

**FINANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE  
of the  
Suffolk County Legislature**

**Minutes**

A regular meeting of the Finance & Financial Services Committee was held in the Rose Y. Caracappa Auditorium at the William Rogers Building, Veterans Memorial Highway, Hauppauge, New York on **February 15, 2001**, at 9:30 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESE**

Legislator Michael Caracciolo, Chairman  
Legislator Maxine Postal, Vice Chair  
Legislator Martin Haley  
Legislator Cameron Alden

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Paul Sabatino, Legislative Counsel  
Richard Zummo  
Salvatore LaLima, President Suffolk Community College  
Legislator John Foley  
John Foley Sr., Board Member, Suffolk Community College  
Michael V. Hollander, President, Long Island Convention & Visitors Bureau  
Ken Knappe, County Executive's Office - Budget  
Debra Kolyer, County Executive's Office - Budget  
Todd Johnson, County Executive's Office  
Fred Pollert, Director, Budget Review  
Jim Spero, Assistant Director, Budget Review  
Linda Burkhardt, Aide to Presiding Officer Tonna  
Sally Slacke, Suffolk Community College  
Walter C. Hazlitt, Suffolk County Community College  
Eric Ricippo, Suffolk Community College  
Michael Sacca, Chairman, Board of Trustees, Suffolk Community College  
John Bullard Jr., Associate Dean for Finance, Suffolk Community College  
Ellen Schuler Mack, Suffolk Community College  
Tom Cunningham, Budget Review Office  
All Interested Parties  
Irene Kulesa, Legislative Secretary

***(The meeting came to order at 9:40 a.m.)***

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

We'll start the committee meeting with a Pledge of Allegiance to be led by Legislator Alden.

## SALUTATION

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Thank you. Please be seated. Let the Clerk note that the committee has a quorum. Legislator Haley, I'm told will be a little bit late. Okay, are you going to relax, Cameron? Today the Chair had requested a presentation from the President of the College, Salvatore LaLima with respect to providing the committee with an overview of financial -- the financial status, if you will, of the college budget year to date, from the commencement of the new academic year last September to the present and projections going forward to the remainder of the academic year. So at this time, I'd like the College President, Mr. LaLima to join us. I would also and I want to thank and acknowledge a presence of a number of college trustees, who extended an invitation to attend this presentation. I think it's important for all of us at all levels of County Government to communicate, so we're all aware of circumstances that may have developed or are developing that require attention.

So I understand that Ken Weiss, the Budget Director is right now at a meeting and will be joining us shortly. However, if a representative from the Budget Office would like to join us, please come up and sit next to Mr. Pollert. Don't argue, one of you come up. Ha, ha. Don't fight. The format that I'd like to use, to kick off the presentation is, first to just have a summary report from our own Budget Review Office Director, Fred Pollert, as to information his office has become aware of concerning potential shortfalls in college -- the college budget before year end and then I'd like to go to the presentation by the college representative, so Fred.

**MR. POLLERT:**

The Budget Review Office issued a memo to Legislators on February 13th, yesterday with respect to a projected budget shortfall at the Community College. The request was made by the Education Committee to review a projected shortfall at the Community College. We met with representatives of the Community College and additionally, after we had issued a memo yesterday, there was a joint meeting between the County Executive's Budget Office, the Budget Review Office and representatives of the Comptroller's Office. What we had found is that the Community College has forecast a shortfall, net shortfall of approximately eight hundred thousand dollars and has developed a cut plan of approximately one point four million dollars to attempt to deal with the shortfall. However, the shortfall is really larger than the eight hundred thousand dollars. That's a net dollar amount. There's an

appropriation shortfall of approximately one point eight million dollars, which is primarily associated with salary, projected cost overruns, as well as health insurance premium cost overruns. The net shortfall of eight hundred thousand dollars has been moderated by their belief that revenues will come in higher than budgeted at approximately one million dollars.

Of concern to the Budget Review Office is the fact that they can't spend those revenues under Local Finance Law. Under Local Finance Law and under the County Charter, you can't expend additional revenues, if they come in until all the revenues have been received. The cost, the college and the County is on a modified basis, an accrual of counting, they will not be able to recognize all those revenues by the end of the college's fiscal year. So in all probability, it would be necessary, since they have an appropriation shortfall, even if they completely implement their savings plan to do a transfer from the college's reserve account with a super majority vote of the Legislature, fourteen to provide the college sufficient appropriations to continue -- and paying payroll through the end of the year. In addition to that, because the shortfalls appear to be primarily in payroll and reoccurring expense items, we have concerns with the outlook for the Community College's budget for next fiscal year.

If you have shortfalls in the salary accounts, they tend to be reoccurring types of shortfalls, which are indicatively of a structural imbalance. Because the Community College would be required to submit a budget request, which lives within a four percent County contribution increase, in all probability, we will have to submit a budget to the County Executive that seriously cuts back County operations or requests more than a four percent County contribution increase. That will also necessitate a super majority vote of the Legislature during the budgetary process. In addition to that, we had found, we have identified in the final paragraph of the report that the Community College's projected shortfall that they were dealing with only deals with looking at the budget by itself. It did not deal with a greater than anticipated shortfall in the County over fund balance. There was approximately seven hundred thousand dollars, a greater shortfall that was reported to the State of New York by the college, then the college is dealing within your cut plan. In addition to that, based upon discussions that we had with the Comptroller's Office and with the Budget Office yesterday, we became aware that there is little monitoring and control with the Executive Budget Office -- can exercise over the Community College due to the types of agreement and that the IFMS System, which is maintained by the Community College often has negative balances. We have an agreement with the Comptroller's Office and the Budget Office that they would closely monitor the statement of accounts that the college is maintaining to insure that they don't over-expend available appropriations.

We also have concern that part of the surpluses, part of the shortfalls that the Community College has identified, with respect to salaries, had been netted out with surpluses that had been provided for the hiring of additional full time personnel. As you recall, when the budget was adopted last year, the County and the Legislature provided the Community College with twenty-one additional full time personnel. All of those positions were not filled. It was

reported at the Education Committee yesterday that five of those positions had not been filled. They were budgeted to be filled in September, so there is extra turnover savings associated with them.

The third resolve clause of the Omnibus Bill, lock-box, those extra appropriations, the college -- in order to be able to use them would require a legislative resolution to transfer them to cover budgetary shortfalls in other areas of the budget associated with personnel. That resolution has not been yet requested and it's unknown if the Legislature would approve the transfer of those lock-box funds. If they are not approved by the Legislature to balance out salary shortfalls, the shortfall that the college has to address, goes up by a like dollar amount. So just speaking from the Budget Review Office, we had done the memo with response to the Education Committee. We do have concerns with the college's current estimate of their shortfall. We feel that perhaps they have underestimated the amount of the shortfall. We have concerns that even if they are fully successful in implementing their savings plan, it will require a vote of the Legislature with a super majority to transfer funds from the reserve account. We're also concerned that if the Legislature does not approve the freeing up of lock-box funds, that the shortfall will be even larger and could completely exhaust their Fund 19 Reserve Account and finally, we are concerned that they would not be able to present a budget, a reasonable budget next year, which lives in the guidelines of the County Executive. We will set forth -- of a four percent salary increase.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Welcome Sal and with that, I have those opening remarks by the Budget Director. I'd certainly like to give you an opportunity to make a presentation and I would hope, if not, in your presentation, at the conclusion of your presentation, we could have a dialog with respect to some of the issues that have been raised.

**MR. LALIMA:**

Okay. First of all, we'd have to have a replay of that. There was so much going on that I'm not sure I can remember it all. Good morning.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Just before you begin, with your prepared remarks, I understand yesterday, Mr. Hollander was present at the Education Committee and I also understand, Mike that you did receive a copy of the Budget Review Memo.

**MR. HOLLANDER:**

Yes.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Okay.

**MR. HOLLANDER:**

Just so you know that there's pieces that, Fred brought up that are not part of the memo.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Okay.

**MR. HOLLANDER:**

And that in the presentation that Sal is going to talk about? We're not going to be able to center on the other piece until he helps us understand a little bit more.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Sure.

**MR. HOLLANDER:**

What that is.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Very good.

**MR. HOLLANDER:**

And then we will get that answer.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Okay.

**MR. LALIMA:**

Okay, well first of all, let me start out with a positive piece. Our enrollment, as of this moment, for the spring is up about one point two percent and that's not yet official, because under the State regulations, we have to wait until three weeks of classes are completed before -- what we call an official census is taken. Part of this year's problem began with the fall, where the enrollment was one percent below the previous year, which meant two percent below the budget that we had approved, because the budget included a one percent increase in enrollment. That two-percent differential, obviously created a significant revenue potential shortfall. Now again, I say potential, because you must keep in mind that all of this is projected for next, let's say August, near the end of the year. Looking out is what we were watching here and certainly, we don't want to end up with a deficit. So the financial office began to advise me in December, that they were looking out to next August and seeing a possibility of a significant deficit and that's when we began to not only scrutinize and analyze but began to put together some plans that would mitigate any such result.

The enrollment situation, as I pointed out, right now looks a little more positive. Keep in mind that fall enrollments, typically at almost every college in the nation, are larger than spring enrollments. There's always an attrition factor going from fall to spring. So we compare year to year, rather than previous semester to current semester and in so doing, we see this semester as compared to last spring, one percent ahead of last year, while the fall was one percent below the previous fall. So it doesn't wash necessarily, because you're talking two different bases but it does close the difference between the two.

In looking out to August, if we can continue to see enrollment increases and of course, the only time we're going to see that now is potentially in the summer. We might be able to take the anticipated revenue shortfall from tuition closer and closer to a zero. I don't know that it will reach that but that's certainly a goal. It means we're going to have to do a lot of promoting of our summer program. We put together a new format for our summer program, which we think is going to be more attractive and particularly addressing the needs of students who come from other colleges and return home for the summer and for high school students who don't get out of high school until the end of June and would like to get into some of our summer classes. So we've done some reformatting, in order to address those markets and I am hopeful that we will see some increase there.

On the anticipated deficit of roughly eight hundred thousand dollars, as it's projected in Chuck Stein's budget and as it was indicated in a memo from Budget Review, we've taken a number of steps to, hopefully, obviate the need for any dipping into the reserve but again, we don't know where this will all end up. What we found was, number one, in looking at the academic schedule, we saw what we believe were too many class sections in the schedule relative to enrollment. Now the scheduling of classes is done at the

lowest level of the academic structure, the department chairs do that. When we began to look at this more clearly, we saw what we thought were too many class sections and that in turn, drives the part time or adjunct costs up, because you fill these classes with primarily adjunct faculty members. So we made an effort to reduce the schedule to a more realist level consistent with what enrollment numbers indicated and we believe that effort is going to pay off. We think that we will have a significant reduction in that particular budget line and that was one of the areas that was significant, in terms of a projected deficit.

In the full time area, it's more difficult because most people are contracted for a year and the board, early in the year, froze five positions of the new positions, until they could get a better sense, as to whether or not the funding for this year was going to be adequate to carry us through the year. The other part, of course, is that you can't always fill positions that fast. Professional positions require a significant amount of searching to find the appropriate faculty, or in some cases, administrators. So we didn't have the ability to hire five people for two reasons. One, they were frozen and two, we just didn't have the candidates for some of those positions. They just weren't available at that point in time and as Fred points out, those five positions contribute to turnover savings. However, let me point out also that turnover savings in this year's budget was a very unrealistic figure. It was two point six million, as my memory tells me. We had a budget request that had a two point three million. Even that, I believe, was too high. That's a very big number for a year in turnover savings. That three hundred thousand dollar extra turnover savings is going to be a mountain for us to climb but nevertheless, it's there and we have to deal with it.

The other areas that we look to produce the kinds of measures that would close the potential gap were as follows: Number one, we have what we call release time. Release time is an arrangement that colleges have with faculty members who take on special assignments for us. For example, where the Paralegal Program, in order to be accredited by the ABA, a faculty member has to be designated as either a coordinator or a director. Those are non-administrative positions but they have the responsibility to make sure the program is meeting all of the requirements of the American Bar Association. We give that person a reduced teaching load. We call that release time. Reduced teaching loads for that particular program, just one program right there is six credit hours in the fall and six credit hours in the spring on each campus that has an accredited program. That's twelve hours. Twelve hours teaching time costs us approximately thirty five to thirty six thousand dollars in replacement costs. Now, if you look at all the programs across the college, we have release time that aggregates in the range of three hundred and fifty hours, almost four hundred in some semesters. It depends on the kind of programs that are going on. Times of roughly three thousand dollars per course. So that gives us a very significant cost. What we did there, is we reduced that by fifty five thousand dollars. We took certain programs that we felt we had no choice and we reduced the amount of release time to produce an estimated fifty five thousand dollars in savings.

Another area that we, obviously, had to look at were discretionary expenditures. That would be supplies, equipment and that type of thing and what we did there is we established the floor. A floor, meaning that we will allow spending in those accounts but they would not be able to go through the floor down below a certain level as a cushion. So that in the event, we couldn't close the gap in other places, we would stop spending certain areas and that would preserve a certain amount of money for covering any other potential gap in the budget.

I'm trying to think, there were a couple other smaller items in there. John, do you have recall?

**MR. BULLARD:**

Administrative overload.

**MR. LALIMA:**

Oh, yes, administrative overload. The administrative overload is an arrangement whereby guild members, the Guild of Administrative Offices are asked to cover a campus in the evening. We have, as you know, a very large evening program on all three campuses and we have one administrator assigned to be there in the event any problems arise, any emergencies arise, so that faculty members and clerical staff have a person to contact, should a problem arise. We pay those individuals on an arrangement called administrative overload. It is relatively expensive, when you look at it on an hourly basis but that's contractual and that amounts to a significant amount of money. So again, we made a whole new arrangement for this semester. We had asked our exempted administrators and our twelve month guild members to have adjusted schedules, so that on certain days each individual would start later than nine o'clock but end later than five o'clock. So that we're getting the coverage by a different type of scheduling arrangement for administrators whose schedules allow that kind of a thing and that will save a, I guess, about forty thousand dollars, if I remember. Am I in that ballpark? So when you put all that together, we put together a package that at this point looks like it would produce an aggregate of about one point four to one point five million dollars. Again, it's hard to be exact with these things but we do think that those issues will address the potential gap and bring us to a more balanced result for the year.

You know, other than that, there are issues that Fred brought up as, Mr. Hollander pointed out that we didn't get to discuss and were not in the memo but there are some issues that are structural. For example, we got a bill just recently for additional health insurance, it cost beyond the budget of two hundred and twenty five thousand dollars. You know, in the previous year, we had a bill of almost nine hundred thousand dollars. It was unbudgeted. On top of that, we had significant early retirements, so we have to make up front payments to these individuals for their accruals. These are unbudgeted

amounts in most cases. There are some allowances in the budget but the cost has exceeded over budget. So there are a lot of issues here that that contributed, particularly over the last three years, to what is now becoming a structural issue and we're not prepared to go into details on that but, I think, you have to understand that we do get hit with these things and they are not discretionary. We get an additional bill for health insurance for two hundred thousand or three hundred thousand. We have to come up and pay it.

Last year, while you gave us an increase in the budget, you should also recall that the charge for County services to us went up by six hundred and thirteen thousand dollars. So monies that float into the college from your contribution to a large extent flowed back into the County for the services and again, those are non-discretionary items. So again, these are all part of a picture that sometimes are blend into a background that don't get recognized but they do contribute to a structural issue that eventually becomes bigger and bigger. That's basically all I have at the moment but we have to answer questions and I'm sure some of the trustees or -- Mr. Bullard is one of our staff accountants. He's the Associate Dean for Finance at the college, works for Mr. Stein. Mr. Stein is on vacation, by the way, out of State. I'm sorry, otherwise he would be here too.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Okay, I'd like to give the others an opportunity to make a presentation and then we can go to --

**MR. HOLLANDER:**

I guess, I just want to make sure that you're aware that the trustees are up to speed in what's going on. Not to take anything away from the administration but a lot of what they're doing and explaining to you today are things that have been brought up by the trustees and questions that have come up at Trustees Meetings that have been answered at Trustees Meetings and where at Trustees Meetings direction has been set for how to deal with it. We were aware of the fact when we finished the budget last August, that there was a structural imbalance of about four hundred and eighty thousand dollars between appropriation expenses and we felt that we were dealing with that as time was going on and it wasn't a giant problem to deal with. As we got into the November, December area, we were basically told by the administration that they saw the shortfall and we do get a monthly -- each Trustee Meeting, we do get a report that tells us where they're projecting us going, in terms of total appropriations and expenses, so that we can monitor the fact that we are staying within budget. In fact, we probably look at one of our primary jobs is to stay within budget. So we believe that's an important thing that we do.

In going through this process, it was in December, when we were told about a seven hundred and ninety four thousand dollar approximate deficit. It came

up at the January Board Meeting and through December to January, we asked the administration to put together a set of contingency plans, which were presented at the January Board Meeting to how to deal with the seven hundred ninety four thousand imbalance, as well as keep in mind the four hundred and eighty thousand dollars structural imbalance. They did that and they came back to us. You should also know that during this time that the college, as well as myself, met with the Budget Review Office. So throughout the conversations, we kept them up to speed on what our conversations have been with the college and where the Budget Review Office thinks they're hearing one number and I think that we're hearing another. We try to figure out what the right number is because a lot of them move.

For example, just so that we got it straight. It should be that our original turnover that we budgeted was two point three four eight and the revised budget was two point four seven nine that only accounted for about a hundred and thirty thousand dollars, you know, which in the game of the things wasn't a big deal. Probably the biggest problem was the fact that the actual turnover savings is somewhere around one eight or one nine. So it's definitely running less than what the college thought or that anybody thought it was going to run.

We have had conversations with Sal and Chuck and John about how do we go about coming up with turnover savings. What's the formulas they're using to figure it out and we discussed the fact with them. It seems to be like they got it right and that various things pop into it that affect it. I've discussed this a little bit with Tom Cunningham in the BRO Office and as we go through preparing the new budget, the places that we see that we have problems in, they have committed themselves to looking closer as to how we project it and discussing it with the BRO Office, so that we can all be in agreement that the way we're trying to forecast the number, be it the statistical tuition shortfall, or increases in turnover savings are done in a way that we all agree everything is being taken into account.

When we had the Trustee Meeting and we discussed the seven hundred and ninety four thousand; we spent a good deal of time discussing how to deal with that shortfall. The college came back to us with savings of about one million four one six. We had them set up a spreadsheet for us that we get each meeting that talks about the original category that the shortfall was going to be in. Where it was as of one thirty one. Where it will be as of our next Board Meeting coming up and all this has to do where they see the changing projections based on new information. We've made two relevant decisions along the way that you should know about, so that you'll understand partially what our thinking is. Again, like I said, we believe that, you know we're responsible for bringing this in on budget. We're not supposed to go over budget. I don't think you want us to do that or anybody else wants us to do that. So two of our bigger decision in this was is we told the college they needed to put a freeze on five hundred and ninety seven thousand of FF&E. That's various furniture fixtures and equipment that we've told them that they can't spend. They put together -- they submitted to us

the list of what it was going to be but then we agreed with them that we were not going to spend that money unless we talk about it first. That's a way of putting something into place that stops spending in where we can control spending to insure that their projections come into where they're supposed to be.

The second thing that you're going to hear about and Sal touched on it a little bit, is that we've asked them to be very tenacious in looking at sections and you're going to hear the fact that we talked about cutting sections. This becomes like a gray area in some ways, because in some cases, we do have sections that we don't need. I mean, we could have and I'll give you an example, a class where maybe we have five sections operating and there's maybe two or three people in those classes and somebody needs to look at it and say well, wait a second. You know, for two or three people, if there's four other classes, we may not need that section and I think we all agree that maybe it's been a little bit loose. But some people may interpret that that we're not letting students get the class but that's not, in effect, what's happening. What's happening is the college has a process and what happens is that the Dean of Faculty review the sections and if they feel, because there's a mandate by the board and the mandate by the board that's been in effect for maybe fifteen or so more years is that they have to have at least twelve students in a section and if not, it's supposed to be eliminated. But if the Dean of Faculty believes a section should be in place, because it's the only one like it or we need it for graduation or it's the second part, for example, of biology fifty, we need fifty-one. Then the Dean of the Faculty has the ability to go to the Executive Dean and say, I think we should keep this section and then it goes to the Vice President for Academic Affairs, Jim Connor and he has the final authority. We've blessed him with the authority, even at the last meeting to say, if there's a section that you believe has to happen, in order to take care of the students, we want you to do it. All we ask is that when you finish the process, come back and tell us what that effect had. What was the effect of keeping certain classes that were less than twelve that we weren't planning on? So that we, in turn, can come talk to you, so you understand that we understand and we're all in the same boat that we had x number of sections that we ran contrary to our policy, because it needed to be what needed to be happening.

So understand that the college, in the way of the Vice President for Academic Affairs has the ability to keep a section. But at the same time, we've said to him and everybody else through the College President, if there are sections that can be eliminated to save money because they're unnecessary, we want you to take that step and I believe at our last meeting, Sal was talking somewhere in the neighborhood of maybe two hundred and fifty section at a value of about three thousand dollars each.

So those are two particular areas and again, you know he mentioned a projection. It's a projection but it's certainly planned in place that show that, you know, the trustees have a clue of what's going on. We're not blind-sighted by what's going on. You know it's true sometimes something comes

out of left field. I don't know that we're paying as close attention to, you know, Fred's talk about the shortfall of the seven hundred thousand dollars. So certainly, you know, from my point of view, we're going to try to understand that a little bit better today or tomorrow, so that by Friday, we have a grasp on that particular number, which more or less really has to do with the reserve fund and there's no doubt that when the County Executive's Office or the College or BRO is looking in the reserve fund, they're always in different places for different good reasons. What we have to do in our next budget is make sure that all three of us are in sync with the number we use. Because it shouldn't be a matter of who screwed up, you know, where it happened? It shouldn't be a matter of that. It should be a matter of; this is what the number is. This is the best number we can come up with and understand again, that when we saw the shortfall in December, we directed the College President to come to you. He came to the meetings directed by us to come to you to inform you of what was going on, so that everybody would be up to speed on what's happening.

The second thing Fred talked about and he showed me where it was and the thing that he gave me yesterday, where he talks about the full time salary cost maybe being seven fifty and seventy five hundred? He can be right. I don't know that we can say he's wrong or right. I mean, we're not going to know until we see the results, just sections and the results of everything. So you know, we'll talk with him about that. We'll change our projection for the next meeting if we need to, from five hundred to seven fifty and we'll go about looking for two hundred and fifty thousand more in savings, in order to make up some of the imbalance and again, at this point, I think, we've taken the point that we have to find within our operations, okay! We have to find it within the things that are within our control. But just remember and I'm not going to be exact on the percentage but I may be close but eighty four percent of a hundred and four million dollar budget is payroll and benefits. So there's not a big other area for us to go scooting around and find money to save. So we have to be real watchful of part time adjunct classes. We have to be real careful of the sections that we have and just so you know when we decided not to hire those five full time people, we put a freeze on it? It was only because we were hearing about seven hundred and ninety four thousand dollars in shortfall. So if we can clear up our seven hundred and ninety four thousand in shortfall, I think, we're all in agreement, we want to hire those five extra people. But since we didn't hire them at that point, we found out about the problem, it would not have been a good financial idea to go ahead and proceed and not know for sure where we are. So I think that sort of just gives you a clue where we're at.

**MR. LALIMA:**

I'd just like to touch on one other area. Just again, I think, it's good information for you to have. You're well aware that we opened up our new, what we now have named with descriptively, at least, as the Health Sports and Education Center at the western campus and I just wanted to let you know that at this point, that is becoming what we had dreamed it would

become, a center for community activity, as well as college operations but a marginally producing revenue facility for the college. What we're finding is that it is becoming already a very attractive facility in bringing in high schools, by the students, by the thousands, in track meets and we charge on a daily rate, a significant amount and so we are looking right now at revenues coming from that, which again, while they're not appropriated and cannot be used to help cover any of the current operational costs, we can look to, at a later time, perhaps for you to authorize appropriating those funds out of the reserve. Those will flow into the reserve and then, hopefully, come back out. But we are looking at approximately a half a million dollars, we believe, this year. We are hoping in future years to produce in excess of a million dollars in revenues out of that operation and that, of course, results from a number of things. You have various athletic meets, which the two hundred-meter track is the only one of its kind in Nassau, Suffolk County and it is a very, very attractive feature. The pool is already taking hold with many school districts coming to have meets there.

We intend to be able to bring in a State and perhaps national meets into these facilities, trade shows will be brought in there, cultural events will be brought in there. All of these are revenue producing. On top of that, we authorized through the board's actions at an earlier meeting, the creation of a health club and so County residents and members of the college staff can join the health clubs at a very modest fee and take advantage of one of the best fitness centers, pools and other related facilities. All of these will generate, not only revenues but I believe a lot of great opportunities for Suffolk County residents in improving their health, so I'm very pleased with what's happening there and I think we're going to see a lot of very good things happening. The board has been very supportive, in terms of allowing us to move that facility ahead with some innovative approaches to a facility for Suffolk Community College. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Thank you. I'd note that we have the Chairman of the College Board of Trustees, Mr. Sacca here. Did you want to make a presentation?

**MR. SACCA:**

I would be delighted to.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Thank you.

**MR. SACCA:**

Can you hear me okay?

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Yes.

**MR. SACCA:**

Okay, thank you and thank you for inviting us. I would like to just make mention that there are six trustees here at this particular meeting and if you look at it regarding our by-laws, we basically have a quorum here. I'd like to touch upon some of the things that Sal brought up and one of them, specifically is the new facility we do have and that facility, I think, is magnificent. I think it's really an asset to the County. I think it's certainly a contribution that the Legislators made to give back to the residents of Suffolk County and I personally appreciate that and I think most of the residents would also. One of the things that I looked at, going through the budget and when we approached the County in August and in the beginning of September, was the possibility of shortfalls. Inevitably, we do have a shortfall. Inevitably, some of the shortfalls are associated with expenditures that we did not anticipate and one of the things I would like to request is additional funding. Because at that time, the Legislature said come back to them, give us a synopsis of where the budget is going and if, in fact, you're going to have a shortfall, they may be able to address it and possibly help us.

There are two areas that I'm very concerned about. One is continuing a marketing approach, in order to identify the resources, such as the new building and money associated with that, I think, we have to look at, so that we can generate additional money out there. The other shortfall, as far as the health insurance and the other thing that I was looking at is marketing plays a major role in bringing in students to the Community College and one of the things that I think we lose sight of is that the students we have are quite unique. They are not only young students; they're older students. There are people out there than can really take advantage of this particular resource and we have to communicate that with them. One of the things that we initiated was looking at a different marketing approach and we're in the process of putting that together. Once it's completed, I would like to come back and share it, so that you will have an opportunity to see different directions that we're going into, in order to access more residents into the Community College and have literally the Community College as a community effort and providing that educational endeavor. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Thank you, Mr. Sacca. I would like to take this opportunity to offer to any of the trustees if they wanted to join this discussion. Now would be the time to do so. Mr. Foley and Tom, could you join us also? He has a chair there, Fred. First, let me take this opportunity to welcome a former colleague here at the horseshoe. There are actually two in the audience, Mr. Hazlitt as well. Did I miss anybody else as a former? I'm sorry. Okay. Good morning, John.

**MR. FOLEY:**

Good morning, Mr. Chairman. I'll take a few moments and first of all, as obviously for the record, my name is John J. Foley and I'm here as a Trustee of the Community College. Now I'd like to thank you, Mr. Chairman for the invitation to be here. It certainly is in keeping with your own responsibilities to exercise these kinds of fiduciary oversights on matters such as this. I'll be as brief as possible this morning on some of these questions. One, it appears that there is -- there has finally developed a rapport, if you will, between the College and the Budget Review Office, as well as the Budget Office, as well as the County Legislative Committee, so that there can be a working together towards a common goal of responsibility on these kinds of questions. Some of us who have been urging that for some time, as a matter of fact for years, would indicate that, that if it continues to be the case as are happy developed.

I would also like to say that there are certain other items, which have not been mentioned in relation to needs that the college does have. In a list prepared and reflected in a letter by the President of the College to the Education Committee talks about certain items, which need attention, which had been drawn to the attention of the State Legislature. But omitted from that list, no doubt inadvertently, of the question of our needs for additional monies to sustain Capital Projects is one of the realities that is presently before us. So that we would be in a position to continue to pursue the goals of the most recent capital analysis, where I assume you have a copy of that. If not, you should have a copy, so you could take a look at all of the projects throughout the entire three campuses and one college. The other one, which had been omitted from that, as I say no doubt inadvertently, is the ongoing problem of out County tuition and that still is a major problem, which -- and the fiscal people here could give you the numbers, it runs into millions of dollars, some millions of dollars on that particular question. The point I'm making here, as we've made -- some of us have made before is that, that kind of list, it's not a wish list. It's the kind of list that has to be constant in it's entirety, so that when talking to Legislators, whether it's the State, national or local level, we're in a position to mention these things and to indicate that they should be the, let's say the fulcrum, of the kind of lobbying that should take place, in order to achieve these goals if not achieved them fully, at least to mitigate them. So having said that, those are just some of the things here and no doubt there are niceties or slight dimensions to all the comments today that I could make some comments about in the interest of, let us say, internal as well as external good will, I will avoid doing so.

I would like to also point out that this year for the first time, I volunteered to serve on the Budget Committee. Now, I've been informed that the Budget Committee is going to take a different form or shape this year, namely it's the Board of Trustees will act as a committee of the whole on the budget and as a result, I await, as well as the other trustees will wait to a call on this particular question. As we sit here, I don't know if the County Executive has,

as yet, forwarded his annual letter on the budget to the college. It's possible that he has. He may not have done that. But if it has been done, some of us have not seen that letter and that is the kind of thing. If that is the case and I say if that is the case that is one of the endemic structural problems of internal communications that we do happen to have had in the past on some of these matters. As a matter of fact, when I asked for the material other than had been developed by the marketing section of the college to bring that material out to you, Mr. Caracciolo. I asked for a copy of that. I had to ask for it because it was not immediately made available. I've received some of that. I received that information but at this particular time, I'm not certain that it is identical or it is an enlarged version of what had been given to you. So at the close of the meeting, I will hand up to you a copy of the material of that is available and you will notice in there, for example, item after item and particularly in this case, the amount of money that will be spent on advertising publicity for the new Health Center Communications, not communications but the Health Center West. Having said that, Mr. Caracciolo, I appreciate the invitation to be here and I look upon it as a responsibility to be here because you people are the sponsors of the Community College and sometimes that is forgotten and sometimes it is forgotten that there is a process that takes place, namely the County Executive, the Legislature and the Community College and all three must work together, in order to face up to these problems that we face together. So thank you once again and Happy Valentines Day.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

Thank you, John.

**MR. FOLEY:**

And I'm not talking about the Chicago variety either.

**LEGISLATOR HALEY:**

Hello John, how are you?

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

Legislator Haley, before you do that, as you're doing that, if I could just -- I noticed Mr. Weiss has just arrived, I'd like Ken to join us. Okay, Legislator Haley.

**LEGISLATOR HALEY:**

John, could you just expand on your comments on out of County tuition? I haven't heard much about that too, since I've been here.

**MR. FOLEY:**

Well, there are people here who are certainly more knowledgeable than I but nevertheless --

**LEGISLATOR HALEY:**

But your point --

**MR. FOLEY:**

Let's say when a student who happens to live in Suffolk County basically, living in Suffolk County cannot find a course that is available in Suffolk County, he or she may move to attend classes, not move physically but attend classes in Nassau County at Farmingdale or at Nassau Community College.

**LEGISLATOR HALEY:**

Your view is that out of County tuition is a problem still?

**MR. FOLEY:**

Oh yes and as a result --

**LEGISLATOR HALEY:**

And we --

**MR. FOLEY:**

Just let me finish? As a result, the County has to pay for that tuition to Nassau County. I think it runs, at one time, the number was somewhere's in the neighborhood of five or six million dollars. Yes, so it may have been at one time. So it's the kind of thing that should be addressed.

**LEGISLATOR HALEY:**

So you would say that as of today, our out of County tuition has not

improved, it's gotten worse?

**MR. FOLEY:**

Well, I would say, at least, it doesn't appear to have dramatically improved.

**LEGISLATOR HALEY:**

It has improved just a little bit?

**MR. FOLEY:**

Well, I'm not in a position to say.

**LEGISLATOR HALEY:**

I know --

**MR. FOLEY:**

I'm not evading your question, Martin. I'm not evading your question but I don't have the numbers in front of me. A person such as John Bullard, who is the fiscal person present, they will probably have certain --

**LEGISLATOR HALEY:**

I was just trying to get what your point was.

**MR. FOLEY:**

My point is exactly what it was, namely, there are students who have to take courses or desire to take courses in Nassau or elsewhere but particularly in Nassau and as a result, the County of Suffolk must pay the County of Nassau for tuition.

**LEGISLATOR HALEY:**

No, I understand that of County tuition. My biggest concern about out of County tuition has been typical of the arguments we've been dealing with over the last two years, in that, what are we doing to reduce our out of County tuition? A lot of which goes to Nassau. Some of it, we think may be helped by the improvement of the western campus. Some of it, we think can be improved by simply our Sports Programs. Some of it, I think can be improved by our Marketing Programs. So when we talk about out of County tuition, at some point, I would hope that we'd all, at least, get on the same

page and understand exactly where we are and what we need to do to mitigate that segment of the budget.

**MR. FOLEY:**

Mr. Chairman, may I?

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Yes.

**MR. FOLEY:**

The Budget Review Office has at times, in the last few years, spoken specifically to that point and has made recommendations specifically to that point and one of the solutions, all be it, a difficult solution and no doubt some people would throw in the sponge immediately on that question is that it would require State Legislation and it's difficult to do that. But what I am saying, even though that difficulty does exist that it's the kind of thing that we should constantly have on our agenda. It's the kind of thing that we should be all working together to either mitigate or to overcome and maybe this is the time to do it, because there has been some statements as to some of the problems that upstate Community Colleges are facing, even though the dollars are less. They basically and empirically face the same kind of problem. So you used the correct term, Mr. Haley on the same page and we should be on the same page on that question as well. So I thank you for your question.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Mr. Sacca.

**MR. SACCA:**

I think John is correct in a lot of what he expressed here specifically pertaining to the capital items. As to the information that he received after our meeting and I forwarded John a letter and I assure you it's the same information. So let him supply that with you.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Very good.

**MR. SACCA:**

As to the question at hand, regarding outside students going to other schools and what the impact is? What I'd like to submit for the record, is what the analysis actually shows and it has decreased since 1994 to date. Our marketing efforts have been extremely successful. When we do market, we do see an appreciable difference in students going outside of County. The dollars that are associated with it does reflect that also and I would be more than happy to supply you with that.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

What are the current numbers?

**MR. SACCA:**

Presently, if you're looking at overall, we have two thousand one hundred and fifty five students going out of County in the Year 1999, 2000, versus in 1994, 1995, two thousand six hundred and ten.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

What's the dollar amount associated with that because it's based on tuition costs?

**MR. SACCA:**

The amount is three million five hundred and ninety eight thousand, nine hundred and fifty eight.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Compared to?

**MR. SACCA:**

Well, you have to look at dollars associated with the years. So if you go back, those dollars are reflected.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

In other words, you don't have that number?

**MR. SACCA:**

We have the numbers.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

I know there are different rates.

**MR. SACCA:**

Okay. In '94, you're looking at two million five hundred and seventy one, nine hundred and ninety two.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Okay.

**MR. SACCA:**

All right. We also a comparison specifically pertaining to Nassau County and that we have to take a look at, separate and apart. But I would like to just supply you with this information, so you can see what this is.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

I would also suggest Mr. Sacca that you provide that information to every Legislator.

**MR. SACCA:**

That would be my pleasure.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

The entire membership.

**MR. SACCA:**

And every board member should have it also.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Absolutely.

**MR. SACCA:**

I would be happy to do that.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Mr. Weiss --

**LEGISLATOR HALEY:**

Can I ask him a question on that?

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

I'd like to get the presentations done with. Ken arrived late, so I wanted to give him -- to provide the committee with an executive perspective of the current situation, financial situation of the college. I know, in the last week, or maybe as recently as yesterday, there had been some discussions with the college and I think, in terms of completing the record in the presentation today, we should have the executive perspective.

**MR. WEISS:**

Okay, I don't know -- I apologize for being late but I had a cabinet meeting. I don't know what Fred, what discussion Fred got into but Fred and I met yesterday and we pretty much agree as to the current status. It appears subject to audit that the college will end the 1999, 2000, fiscal year with a deficit of, I think, six hundred and seventy eight thousand dollars. So I have the exact amount. Six hundred and eighty eight thousand dollars and currently, the college is running at a rate that it could overspend or I don't want to use the term overspend but the difference between expenditures and revenues could be about seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars for fiscal Year 2000, 2001, if something isn't changed. The six hundred and eighty eight thousand dollars would be subtracted from the reserve fund, which brings the reserve fund down to a dangerously low level of one point seven million dollars. If there is a deficit situation in 2000, 2001 that further reduces that reserve fund and secondly, if there's a structural imbalance that would cause the next fiscal year to be in the same situation, then the college has what I consider and the executive considers to be severe financial problems.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Okay, in terms of the numbers, the numbers are almost the same. I mean, Budget Review, I have a document here that they distributed yesterday that indicates they anticipate at this juncture a shortfall of about seven hundred and ninety four thousand dollars. We heard from the College President, from the trustees, the Chairman of the Board that they have an action planned that they are working on to reduce that and it is their hope and desire that before the academic year is concluded that they will have substantially reduced the level of the current projection as close as possible to zero. That

said, what are the other issues that one has to take into account, because as Mr. LaLima mentioned, we began the year with a structural imbalance, in terms of projections, ambitious projections on turnover savings that he feels they weren't realistic. That information was brought to everyone's attention but nonetheless, two point six million dollars was included in the budget. They felt that when they submitted their budget with two point three million dollars or he felt that that was even overly optimistic, do you agree or disagree with that assessment?

**MR. WEISS:**

Well, my assessment is that once the college received the budget of x number of dollars and a turnover savings level at whatever level it was, that it's their responsibility to live within the level, not say that the budget is inappropriate. Just as we are getting ready to do the 2002, 2003 budget for the college and as you know, we're limited to a four percent increase in the contribution. If their expenditures are continuing at any level near with what they're running, the four percent that we can give them by law is going to be totally insufficient and they'll have a further structural balance in that year, unless the Legislature who has the ability with fourteen votes to give them more than the four percent. You know I'm concerned that there may be no increase in State Aid in this fiscal year, at least, my understanding of the Governor's budget as it sits now, there is no increase. So if actions aren't taken to curtail spending now, the multiplier effect of the problem is just going to widen and it's going to be an issue in dealing with the college budget to the Legislature this August. That coincidentally coincides with the County's problems, which we'll talk about later but you know it's a difficult climate to increase County contribution.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Yes, okay.

**MR. HOLLANDER:**

We agree with what he said. So we certainly believe that we're the ones that have to deal with the fact that the turnover is one point eight. We're not looking to lay that off on anybody. So we agree with exactly what he said in his statement that when the costs are out of whack, we have to figure out how to put it into balance.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Are you optimistic you can?

**MR. HOLLANDER:**

Well, yes I just got a -- as long -- since we have some new data, I just want to check to see if we got part of this straight. Because I don't deal with it every day and obviously, it's not here. But in '99, 2000, we're saying there's a six hundred and eighty eight thousand shortfall and you're expecting, given your rate that will be short seven fifty. So then you're estimating that we're going to be out about one million four? Is that sort of what you're thinking?

**MR. WEISS:**

Correct.

**MR. HOLLANDER:**

So in our plans, we need to be looking for that one million four to make up. Now that's one million four in lower expenses, so that our expenses need to be lower?

**MR. WEISS:**

Well, it's a combination. The six hundred and eighty eight was the deficit, which I haven't analyzed it to determine whether it's a revenue shortfall or an expenditure overrun but it's, you know, it's probably a combination.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

All right, you know what I'd like to do?

**MR. HOLLANDER:**

I need to ask one more question.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Well, before you do. I think what we've established today, if nothing else and I think we have established a lot is number one, some accountability on the part of the college to this legislative body. Number two, a dialog and a willingness by the administration and the trustees to work with the budget officials in County Government to address these shortfalls and hopefully, address them in a manner that will substantially reduce them by the end of the academic year. So that as we prepare for next year, academic year, we're not looking at a one point four million-dollar deficit carryover. We're also -- we would like to accomplish or eliminate the need to tap into reserves any further than we have already, so we don't reduce the ability to use reserves in the future for future needs. So I think we've accomplished quite a bit in that regard. I'd like to ask Mr. Weiss, however, with respect to a question that the Trustee, Trustee Foley raised. Has the County Executive, at this point, submitted his letter to the college on next year's college budget?

**MR. WEISS:**

Yes.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

He has.

**MR. WEISS:**

It went out yesterday.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Okay, could we get a copy of that please?

**MR. WEISS:**

Yes, as a matter of record, we send a copy to all.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Okay. I haven't seen it yet but if it just went out that's why I haven't seen it. I have a number of committee members that would like to address the panel, so I'll start with Legislator Haley.

**LEGISLATOR HALEY:**

Ken can you give me your view of the turnover savings again and I really just want some of the numbers. I don't have it in my head yet.

**MR. HOLLANDER:**

Yes, the original, I think, is two point three four eight as submitted by the college and they are revised by the Executive and the Legislature. I think it was two point four seven nine for a difference of a hundred and thirty some odd thousand.

**MR. WEISS:**

The a -- I looked at a payroll estimate yesterday on the various different

appropriations and the problem that I saw was that it seemed that twenty two seventy, which is the administrative appropriations were the ones that were running over budget and the faculty, the instructional, which is I think it's twenty two ten seem to be in line. Overall the total salaries appear to be over -- just salaries alone by about a half a million dollars. But what I'm suggesting is that it seems to be concentrated in the administrative appropriations.

**MR. HOLLANDER:**

Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Legislator Postal.

**LEGISLATOR POSTAL:**

I guess, through the Chair, my question is for both Ken and Fred with regard to turnover savings. Not specifically this year and this issue but the whole procedure by which we make an estimate about what's realistic to anticipate on turnover savings. I know how we do it for employees other than the instructional staff at the Community College. Because there's -- it seems to me there's some flexibility, you know, if you -- not that everybody isn't vital but if you're hiring a clerk typist and you project that you're going to leave that position open for eight weeks instead of six, that's one thing. But with the instructional staff, when a semester starts and you have a certain number of sections, course sections, you really kind of limit it in the amount of turnover savings that you can project for the instructional staff. Do we use a different system for making a realistic estimate for turnover savings at the Community College, specifically with regard to the instructional staff from that which we use for everybody else?

**MR. POLLERT:**

With respect to the turnover savings on the Community College in the Budget Review Office, the turnover savings estimates that were included in the budget were the numbers that were primarily provided by the Community College. We cut the college a tremendous amount of discretion with respect to turnover savings. So where the County Budget Review Office would normally make recommendations with respect to the general fund or to departments, we generally cut the Community College a tremendous amount of discretion because of exactly what you had mentioned with respect to the teaching staff. So the shortfall and the promise with a turnover savings, really are internal promised to the Community College with their forecast and their estimates. They were basically given what they requested with respect to salaries.

The County Executive increased turnover savings by one hundred and thirty thousand dollars. That's a diminutiveness amount. In addition to that, when you added back the fourteen people for the Health Wellness Center and administrators, as well as teaching staff, we didn't build in any turnover savings. We assumed a hundred percent of those staff would be filled, as of September 1st, so I was not concerned about the level of turnover savings at the Community College. In fact, they got more money than they had requested with respect to salaries.

The concern is that they got what they asked for but there were cost overruns and salaries are generally something, even though it's complex with people coming and going, that are more or less accurately forecast by departments and had been accurately forecast by the Community College in the past. So you'd really have to ask what assumptions they built into it but it was nothing that was done by either the Executive or the Legislature through the budget adoption process that has caused the shortfall in salaries.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Could the college comment?

**MR. LALIMA:**

I'm a little perplexed because I have a sheet here that says we requested sixty eight million, six hundred and ninety thousand, four hundred and thirty three dollars. The County adopted budget was sixty eight thousand, two hundred and eighty eight, one hundred and twelve dollars or a shortfall of four hundred and two thousand, three hundred twenty one dollars. Now, unless this data is wrong that's the date I have. It shows that we got four hundred plus less than what was included in our request.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Fred and Ken? Who at the college do you coordinate with and communicate with on these issues?

**MR. WEISS:**

Chuck.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Chuck isn't here. We understand that.

**MR. WEISS:**

Right.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

His assistant is. Would you like to comment on this? Are you familiar with this issue?

**MR. BULLARD:**

Yes. Basically -- John Bullard. What Sal just said, just looking at the personal services line? What the college requested in the Budget for 2000-2001 was sixty eight million, six ninety. What the County adopted was sixty eight million, two hundred and eighty eight. So there was a four hundred and two thousand dollars less was adopted on the personal services line for the college.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Why do we have this disagreement? Why is there this discrepancy? Fred?

**MR. POLLERT:**

What it could be and I'm not sure at this point in time is that when the County Executive proposed the budget, he had to propose it within the cap, so he could not propose it with those additional full time faculty and the people from the Health Wellness Center, as well as support staff that they had requested. I can speak to what the Legislature did by and of itself, we included all the titles with no increase in turnover savings. The only adjustment that the Legislature made with respect to salaries is we removed eighty thousand dollars, so that the college would not implement the Hay's Study without approval of the Legislature. So there was nothing that the Legislature did with respect to turnover savings, with respect to what the Executive did, they only increased turnover savings by roughly one hundred and thirty thousand dollars.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Are you familiar with the document that the college is referring to in his presentation?

**MR. POLLERT:**

Not off hand. I don't have it.

**MR. BULLARD:**

It was really just to total up the budget book.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

What is it? What do you -- just refer to what it is? Is that an internal document that he uses it from the budget?

**MR. BULLARD:**

Yes.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

It's from the Community College Budget?

**MR. BULLARD:**

Right.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

It's not a work sheet?

**MR. BULLARD:**

No, it's the budget book issued by the County Executive's Office.

**MR. KNAPPE:**

The sheet that he's using is a work sheet against the numbers from the budget book.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

All right, I think there's a need to reconcile the differences here and be brought back to this committee, as to whether or not this is a factual presentation or not. I mean, we would need to know what these numbers really mean.

**MR. BULLARD:**

We can sit down with Ken and Fred and go over it.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

All right. Along those lines, what I'd like to suggest that going forward and I think, again, this is a good opportunity and a good start in that direction and we welcome the opportunity to work with administration and the trustees to address these issues jointly, so that no one is blind-sighted in a few months when we take up the next college budget and hopefully, we can mitigate and reduce substantially this projected shortfall. So we'd like to see that take place and I'd like to hear from Mr. LaLima who in the administration will be working on a regular basis weekly or by-weekly with the budget office sharing financial data and information, so that we have what you have and we could address these issues upon a continual basis.

**MR. LALIMA:**

Certainly, I would be asking Mr. Stein, he is our Chief Financial Officer and of course, he'll be assisted by John here to do that. He'll be back next week.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Okay, then at this time, what I'd like to do is conclude today's presentation, invite you back in about four to six weeks to provide us with an interim report and I'm going to get to Legislator Alden, because I know he has some questions. So that we'll know where we stand then and what kind of progress we're making. Legislator Alden.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Thank you Mr. Chairman. Just one thing I happened to really focus in on was a presentation by Trustee Foley and that's about the reimbursement, the tuition reimbursement and I think that we should really get on the same page as you and that should be part of our legislative agenda in dealing with New York State. Because my recollection is that some of the things coming out of Pataki's Budget stated that he was going to increase aid to the Community Colleges and now I hear the opposite that there's no increase and possibly a decrease but I hope not a decrease. So really I'd like to see a little bit more report, an in depth report, on the reimbursement and where we can focus on what type of changes New York State would actually have to make to make that a little bit more fair and to, you know, help us out in the budgetary process. So that's just something that, you know, like as far as information, I think, we need a little bit more information. Because we do Sense Resolutions but more important, I think the way that we can do it is get on the phone and start putting pressure on some of our, you know, delegate that's out here.

The second thing is Fred, last year you had mentioned that you would have liked to seen some -- like reporting changes to coordinate or make it a little bit better, as far as Suffolk County's Budget and the Community College's Budget. Has there been some progress in that area?

**MR. POLLERT:**

Yes, that was a request last year with the adoption of the Omnibus Resolution. There was a meeting between myself, Ken Weiss, the Chairman of the Finance Committee, Chuck Stein and Mr. Hollander prior to the adoption of the budget, we agreed that the Budget Office and the Budget Review Office together with the Community College would work to make sure that the College's IFMS System was on the same basis as the County System as a whole. That hasn't taken place yet because the audit on the Community College has not been finalized yet. The auditors are in there right now finalizing the numbers. We didn't want to go in to start to have those types of discussions until the audit was completed. With the meeting yesterday, we also invited the Comptroller's Office, the County Comptroller's Office to be part of that group as well and the Comptroller's Office indicated that they would also be partaking in that effort to make sure that the IFMS System did not allow accounts to be overdrawn and that we were on the same basis as the County with the Community College.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Good. Because Ken Weiss made some, I guess, it's a comment that would actually make this more important to get it done as quickly as possible, because it looks like some crises might overlap here and we might, on a County basis, be going into the same situation. Good, okay, so for the college, you have no problem with that, right? Working with them?

**MR. HOLLANDER:**

No. In fact, I've spoken with Tom and Fred and so that they know the college is prepared to do it as soon as they get the audit, we're prepared to go in and begin to do it.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

Good, thanks.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

President LaLima, in terms of transfers? Under the Plan C Agreement, you and the administration had the ability to make interfund transfers in the College Budget in amounts ten thousand dollars or less. Is that correct?

**MR. LALIMA:**

I believe so, yes.

**CHAIRMAN CARCCIOLO:**

On what occasion and what frequency had you exercised that there's been authority this year?

**MR. LALIMA:**

Actually if has occurred, it's been done by Chuck without me. So I don't know.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Does Mr. Bullard know?

**MR. LALIMA:**

They don't usually come to me with that.

**MR. BULLARD:**

We do make transfers throughout the year and anything over ten thousand dollars will go through the County Exec's Budget Office, as far as dollar amounts or actual number of transfers.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

I'm talking about amounts under ten thousand. Because you can dig yourself into a hole pretty quickly, if you do that on a regular basis, you know, without good reason.

**MR. BULLARD:**

Right, as far as -- the college does a lot of transfers that will go within departments where we don't change money off the object line but we do transfers in our --

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Right. Could you provide this committee for this current academic year, the occasions and the amounts that are transferred and for what purpose?

**MR. BULLARD:**

Um-um.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Thank you. Legislator Haley, did you want to say anything else?

**LEGISLATOR HALEY:**

I wanted to follow-up with Legislator Alden's comments. I think we're talking about two things, Legislator Alden. But first was and it's perhaps anybody could interject. Do we believe that the State is going to increase their contribution?

**MR. WEISS:**

No.

**LEGISLATOR HALEY:**

Everybody agrees. I got the people saying yes and no, okay! I mean, right not in the Governor's Budget --

**MR. WEISS:**

There is no increase.

**LEGISLATOR HALEY:**

Oh, well that was standard. I mean it's early. That budget is not going to be done until August. That's my prediction, August.

**MR. WEISS:**

All right, I agree.

**LEGISLATOR HALEY:**

The State Delegation would tell you June or July but I predict it's August.

**MR. POLLERT:**

That, in and of itself is a major problem, because the County Executive has to prepare a budget well in advance. So in August, the County Legislature will be adopting it. So if the State Budget is that late to go into August, it would be a speculative revenue, we couldn't include it in the budget as a revenue.

So if it occurred during the year, it would be a bonus but the budget that the County Executive puts together and the budget adopted by the Legislature, unless it's in an adopted proposal, it would be a speculative revenue to include in the budget. So even if it is included but it's too late to get into the budget process, it won't be recognized in the budget.

**MR. HOLLANDER:**

We always end up having to do the budget using the State Aid that was passed, because it appears that the State Aid always comes across when we're done with the budget and then we end up sometimes talking about, you know, we're going to take it in and if it comes in, it will go to the fund and we'll pull it back out. But like Fred said, we always end up basically, having to use what's there because we don't find that in enough time, since the process begins in March to be able to use the number, we don't know what it's going to be. By the way, I was up in Albany on Monday and Senator Bruno mentioned that they had found another four hundred and sixty some odd thousand million that the Governor was going to announce in the next couple of days, so -- and that was at the Education Committee.

**LEGISLATOR HALEY:**

Another four hundred and sixty million?

**MR. HOLLANDER:**

Yes and then when I was at the Education Committee, they were talking a little bit more about looking at State Aid to colleges.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

With regard to the lock-box remarks made by the Budget Director? Is there any disagreement that to use the funds associated with those five positions, would it require a legislative resolution?

**MR. HOLLANDER:**

Say that again?

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Is there any disagreement that to use the funds that are for five positions and as referred to by the Budget Director lock-boxed that to use those funds would required legislative resolution?

**MR. LALIMA:**

My understanding of lock-box means it stays within that particular account.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Do you have any intentions of using that money?

**MR. LALIMA:**

Well as far as -- you mean as far as hiring additional people?

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

In any way, manner, shape or form.

**MR. LALIMA:**

The money, unless again, if I'm not mistaken, it's just within that account for personnel services and instruction and to the extent that it stays in that account that's where it will stay. It's not going to be moved.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Okay.

**MR. HOLLANDER:**

Are you saying that the money is in the lock-box and we can't get to it without something happening?

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

That's what the Budget Director stated. It is part of the adopted budget.

**MR. HOLLANDER:**

Right. So Fred, maybe you need to explain that because I don't think --

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

That's why I want to make sure with six trustees here that there's an understanding about what that account is and how it can be used.

**MR. POLLERT:**

The third resolve clause of the Omnibus bill last year established a lock-box for instructional supplies and equipment, as well as salaries for the twenty-one new full time faculty. Since there's turnover savings associated with them, not all the titles were filled. The college does not have the capability to transfer the money from the instructional line items to the administrative line items. As Ken, the Budget Director had mentioned, the shortfalls are not on the instructional side. The shortfalls are on the administrative side with the college grading new titles, as well as having cost overruns on the administrator side. So they won't be able to take surpluses on the teaching side and move them to the administration side of the budget to meet the administrative salary shortfalls.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Mr. LaLima and Mr. Hollander, do you need any further clarification?

**MR. HOLLANDER:**

Yes but we'll do it after the meeting.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Okay.

**MR. HOLLANDER:**

And we'll get it straight what we need to do.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Legislator Foley, you have a question, John?

**MR. FOLEY:**

Legislator at a former time.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

I said Legislator, I thought -- you're always a Legislator, like a marine, you'll always be an expert. John, I'm sorry.

**MR. FOLEY:**

The need for clarification should be made now, right here and now on the record, because everyone knows where we're going.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

I would agree and I intend to do that. This way everyone knows what --

**MR. FOLEY:**

We've had some fuzzy interpretations on a couple things.

**LEGISLATOR HALEY:**

I'd like that on the record please?

**MR. FOLEY:**

It is on the record.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Okay, all right. I could hear you. I heard the question. Mr. Hollander, you need clarification. We all need clarification. Let me have the Budget Director try to answer this, because sometimes we get into Greenspan ease with Fred Pollert.

**MR. WEISS:**

Well, I think, Fred and I both were looking at the third resolved and I'll read it, if it will settle things. It says resolve the allocation of appropriations contained in this resolution for new full time faculty, additional staff for the multipurpose building. That would be money that would be in the 2210 appropriations and the 2260 appropriations. It shall only be used for purposes of increasing the number of full time faculty at the staffing of the new multi-purpose building at the western campus of the Community College. It shall not be transferred or used for any other purpose without the approval of the Suffolk County Legislature.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Do we need any additional clarification?

**MR. WEISS:**

There's more.

**MR. SACCA:**

If I may? The money that you're speaking about that's money that's going to be transferred from our reserve fund to accomplish that particular item. Is that correct?

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Let Ken answer it.

**MR. WEISS:**

The problem right now is that the deficit in the payroll area is in administration and I don't know where you're going to get the money to transfer to cover that, because the resolution prohibits you from taking it out of the instructional or maintenance areas without a further resolution with the Suffolk County Legislature. So I don't know how you're going to deal with the shortfall in the administration salaries.

**MR. HOLLANDER:**

Aren't we going to have to go to the reserve fund for that?

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Use the microphone, Mike.

**MR. HOLLANDER:**

Aren't we have to go to the reserve fund for that, because the other appropriations that we're looking for, like the increased money from the multi-purpose building, we can't touch until next year. So that we're going to have to do is go into the reserve fund for x amount and then next year, take the money that came in additionally from the increased appropriations that we got this year but we're not allowed to touch.

**MR. WEISS:**

Well, either way, you have to go back to the Suffolk County Legislature to get a fourteen-vote resolution, either taken from the reserve or to transfer it in accordance with this resolution.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Okay, I will ask the question again. Is anyone not clear on what the third

resolve clause means?

**MR. SACCA:**

Well, I'd just like it clarified it a little bit. Because my understanding, at the time we did the budget, was that there was going to be appropriations identified from the reserve fund, in order to allocate the --

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

Two different issues and now I would suggest that after this committee meeting -- I just want to go back to the third resolve clause. Is there any further clarification or disagreement, because if there is, we have to hear it now?

**MR. WEISS:**

But there's more in the third resolve clause.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

Go ahead.

**MR. WEISS:**

Which I should talk about. It continues. The appropriations provided for instructional supplies, in account 8182210-3100 should only be used for purposes -- shall only be used to purchase instructional equipment and shall not be used or transferred for any other purpose without the approval of the Suffolk County Legislature. The college has transferred money.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

Already?

**MR. WEISS:**

Already without the approval of the Budget Office or without the approval of the Legislature.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

How do you suggest that they fix that?

**MR. WEISS:**

Twelve thousand.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Twelve thousand dollars?

**MR. WEISS:**

Yes.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Okay. Is there a mechanism they can use to fix that? So they're not in violation of the --

**MR. WEISS:**

You can transfer it back.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Okay. All right. I would suggest after the meeting, trustees and the budget directors get together and seek any further clarification. So as we move forward everyone is in agreement on an action plan that can be carried out.

**MR. HOLLANDER:**

One request that I have and that is if there has to be a resolution, I respectfully request that a resolution be put together, in order for us to operate the college effectively.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

I would suggest that if you'd like to make that request that it be obviously, a trustee resolution with sufficient justification for consideration by the Legislature. That's going to conclude --

**MR. HOLLANDER:**

Can I say one thing? Just so that we're together on the same thing. I don't know what the twelve thousand dollars is yet but I know at the budget hearing, you know, we tried to sell you on the point that the more our hands got tied in making transfers, the harder it is for us to try and manage a hundred and four million dollar budget. So that's really hard and more

difficult to be able to do it and again, I don't know what the twelve was for but that's it.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Legislator Postal and then we'll close this portion of the committee meeting.

**LEGISLATOR POSTAL:**

I have a couple of questions. I also have a comment, because I just have to say that over the years I've been here, I have been I think, consistently supportive of the Community College but I have a certain level of discomfort at this point. I think I speak for some of the members of the Legislature, with regard to some of the things that have occurred over the recent past, where I get the feeling not everybody is and I'll go back to that same phrase on the same page that there seems to be -- it's almost like there's a language barrier and I have a question, first of all, with regard to the funds in the lock-box for instructional and maintenance purposes? What happens at the end of the year, if those funds are not utilized to those funds? To those funds?

**MR. POLLERT:**

They would close fund balance and they would carry over or it would go to the reserve account but they couldn't be expended for other than their intended purpose and that was part of my concern earlier in my presentation. The college has assumed that they can, in their cut plan, use surpluses in the teaching area to cover shortfalls in the administration area. It does require a legislative resolution. I also agree with Trustee Sacca that the college should not be allowed in their IFMS System to over-expend authorized appropriations. It's illegal. The Comptroller's Office has said that they would more carefully monitor that, so that there are no over expenditures. Currently, their IFMS System does show negative balances. That should not be the case.

The college has to carefully monitor when they're running out of appropriations. They can't decide in July, when this Legislature is in recess that they don't have enough appropriations to meet payroll, they're going to have to deal with the legislative calendar, as well to come up with that fourteen vote resolution sometime in the next month or two to transfer money from the reserve account. Or if that's not adopted, they are going to have to take extreme measures, so that they don't over-expend appropriations.

**LEGISLATOR POSTAL:**

I guess my concern is that the intention, I think, the intention of the Legislature in approving the Omnibus resolution with regard to those monies specifically, was to provide funding for an additional number, an increased number of full time instructional faculty and I guess I'm concerned, worried, disturbed, whatever you want to call it that a certain portion of those monies are not being used and even if they're not transferred by resolution of this Legislature, they still fall into -- at the end of the year, they fall into a surplus. They fall into, you know, they fall off the edge of the earth and they can be used for other things and I really think that it's subverting the intention of the Legislature, which was to put those monies in there so that they could be used for that specific purpose and that there's an incentive now to not fill and just let them hang out there.

So speaking for myself, I would have great, great trouble voting for a resolution, take money out of that. The reserve fund, I think that again, for myself, I would like to at least see the follow-up meeting before this committee to resolve some of the issues, which have been raised and get some answers to the questions, which have been raised before we act on a resolution like that and I would like to ask the college? With regard to turnover savings, because we're going into the next proposed budget and we've heard from the Budget Review Office and the Budget Office that, in essence, they kind of take your word for what you're projecting and even though that there was a slight increase into another savings, it was slight. So I'd like to know when you come back for your follow-up meeting with this committee, if there could be some portion of that meeting that's devoted to addressing how turnover savings is, what the formula is and how you -- because you said yourself that you felt that your projection was an over projection of what could be anticipated in turnover savings. I'd like to know that there's -- that you took a look at it and you said okay, this is how we ended up over projecting this year. Let's see what we're going to do. This is what we're going to do for the future.

**MR. HOLLANDER:**

It would be our intention that the turnover savings that we use next year is going to be a number that the college and Ken and Fred all agree with. So it wouldn't be our intention to go forward with a number that the three of us aren't in sync with.

**LEGISLATOR POSTAL:**

And I understand that but they're telling us that because the college has special needs and special situations, they take your word for it. So the expertise about what's necessary in an educational setting and an academic setting is on the college's side. I think that the Budget Office and the Budget Review Office can address whether it seems financially feasible.

**MR. HOLLANDER:**

Yes but turnover savings is mostly a {guesstimate} of trying to figure out what positions you may not fill too short. What early retirement -- it's really a guesstimate, more so than it is educational academic side of it.

**LEGISLATOR POSTAL:**

I know. What I'm concerned about is Sal said that the projection of the college came up with was an overestimate in the first place. I don't want to see it recur, that's all.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Okay, we're going to conclude this meeting. I'm inviting you back on the 25th of March, I'm sorry 28th of March, for an interim report, as we approach the new academic year and again, I want to repeat what I said earlier, I want to thank all of the trustees that attended today's meeting, encourage you in the future to feel free to attend any and all of this committee, or the Education Committee Meeting, so that we can continue this exchange and dialog. Allan, did you just want to say something?

**MR. GRECCO:**

No.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Okay. If the panel would excuse itself, I'd like to have Ellen Schuler-Mark come up then we'll get to the agenda.

**MS. SCHULER-MARK:**

Thank you, Mike.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Hi.

**MS. SCHULER- MARK:**

Helen Schuler Mark. I'm President of the Faculty Association at Suffolk Community College. Just as a follow-up to this discussion over the college budget. Obviously, all of us at the college are concerned about the shortfall. We're concerned about the impact that it has on the students and the impact that it has, very frankly, on the credibility of the college's ability to manage its finances and provide the educational services and the effect that it has on

the Legislature, in terms of our addressing these kinds of needs. But one of the issues that I'm very concerned about and this was an issue that was raised in August, when the college budget was addressed and that has to deal with the health insurance costs. There are two hundred and twenty five thousand dollars that is over and above what was estimated at the time when the college budget was approved and there was a lot of discussion that evening in August, about what would be an accurate assessment, in terms of the health insurance costs for this year. This is not the first time it's happened. It's a matter of the fact that we're on an academic schedule and our budget process has moved up and the County Budget is on a fiscal basis and so there's always a time lag.

The estimates for health insurance costs for the future year doesn't come along until November, at the earliest, usually in December. So we're always behind the eight ball in that but right now, we're talking about two hundred and twenty five thousand dollars that we know was not budgeted. The college has to pay for it. There was discussion in the horseshoe in August that should this happen that we should definitely come back to the Legislature. That they would most certainly, you know, want to address this issue but meanwhile, we're having to eat the two hundred and twenty five thousand dollars out of a budget that is tight to begin with that was not budgeted and it means that, for instance, so in terms of when you're dealing with supplies or any of these other expenses that are necessary for running the college, they have to be cut out because this is an expense that was not anticipated. That everyone felt that there was more than enough money for it in the college budget but as it turns out there are two hundred and twenty five thousand dollars that there's not and this is a structural problem. This is not a one shot deal that you can take out of the fund balance and put it in and this is something that I think that everyone needs to begin to address.

I don't know how we can rectify the fact that our budget is approved in August. These estimates -- not the estimates, the actual costs come out in December, but there has to be some sort of mechanism within the County to address this. Because year after year after year, I've been here when the college has to come in. They have to, you know, address their budget needs and they have to take it out of instructional lines. They have to take it out of supplies. They have to take it out of equipment, because it's a cost that can't be avoided and it is never budgeted.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Well, I'd like to see if we can address that question in part right now with the Budget Director since they prepare the budget. Ken.

**MR. WEISS:**

Health insurance has recently become one of our fastest growing expenses. We have the same problem in the County. If the health expense exceed what

we have in the budget, then we have to find money somewhere else. Maybe what the college has to do when they request an amount in the budget, is they have to, you know, have the same crystal ball that Fred and I have, when we have to try to figure out what it's going to be and maybe ask for more money.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

How much more money? Let's get that on the record.

**MR. WEISS:**

You know it's running --

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

On a percentage basis? I mean, is there -- characteristically, year in and year out, as Ellen mentioned, it's always more than what is proposed. So given that, I mean is that accurate? Ken why don't you get the other microphone there, so we can try to address this issue.

**MR. POLLERT:**

Ken and myself have to do a multi-year operating budget forecast. It's a good prudent thing to do but it's also required by Charter. We are forecasting an eight percent increase in health insurance for 2002, 2003. It could be some noise but it's also dependent upon the number of people that the Community College is hiring. So if the board creates additional titles, there are additional costs for health insurance but a good ballpark that the college should be using is an eight percent growth. If they want to be conservative, they should use a nine percent growth in the formulation of the budget.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

So you feel eight or nine percent would be a comfortable margin for them to use? Fred, is that right? Above and beyond the previous year?

**MR. WEISS:**

But also --

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

The answer was yes. The answer was yes, right? Okay, because I see some of the trustees taking notes and the Budget Office. Okay. Ken did you want to amplify or add anything to that because we are going to go to the agenda.

**MR. WEISS:**

Yes. Also if the college is going to hire additional employees that are not anticipated, right now there's six new positions that we didn't anticipate, you know, six positions, if they are, you know, could be seven thousand dollars --

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

Then you have to add our expenditures for additional health insurance benefits.

**MR. WEISS:**

And if you're going to have employees retiring because now you have the new employees' replacements, you have the retirees, so you know there is some things that are in the control of the college.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

Understood and I would suggest that when you meet with Chuck, this is one of the areas you focus on, so that we don't have, as Ellen pointed out, the structural imbalance carrying over from year to year. Thank you all very much.

**MS. SCHULER-MACK:**

I just want to add one comment in terms --

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

Final word.

**MS. SCHULER-MACK:**

In terms of the health insurance costs. The health insurance costs are running about probably eight to nine percent per employee. It's not, you know, from one year to the next. Because obviously in the Health Insurance Committee, we have to look at what the costs are per employee per year. So if we're dealing with a flat number, in terms of employees, you can do eight or nine percent. If you're anticipating an increased number of employees and let's just take the, you know, twenty one and fourteen positions, then it's going to have to increased accordingly.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

Right.

**MS. SCHULER-MACK:**

So you can't just eight or ten --

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

I think we all understood that. Absolutely. Right, okay. Thank you all very much and if Legislator Haley would return to the horseshoe, we'll get to today's agenda. Okay, we'll start with tabled prime resolution 2041. Is there a motion? Mr. Weiss, would you like to comment on 2041? I know in conversations with members of the executive branch, they indicated to me they were not in favor of moving this resolution. Has anything changed that I'm not aware of?

**MR. WEISS:**

No.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Okay. I'll make a motion to table. Okay, motion to table, second by Legislator Alden. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? The motion is unanimous.

**TABLED PRIME:**

**Year 2000**

**I.R. NO. 2041 (P) Adopting Local Law No. Year 2000, A Charter Law authorizing local municipal funding of Suffolk County Capital Projects. ASSIGNED TO FINANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICES (County Executive)**

**VOTE: 4-0-0-0 TABLED**

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Tabled non-prime. The Chair is going to make a motion to defer to prime committee, second by Legislator Alden. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? Unanimous.

**TABLED - NON PRIME:**

**I.R. NO. 1021 Adopting Local Law No. 2001, a Charter Law to authorize low interest borrowing for land and water protection under**

**the 1/4% Environmental Protection Program. ASSIGNED TO ENVIRONMENT, LAND ACQUISITION AND PLANNING AND FINANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES (Legislator David Bishop)**

**VOTE: 4-0-0-0 DEFER TO PRIME**

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

I.R. Prime in this committee is 1057. Motion to approve, second by Legislator Postal. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? Unanimous.

**INTRODUCTORY RESOLUTIONS - PRIME:**

**I.R. NO. 1057 (P) To readjust, compromise and grant refunds and charge backs on correction of errors/County Treasurer By: County Legislature #116. (County Executive)**

**VOTE: 4-0-0-0 APPROVED PLACED ON CONSENT CALENDAR**

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

1058, same motion, same second, same vote.

**I.R. NO. 1058 (P) To readjust, compromise, grant refunds and charge backs on correction of errors/County Treasurer By: County Legislature #117. ASSIGNED TO FINANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICES. (County Executive)**

**VOTE: 4-0-0-0 APPROVED PLACED ON CONSENT CALENDAR**

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

1059, same motion, same second, same vote.

**I.R. NO. 1059 (P) To readjust, compromise and grant refunds and charge-backs on real property correct of error By: County Legislature Control No. 664-2001. ASSIGNED TO FINANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICES. (County Executive)**

**VOTE: 4-0-0-0 APPROVED PLACED ON CONSENT CALENDAR**

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

Motion by Legislator Alden, second by Legislator Haley to place on the consent calendar. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? Unanimous. 1057, 58,

59 will be placed on the consent calendar. I.R. 1024, motion by Legislator Caracciolo. Is there a second? Seconded by Legislator Postal. Is there a public hearing pending?

**MR. SABATINO:**

No, it was tabled in the prime committee. I thought maybe you wanted to track that.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Not really.

**LEGISLATOR POSTAL:**

Just a very brief explanation?

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Explanation, sure. What this resolution seeks to do is to provide pilots to locales in the County that have property taken off the tax rolls to provide assistance to local school districts primarily, for lands that are taken off the property tax rolls. There's a motion and a second. All in favor? Yes, I think you have some in the sixth district, as I recall.

**LEGISLATOR HALEY:**

Poor Mount Sinai Schools right? I know that I took two major parcels off their tax rolls. I'm just curious of what the impact is. I mean, if we're going to provide pilot payments that can be a substantial sum of money.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

Fred, do we have an FIS on this resolution?

**MR. POLLERT:**

I haven't reviewed and signed it yet, so it's not --

**LEGISLATOR HALEY:**

Motion to table.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Okay, do you have any idea? Well, under our rules we couldn't entertain the resolution under those circumstances? So I'll entertain the motion to table, seconded by Legislator Alden. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**INTRODUCTORY NON - PRIME:**

**I.R. NO. 1024 Adopting Local Law No. 2001, A Charter Law to authorize payments in lieu of taxes (PILOTS) for Suffolk County Community Greenways Fund. ASSIGNED TO ENVIRONMENT, LAND ACQUISITION & PLANNING AND FINANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICES**  
*(Legislator Michael Caracciolo)*

**VOTE: 4-0-0-0 TABLED**

It will be ready for us the next cycle, Fred?

**MR. POLLERT:**

Yes, it will.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Thank you. 1026 motion by the Chair, second by Legislator Postal. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? Unanimous.

**I.R. NO. 1026 Amending the 2001 Capital Program and Budget and appropriating planning funds for the construction of a children's shelter, Yaphank (CP 3012.110) ASSIGNED TO PUBLIC SAFETY & PUBLIC INFORMATION AND FINANCE, FINANCIAL SERVICE**  
*(Legislator Michael Caracciolo)*

**VOTE: 4-0-0-0 APPROVED**

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

1032, same motion, same second, same vote.

**I.R. NO. 1032 Appropriating planning funds for historic structure report of the Horan House, Timber Point County Park, Town of Islip. (CP 7510.118) ASSIGNED TO PARKS, SPORTS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND FINANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICES (Legislator Ginny Fields)**

**VOTE: 4-0-0-0 APPROVED**

**LEGISLATOR HALEY:**

Mr. Chair?

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

Yes.

**LEGISLATOR HALEY:**

I have in my booklet a resolution 1041 that I thought might -- was supposed to be in this committee.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

1041.

**LEGISLATOR HALEY:**

Exempting disabled veterans from paying green key card park fees.

**LEGISLATOR ALDEN:**

It is prime in Vets.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

Are we non-prime, counsel?

**MR. SABATINO:**

1041, veterans was prime and parks was second.

**LEGISLATOR HALEY:**

All right, I showed it -- my book said it was supposed to be with secondary.  
All right.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

Okay. 1073 motion by the Chair, second by Legislator Postal. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? Unanimous.

**I.R. NO. 1073 Appropriating funds in connection with the purchase and installation of equipment for EMS/ALS (CP 3205) ASSIGNED TO HEALTH AND FINANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICES (County Executive)**

**VOTE: 4-0-0-0 APPROVED**

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

1074, same motion, same second, same vote.

**I.R. NO. 1074 Amending the 2001 Capital Budget and Program and appropriating funds for the County share of Construction for parking facilities at the Ronkonkoma Railroad Station. (CP 5660) ASSIGNED TO PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION AND FINANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICES (County Executive)**

**VOTE: 4-0-0-0 APPROVED**

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

1075, same motion, same second, same vote.

**I.R. NO. 1076 Appropriating funds in connection with the improvement to County Center, C001, Riverhead (CP 1643) ASSIGNED TO PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION AND FINANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICES (County Executive)**

**VOTE: 4-0-0-0 APPROVED**

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILO:**

1076, same motion, same second, same vote.

**I.R. NO. 1076 Appropriating funds in connection with the improvements to water supply systems, various County Buildings. (CP 1724) ASSIGNED TO PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION AND FINANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICES (County Executive)**

**VOTE: 4-0-0-0 APPROVED**

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

1077, same motion, same second, same vote.

**I.R. NO. 1077 Appropriating funds in connection with replacement clean up to Fossil, Fuel, Toxic and Hazardous Material Storage Tanks. (CP 1706) ASSIGNED TO PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION AND FINANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICES (County Executive)**

**VOTE: 4-0-0-0 APPROVED**

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

1078, same motion, same second, same vote. Unanimous.

**I.R. NO. 1078 Appropriating funds in connection with the removal of Toxic and Hazardous Building Materials and Components at Various County Facilities. (CP 1732) ASSIGNED TO PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION AND FINANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICES (County Executive)**

**VOTE: 4-0-0-0 APPROVED**

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

1079, same motion, same second.

**LEGISLATOR POSTAL:**

Can we make a motion to -- oh, are we prime in this?

**LEGISLATOR HALEY:**

Not prime.

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

A motion to approve by the Chair, second by Legislator Postal. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? Unanimous.

**I.R. NO. 1079 Accepting and appropriating 100% additional Federal Pass-Thru grant funds from the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services for the S.T.O.P. Violence against Women Program and**

**authorizing the County Executive to execute grant related agreements. ASSIGNED TO SOCIAL SERVICES AND FINANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICES (County Executive)**

**VOTE: 4-0-0-0 APPROVED**

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

1080, same motion, same second, same vote.

**I.R. NO. 1080 Accepting and appropriating 100% Federal Funds for a Food Stamp Nutrition Education Program and authorizing the Commissioner of Social Services and the County Executive a contract with the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County. ASSIGNED TO SOCIAL SERVICES AND FINANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICE (County Executive)**

**VOTE: 4-0-0-0 APPROVED**

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

1085, same motion, same second, same vote.

**I.R. NO. 1085 Appropriating funds in connection with the planning, construction and alterations of Courtrooms for Criminal Courts, Riverhead County Center Complex (CP 1124) ASSIGNED TO WAYS & MEANS AND FINANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICES (County Executive)**

**VOTE: 4-0-0-0 APPROVED**

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

1086, same motion, same second, same vote.

**I.R. NO. 1086 Appropriating funds in connection with the renovations/improvements to Cohalan Court Complex (CP 1125) ASSIGNED TO WAYS & MEANS AND FINANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICES (County Executive)**

**VOTE: 4-0-0-0 APPROVED**

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

1087, same motion, same second, same vote.

**I.R. NO. 1087 Amending the 2001 Capital Budget and Program and appropriating funds in connection with the restoration of Coindre Hall Main Building, boat house and dock and the stabilization of pump house buildings, Town of Huntington (CP 7096) ASSIGNED TO PARKS, SPORTS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND FINANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICES (County Executive)**

**VOTE: 4-0-0-0 APPROVED**

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

1088, same motion, same second, same vote.

**I.R. NO. 1088 Amending the 2001 Capital Budget and Program and appropriating funds in connection with the construction of improvements to County Marinas (CP 7109) ASSIGNED TO PARKS, SPORTS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND FINANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICES (County Executive)**

**VOTE: 4-0-0-0 APPROVED**

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

1089, same motion, same second, same vote.

**I.R. NO. 1089 Amending the 2001 Capital Budget and Program and appropriating funds in connection with the restoration of Smith Point County Park (CP 7162) ASSIGNED TO PARKS, SPORTS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND FINANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICES (County Executive)**

**VOTE: 4-0-0-0 APPROVED**

**CHAIRMAN CARACCILOLO:**

1090, same motion, same second, same vote.

**I.R. NO. 1090 Appropriating funds in connection with the implementation of improvements to County Golf Courses - Timber Point (CP 7166) ASSIGNED TO PARKS, SPORTS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND FINANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICES (County Executive)**

**VOTE: 4-0-0-0 APPROVED**

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

And 1091, same motion, same second, same vote.

**I.R. NO. 1091 Approving funds in connection with the implementation of improvements to County golf Courses - Timber Point (CP 7166)**  
**ASSIGNED TO PARKS, SPORTS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND FINANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICES (County Executive)**

**VOTE: 4-0-0-0 APPROVED**

**CHAIRMAN CARACCIOLO:**

That concludes today's agenda. I thank everyone for attending.

***(The meeting was adjourned at 11***