

NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

PETER J. SCHMITT,
PRESIDING OFFICER

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

ROSE MARIE WALKER,
CHAIRWOMAN

1550 Franklin Avenue
Mineola, New York

March 26, 2012
1:58 p.m.

REGAL REPORTING SERVICES
516-747-7353

A P P E A R A N C E S:

ROSE MARIE WALKER
Chairwoman

FRANCIS X. BECKER
Vice-Chairman

VINCENT MUSCARELLA

NORMA GONSALVES

JUDI BOSWORTH
Ranking

DELIA DeRIGGI-WHITTON

ROBERT TROIANO

LIST OF SPEAKERS

MARY-ELLEN LAURAIN. 5
LISA MURPHY 10

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3 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: I call the Health
4 and Social Services Committee together, and ask
5 our clerk to take the roll, please.

6 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Troiano?

7 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Here.

8 CLERK MULLER: Legislator DeRiggi-
9 Whitton?

10 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: Here.

11 CLERK MULLER: Ranking Member Bosworth?

12 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: Here.

13 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Gonsalves?

14 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Present.

15 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Muscarella?

16 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Here.

17 CLERK MULLER: Vice Chairman Becker?

18 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Present.

19 CLERK MULLER: Chairwoman Walker?

20 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Here.

21 CLERK MULLER: We have a quorum.

22 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Thank you.

23 There are two items on the agenda today
24 and one item on the addendum calendar.

25 The first item is Clerk Item 136-12,

2 which is an ordinance supplemental to the annual
3 appropriation ordinance in connection with the
4 Health Department. And we have Mary-Ellen
5 Laurain here to speak with us.

6 May I have a motion?

7 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: So moved.

8 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Second.

9 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: By Legislator
10 Gonsalves, seconded by Legislator Becker.

11 The item is before us.

12 MS. LAURAIN: Good afternoon. Mary-
13 Ellen Laurain, Department of Health.

14 Item 136-12 is a supplemental
15 appropriation in the amount of \$75,000. This is
16 for the public health campaign, which is for
17 sexually transmitted diseases. This funds a
18 social health investigator who follows up on STDs
19 that are reported to the Health Department from
20 healthcare providers.

21 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any questions or
22 comments? Legislator Bosworth.

23 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: Thank you. I was
24 just wondering if we have any information about
25 the rate of transmission of the sexually

2 transmitted diseases. Is it going up? Is it
3 going down? Is it stable?

4 MS. LAURAIN: Chlamydia rates are going
5 up between the young adults. Between the ages of
6 20 and 30 we are seeing a rise there.

7 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: And so there are
8 efforts made to.

9 MS. LAURAIN: Our staff go out into the
10 community as much as possible to educate and work
11 specifically in that age group to try to prevent
12 and decrease those numbers.

13 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: Thank you.

14 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Could I just ask how
15 do you attempt to do that? It's a difficult age
16 group. It's not like they're in school. They
17 might be in groups together, or.

18 MS. LAURAIN: We try to work with the
19 colleges as well. In that age group we're seeing
20 a lot of college students. And community based
21 organizations. When we do have a positive
22 finding, we do quite a bit of education.

23 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Okay. Thank you.

24 Any other legislators?

25 (No verbal response.)

2 Any public comment?

3 (No verbal response.)

4 All those in favor?

5 (Aye.)

6 Any opposed?

7 (No verbal response.)

8 The item carries, seven to zero.

9 The second item on the agenda is Clerk
10 Item 141-12, a resolution authorizing the County
11 of Nassau to enter into an intermunicipal
12 agreement with Suffolk County pursuant to the New
13 York State Constitution and the General Municipal
14 Law.

15 May I have a motion?

16 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: So moved.

17 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Second.

18 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Moved by Legislator
19 Gonsalves, seconded by Legislator Becker.

20 The item is before us.

21 MS. LAURAIN: Item 141-12 is an inter-
22 government between Nassau and Suffolk Counties.
23 This is for the Ryan White Care Act. Nassau
24 County Department of Health has been the
25 designated grantee since 1993. Eventually you

2 will see the contract. This program assists
3 people living with HIV and AIDS.

4 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any comment or
5 questions from the legislators?

6 (No verbal response.)

7 Any public comment?

8 Legislator Becker.

9 LEGISLATOR BECKER: You know, there's
10 been some controversy here about how this money's
11 been spent in the past. Do you realize that?

12 MS. LAURAIN: I'm aware when the
13 contract comes up with the United Way, of
14 questions as far as the agencies, this is the
15 inter-government agreement with Suffolk County.
16 This is not the contract.

17 LEGISLATOR BECKER: This is not the
18 contract. Okay.

19 MS. LAURAIN: Once this is approved, you
20 will see the contract with the United Way.
21 United Way is the agency that administers the
22 grant.

23 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Okay. So we'll see
24 this contract coming down the road and then we
25 can question. Because I know some legislators in

2 the past, who are not here, have felt that the
3 money wasn't used in a fashion that was most
4 effective, if I can say it that way.

5 MS. LAURAIN: I could certainly e-mail
6 the agencies that are funded through the Ryan
7 White grant.

8 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Specifically
9 communities like Roosevelt, Uniondale, and that
10 sort of thing.

11 MS. LAURAIN: It's funded for the
12 hospital-based AIDS clinics, dental. I believe
13 Nassau/Suffolk Law.

14 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Alright. When the
15 contract comes before us. I don't want to
16 belabor the point right now. We'll look at it
17 when it comes down.

18 Thank you so much.

19 MS. LAURAIN: You're welcome.

20 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any other
21 legislators?

22 (No verbal response.)

23 Any public comment?

24 (No verbal response.)

25 All those in favor?

2 (Aye.)

3 Any opposed?

4 (No verbal response.)

5 Motion carries, seven to zero.

6 I need a motion to suspend the rules.

7 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: So moved.

8 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Second.

9 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Moved by Legislator
10 Gonsalves, seconded by Legislator Becker.

11 The rules have been suspended.

12 All those in favor.

13 (Aye.)

14 The rules have been suspended, and we
15 have Clerk Item 145-12, which is a local law to
16 amend the County Charter in relation to the
17 Department of Human Services.

18 May I have a motion, please?

19 LEGISLATOR BECKER: So moved.

20 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Second.

21 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Moved by Legislator
22 Becker, seconded by Legislator Gonsalves.

23 The item is before us.

24 MS. MURPHY: Good afternoon. Lisa
25 Murphy, Commissioner, Department of Human

2 Services.

3 Item 145-12, this item is to amend the
4 verbiage in Local Law 4-11. Last year, the
5 Department of Human Services was passed and
6 became a consolidated department. At that time
7 we did not anticipate any problems. We really do
8 not have any problems. It is really just that
9 NYSOFA, one of the regulatory bodies that
10 oversees our Office of Aging, asked us to amend
11 the language as it pertains to the Office of
12 Aging.

13 We had originally received the verbiage
14 that we used in the original law from NYSOFA.
15 However, after the law was passed they began to
16 reflect on it more deeply. Unfortunately, it was
17 afterward. They asked us to change the verbiage.
18 So this is really to change that verbiage.

19 There was one other change, it was very
20 small. It was the Office for the Physically
21 Challenged; in the original law it said of the
22 physically challenged.

23 Those are the two changes.

24 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any questions or
25 comments from the legislators?

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(No verbal response.)
Any public comment?
(No verbal response.)
All those in favor?
(Aye.)
Any opposed?
(No verbal response.)
Motion carries, seven to zero.
MS. MURPHY: Thank you.
CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any other comments?
(No verbal response.)
I'll ask for a motion to --
LEGISLATOR BECKER: Moved to adjourn.
LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Second.
CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: By Legislator
Becker, seconded by Legislator Gonsalves.
All in favor?
(Aye.)
Thank you.
(Whereupon, the Health and Social
Services Committee adjourned at 2:05 p.m.)

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, FRANK GRAY, a Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of New York, do hereby state:

THAT I attended at the time and place above mentioned and took stenographic record of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter;

THAT the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate transcript of the same and the whole thereof, according to the best of my ability and belief.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 10th day of April, 2012.

FRANK GRAY