution No. 46 – Authorizing Additional Funding For Capital Project No. 528 – Veteran’s Cemetery – To Meet The Environmental And Permitting Requirements Related To Archeological Studies And Water Supply – Veterans’ Services Agency

Motion By: Legislator Criswell
Motion Seconded By: Legislators Corcoran/Wawro

Voting in Favor: Legislators Delaune, Corcoran, Criswell, Parete, Wawro
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution adopted

Motion No. 8 **Moved to adopt Resolution No. 46**

Resolution No. 48 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$53,200.00 Entered Into By The County – Pitingaro & Doetsch Consulting Engineers, P.C. – Veterans’ Services Agency

Motion By: Legislators Corcoran/Wawro
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Voting in Favor: Legislators Delaune, Corcoran, Criswell, Parete, Wawro
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution adopted

Motion No. 9 **Moved to adopt Resolution No. 48**

New Business

For March Introduction: Resolution No. 81: Amending The Policy For Funding Non-County Organizations – Ulster County Legislature

Refer to annexed transcript

Chairman Delaune asked if there was any old business, and hearing none;

Adjournment

Motion By: Legislator Criswell
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Corcoran

Voting in Favor: Legislators Delaune, Corcoran, Criswell, Parete, Wawro
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Motion approved

Motion No. 10 **Moved to Adjourn**

[Adjourned / 5:45pm]

Respectfully submitted: Jerry Sheehan, Assistant to VP for Academic Affairs & VP for Enrollment Management, SUNY Ulster

Ulster County Legislature
**Legislative Programs, Education and Community Services
Committee**

Meeting Transcript
February 2, 2021

Chairman Delaune

And is Jerry here for attendance?

Jerry Sheehan

I am.

Chairman Delaune

Great.

Jerry Sheehan

Chairman Delaune.

Chairman Delaune

Here.

Jerry Sheehan

Deputy Chair Corcoran.

Legislator Corcoran

Here.

Jerry Sheehan

Legislator Criswell.

Legislator Criswell

Here.

Jerry Sheehan

Legislator Parete. Legislator Parete. Legislator Wawro.

Legislator Wawro

Here.

Nettie Tomshaw

Yeah. John Parete is here. He's just probably on mute.

Legislator Criswell

He's on mute.

Nettie Tomshaw

He's got his mic off.

Chairman Delaune

All right.

Legislator Parete

Ah. Yes.

Chairman Delaune

Thank you, John.

Legislator Parete

Hi, how are you? Happy New Year.

Chairman Delaune

Happy New Year to all of you. All right. Do we have a motion? Can I get a motion to approve the minutes and transcript of the December 1, 2020 meeting?

Legislator Criswell

I'll make that motion.

Chairman Delaune

Alright. Do I have a second?

Legislator Parete

Yep. I'll do it.

Chairman Delaune

All right. All in favor. Aye. Aye. Alright. Next on the agenda is SUNY Ulster update.

Jennifer Zell

Hi, Chairman Delaune. Thank you so much. Dr. Roberts extends his apologies for having a conflict this evening. He's making delivery to a close friend and supporter of the college and asked if I could just jump on and share a report with you on his behalf. SUNY Ulster's fall 2020 enrollment and dipped down 6.31% and FTE's compared to budget. For our winter 2021 session we were down .3% and FTE. And currently year over year, our spring enrollment is down 18.8% in FTE's. We do still have some opportunities for enrollment coming in March and April with our Express semester courses. And of

course, our collegian enrollment as well also needs to be factored into the final, where we end with spring of 21. A lot of our colleagues and community colleges are experiencing declines currently with the COVID-19 landscape that we've all been facing. And that is true in the Hudson Valley as well. And we do project to be expecting enrollment to be declined again, as we approach the fall of 21 semester. So we are in the process of developing scenario based budgeting and two options. And I'd like to ask Jamie Capuano, our Vice President for Administrative Services if she can walk us through that update.

Jamie Capuano

Sure. Thanks, Jen. So as everybody were closely tracking the state budget to watching the executive budget, and the executive budget did offer some potential relief, again, if the state receives federal funding, so be closely monitoring all of that. As Jen said, at SUNY Ulster, we're doing scenario based budgeting. So we're doing two budget scenarios, a 5%, overall reduction and a 10% overall reduction. So all departments will be presenting budgets, with those reductions of magnitude in mind as we go through the budgeting process. That will help us develop a budget that's going to come out fiscally stable, you know, given with what we're seeing with enrollment trends, with COVID. And also so we can project out into the future. Obviously, we hope the state does receive full funding from the federal government. And we hope to restore that 20% reduction we saw current year. But again, you know, we just have to go in with the fiscal, fiscal stewardship in mind and do the scenario based budgeting at this time. Any questions on that?

Chairman Delaune

No. Questions for anyone? No. Well, thank you both. And if you two would you do me a favor and just stay on the line for now while we go through the resolutions that it..

Jamie Capuano

Absolutely.

Jennifer Zell

Sounds great. Thank you.

Chairman Delaune

So let's move then to resolutions. Resolution No. 9 - Amending funding sources for capital project No. 483. Public Safety Training Center to reflect increase in state share of construction costs. Ulster County Community College.

Legislator Parete

I'll move it.

Chairman Delaune

Alright.

Legislator Corcoran

Second.

Chairman Delaune

Alright discussion. Questions? Right. There being none I'll call for a vote. All in favor.

Committee Members

Aye. Aye.

Chairman Delaune

Any opposed? Okay. Carries. Resolution No. 39. Approving the execution of a contract for \$60,300 entered into by the County, A&T Healthcare LLC, Office Of The Aging.

Legislator Corcoran

Motion.

Legislator Criswell

I'll second that for you.

Chairman Delaune

(inaudible) Any question? discussion? All right. I'll call for a vote then. All in favor?

Committee Members

Aye. Aye. Aye.

Chairman Delaune

Any opposed? Being none. passes. Resolution No. 40. Approving the execution of a contract for \$83,300. entered into by the County, Family Home Health Care, Inc. Office Of The Aging. A motion?

Legislator Criswell

So moved.

Chairman Delaune

Second.

Legislator Corcoran

Second.

Chairman Delaune

All right. Any discussion, questions?

Susan Koppenhaver Dir. OFA

I'm here if you have them.

Chairman Delaune

All right. Anyone? All right. There being none. Call for a vote. All in favor?

Committee Members

Aye. Aye.

Chairman Delaune

Any opposed? All right, thank you. Resolution No. 43. Approving the execution of a contract for \$450,000. entered into by the County, Willcare Inc. doing business as Willcare. Office Of The Aging. Motion.

Legislator Criswell

Did you just skip resolutions?

Chairman Delaune

I have okay..

Legislator Corcoran

41 and 40.

Chairman Delaune

Okay, I will go back to that one. Resolution 42. The execution of a contract which is \$56,000. entered into by the County Unlimited Care, Inc. Office For The Aging.

Legislator Wawro

I'll move it.

Chairman Delaune

Alright. Second?

Legislator Criswell

I'll second it.

Chairman Delaune

All right. Any questions? Comments? Okay, there being none. I'll call for a vote. All in favor?

Committee Members

Aye. Aye.

Chairman Delaune

Any opposed?

Nettie Tomshaw

Resolution 41. Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Delaune

Okay. Number 41 I skipped? Okay. Resolution No 41. Approving the execution of a contract for \$59,185. entered into by the County, Gateway Community Industries, doing business as Gateway into Gateway Hudson Valley, Office Of The Aging.

Legislator Criswell

I move that.

Chairman Delaune

Any questions? I'll call for a vote.

Committee Members

Aye. Aye.

Chairman Delaune

Any opposed? All right. Thank you. So I guess now we're on 43. correct? Resolution No. 43. Approving the execution of a contract for \$450,000. entered into by the County, Willcare and doing business as Willcare, Office Of The Aging.

Legislator Criswell

I'll move that.

Legislator Wawro

Second.

Chairman Delaune

Thank you. Any questions? None. Call for a vote.

Committee members

Aye. Aye.

Chairman Delaune

Any opposed? Thank you.

Legislator Criswell

Sue you got off easy tonight?

Chairman Delaune

So far..

Susan Koppenhaver Dir. OFA

I'm here.

Chairman Delaune

It's not over yet.

Susan Koppenhaver Dir. OFA

I have my answers ready.

Chairman Delaune

All right, Resolution No. 46. Authorizing additional funding for Capital Project No. 528 Veterans Cemetery to meet the environmental and permitting requirements related to Archaeological Studies and Water Supply, Veterans Service Agency.

Legislator Criswell

I'll move that.

Chairman Delaune

Second?

Legislator Corcoran

Second.

Chairman Delaune

All right. Any questions?

Legislator Criswell

I had a question for Mark.

Chairman Delaune

Sure.

Legislator Criswell

So I'm just a little confused about the water supply situation. So, what's it for? I mean, is it just for watering the lawn or what's needed.

Mark Cozzupoli

So there is an old well on site that we tested and it's not gonna it's not working. So when we do build that large extension of the expansion area, we are going to need some sort of irrigation. You know, initially just to get the grass green and growing. It's not going to be a lot and it's not going to be continuous. But you know, having that on site is critical to create a you know dignified cemetery.

Legislator Criswell

Is nothing existing that you can plug into?

Mark Cozzupoli

No they were looking into, like you said the well on site was it did not work with very old can produce enough and then potentially talking about tapping into just the water lines which it didn't seem like that was the proper way to go monetarily and

Deputy Executive Rider

(inaudible)

Legislator Criswell

Right, these monies are for the for the execution of the engineering study.

Mark Cozzupoli

So this is a joint one that's for the environmental and permitting which is also has to do with the archaeological phases that they're doing. They had found that initial initially they found artifacts on site, which caused us to go into a phase two archeological dig. And they're going to start that phase three, hopefully, with approval. Come on March once everything that, you know, the ground thaws out a little bit better. And then they can start looking. Now they're not anticipating finding anything that would preclude us from building. But it's something that the state is strongly advising you have to do because they coordinate with the Indian nations, you know, for their approvals as we move forward. So we're not creating any turmoil or any issue as it moves forward.

Chairman Delaune

So I take it this is this, these are native artifacts that you're coming across.

Mark Cozzupoli

Yes.

Chairman Delaune

Interesting.

Legislator Criswell

Thank you. I you know, I'm a big fan of this project is just I wasn't understanding the water situation. So..

Mark Cozzupoli

No, no problem, sir.

Chairman Delaune

All right. I'll call for a vote. All in favor?

Committee Members

Aye. Aye.

Chairman Delaune

Any opposed? All right, that carries. Thank you. Resolution No. 48. Approving the execution of a contract amendment for \$53,200 entered into by the County, and Pitingaro and Doetsch Consulting Engineers, P.C. -Veteran's Service Agency. I get a motion.

Legislator Corcoran

Motion.

Chairman Delaune

All right, Second.

Legislator Criswell

Second.

Chairman Delaune

All right. Can you - any questions? No. All right, then I'll call for a vote. I mean, I'll yeah, call for a vote. All in favor?

Committee Members

Aye. Aye.

Chairman Delaune

Any opposed? All right, that carries. Thank you. So now, on your new business, I'd like to talk to an issue that Peter and I have been working on having to do with.. I'm sorry? Peter and I have been working on for the last month or so on how this committee works and how we fund various groups. And what's come out of those conversations along with legislative staff is I think, a methodology that goes to the Ways and Means Committee and asked for a specific dollar amount for programs. And now we have something to work with. And this process would also kind of enhance the timeline for the process with these nonprofits. So the first step would be for ways and means to determine what the annual budget would be for these non-county contract agencies. And the second step in the process would be to solicit from the legislature those areas of interest and lacking a better term, let's say, a theme for that fiscal year. You know that last year John, you brought up the issue of performance theaters throughout Ulster County is being something that you thought important and I think a lot of folks felt the same way. So That would be an example of a theme, let's say, in turn the funding requests would go to the committee of jurisdiction, those committees that are involved with those particular activities, and ultimately be responsible for the contract executions, and receiving data from those organizations as to what they are doing and how they are spending the money. Peter, geez, is there anything that you want to add to this?

Legislator Criswell

Yeah, I think I think, just to piggyback on what you were saying about timing, the thing that's great about this is it pulls it away from budget timing. So you know, it, it can be so crazy at budget time, and we're all trying to scramble, this gives us a lot more space, to figure it out. If we know ahead of time, well, ahead of time that we've got a certain amount of money that is for Legislative Programs, it gives us a real number to work with, and it becomes much less of a scramble. So I think that's a big

advantage. And the other thing, you know, of course, we've been talking about this idea of some sort of a matrix, it allows us to take in a lot of different ideas from legislators about, you know, what, what they'd like to see in terms of Legislative Programs criteria, and will allow us a framework to really view the process. So so I think that it what it does is it just kind of put some, some strong brackets around it, where it's been a little bit fuzzy. And I think we've all we can all agree that it's been kind of on the fuzzy side, and that's been a frustration. So I think that what this resolution will do is just going to solidify it. Here's the dollars that you have to spend. And here's your timeframe.

Chairman Delaune

And I think it ultimately makes life a little easier for the Ways and Means Committee to because by the time it gets to budget time, this has been decided.

Legislator Parete

May I ask? So the appropriate committee will make a decision on a dollar amount, a funding amount, based on what they feel the county can afford. And then there can be non-for profits or whoever comes in and applies for funding, it's not done. Is it? Is that the way it's going to be done or will it be done? Well, we always give so much to this group and so much to this group. And that's the (inaudible)

Chairman Delaune

Yeah, so this the what becomes the basis for this exercise is that it all starts at Ways and Means and Ways and Means says this is how much money you have (inaudible) the plate of programs.

Legislator Parete

Regardless of who it goes to.

Chairman Delaune

Correct.

Legislator Parete

Okay.

Chairman Delaune

But then there are, as I say, themes that emerged from or decided upon by the legislature as a whole. There's areas that we want to concentrate on this year. We want you know, as you mentioned, I'll just use as an example, performing theaters. So we now know that we have, and I'm just going to use the number a million dollars that needs to go to these various themes. And performance theaters are one of them. Libraries may be another. But we have a defined amount that the Ways and Means Committee is comfortable with and we know how much it is we have to spend. And I think that in the past, it's kind of been just the opposite that people come to us with funding requests, right? And then it ultimately goes to Ways and Means and that's where, you know, they have to wrestle with that number, I believe, or we believe in this process, that it's better to find, and it's basically a done deal by the time it gets to budget time.

Legislator Parete

Again, so the funding number will sort of be a ride that with blinders, that is based on finances, based on county situation, the economic situation, we will recommend or appropriate, a million dollars, a half a million dollars, whatever the amount is, and then the appropriate programs or agencies, non-for profits or whomever can come in and apply for.

Legislator Criswell

That's exactly right John. And what we're trying to do with this resolution is it's almost like a two-step process here. We're trying to get step one, solidified, which is setting the money aside so that we know what we're working with. There's no questions about it, there's no mystery. There's no fighting back and forth, that we've got "x" pot of money that we will be able to use. Then the next process that I think we're going to do as a committee and correct, correct me if I'm wrong Jim, is that we're going to start taking suggestions of what are your criteria? What types of things would you like to see all the things that we've been kind of talking about, we're going to start to put that into some sort of a document and start to start to think about that you know, this. Again, John, I keep going back to your word, the matrix. I like that idea, you know, so. So part one and part two, and right now tonight we're on part one basis.

Legislator Parete

Really I'm happy with step one. That's what we have to start from.

Legislator Criswell

Great.

Legislator Parete

Where ever it goes after that, I don't want to be prejudiced or anything, but here it is. And now, y'all can parcel it out with whatever criteria comes down the road in the future, based on the matrix, I'll go with that for a little while. Whatever it may be. And..

Legislator Criswell

Exactly, that's fine.

Chairman Delaune

Right, and understand what we're still kind of developing it. And fine tuning it. But that's the broad brush kind of approach. And wanting to say again, that ultimately, it will go back to Ways and Means whatever is decided upon for final approval.

Legislator Corcoran

So just to piggyback on what John said, I mean, Amber put together that spreadsheet for me. Did you get that, Jim? Yes, I sent over to you.

Chairman Delaune

Yes. And let's talk about that.

Legislator Corcoran

Right. So the idea. So if I'm understanding it right, and just again, piggyback on John, is that, are we setting everything kind of back to zero? And, and redoing that spreadsheet I gave you?

Chairman Delaune

To be honest with you, Tom, I have not. I know that I have it. And if we could have a conversation offline about it, that would be great. I haven't gotten to it yet.

Legislator Corcoran

Okay, that's fine.

Chairman Delaune

I apologize.

Legislator Corcoran

Oh know that's fine. I just think if I'm, if I'm understanding John and John, correct me if I'm wrong? If so and so company got \$25,000, the last three years, should we not anticipate that number? Again, right, John, that that number doesn't stay consistent. That we look at it and retune the whole spreadsheet to fit the final number that we've been approved? By Ways and Means, right. I mean, I think that's what the that's what we're shooting for.

Legislator Parete

Correct.

Chairman Delaune

That's right.

Legislator Parete

It could (inaudible) with the most need.

Legislator Corcoran

Right. So over the years, over the years that that number, again, I you know, that spreadsheet goes back to 17. That number was consistent right across the board. But maybe we adjust that, like we had to do this year based on the COVID numbers. We adjusted to meet that final number that ways that means allocates us and I think yeah.

Legislator Criswell

I agree with you. And I think that it's an opportunity for us to put our dollars, like John just said with the most need. You know, we can really look at, you know, what's the most impact that our legislative dollars and our tax taxpayer dollars can have? And how are we distributing that? Is that what you're getting at also Tom?

Legislator Parete

Was that to me? I might hear I was...

Legislator Criswell

Talking to..

Legislator Corcoran

Explanation of the I mean, if a certain a certain group got \$25,000 for the last five years, but there's been no explanation of the need or where that money was going. I think that's what we're getting at right to do that to re tweak it to see where the need is. And I think that's a great idea. Absolutely. Great idea.

Chairman Delaune

So this Yes, I'm sorry, Nettie. Please Thank you, folks from the from the college. So again, you know, speaking of the college so this doesn't really touch upon those county agencies, right. It's just those entities that are non-county that, you know, we give money to, we have certain obligations that we need to meet. But this is, you know, above and beyond. And here's a way of doing it so that it's less stressful, I think, for all involved, including the nonprofits, because ultimately, they will know, prior to the next fiscal year, exactly how much money they can expect to receive from the county. So that makes their life easier to doesn't it?

Legislator Parete

Well, and I would say they, they have an idea of the process. And they may not be able to come back every year because their neighbor may be looking for something somewhere.

Legislator Criswell

And I think this is what we're looking to do in our sort of step two, is to start to hash out all these ideas that we've been talking about, and get them on paper and really start to make sense of exactly what we're talking about geographic different needs, different industries, you know, that type of a thing. So..

Chairman Delaune

So that's the idea.

Legislator Parete

Good idea.

Chairman Delaune

Okay, so we will continue working on this and bringing it back to you. And, as the agenda says, This is for a March introduction. So thank you all. Any old business? Okay, there being none. I get a motion to adjourn.

Legislator Corcoran

Motion.

Chairman Delaune

All right. Second.

Legislator Criswell

Second. We're battling today.

Chairman Delaune

All right. Well, thank you all.

Legislator Criswell

Stay safe.