

March 9, 2005

COMMUNITY SERVICES
REPORT NO. 2

ALL MEMBERS PRESENT.

1. RESOLVED, that the following items are hereby received and filed.
 - a. INTRO 10-14 (2004)
WEINSTEIN: Sale of Erie County Medical Center
(5-0)
 - b. COMM. 16M-9 (2004)
ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION OF ECC - LOCAL 330 UAW: Certified Resolution Supporting the Three Campuses of ECC in Their Present Location
(5-0)
 - c. COMM. 19M-47 (2004)
ERIE COUNTY POMONA GRANGE #6: Certified Resolution Opposing ECC Merger
(5-0)
 - d. INTRO 20-13 (2004)
SMITH: EC Probation Participation in Bar Sweeps & Block Club Meetings
(5-0)
 - e. COMM. 4D-14 (2005)
HEALTH: Proposed Amendments to the EC Sanitary Code and Notice of Public Hearing on Amendment on 2/24/05
(5-0)
 - f. COMM. 4M-4 (2005)
NYS OFFICE OF TEMPORARY & DISABILITY ASSISTANCE: Letter to Chairman Re: Changes in Local Discretion of TANF Funds
(5-0)
2. INTRO 13-3 (2004)
WEINSTEIN & DEBENEDETTI
WHEREAS, in 1997, New York State Senator Anthony Nanula proposed merging Erie Community College's (ECC) two suburban campuses into the existing city campus in downtown Buffalo, and

WHEREAS, that proposal was rejected by the ECC Board of Trustees and leadership, and its students, and was similarly rejected by Erie County Legislators, including the suburban legislators from both political parties who represented the areas where the two suburban campuses are located, and

WHEREAS, in August 2000, ECC initiated a process to create an institutional assessment/feasibility study to assist in the ultimate creation of a master plan, and

WHEREAS, in 2001, County Executive Joel Giambra initiated a process of studying ECC with the apparent aim of consolidating its two suburban campuses into the city campus, and

WHEREAS, at the request of the County Executive, the Erie County Legislature approved the hiring of a consultant, Resultants International, at a cost of \$400,000 to undertake the institutional assessment/feasibility study and to conduct a wide-ranging review of the college, including curriculum, staffing, and campus infrastructure and locations, and

WHEREAS, in early 2002, in his State of the County address, the County Executive called for the consolidation of ECC's campuses into a single downtown Buffalo campus and the relocation of the approximately 8,000 suburban campus students to a new, larger city campus – an idea reacted to with alarm and concern by ECC students and their parents at that time, and

WHEREAS, in May 2002, the Resultants study was released and it pointedly did not recommend a single campus, but rather recommended that suburban campuses be maintained, each with a distinctive mission and focus on specific programs, and

WHEREAS, responding to the report, in January 2003, the County Executive sought out a new consultant to undertake a new master plan for ECC, and

WHEREAS, in February 2003, without consultation with representatives from Niagara County Community College (NCCC), the County Executive proposed that ECC and NCCC explore a merger – an idea that NCCC officials rejected then and again in November 2003, and

WHEREAS, at the request of the County Executive, in March 2003, the Erie County Legislature approved a \$627,000 contract to retain eight separate consultants to conduct a facilities master plan study of ECC's long-term options and campus sites, and

WHEREAS, at that point, legislators representing the areas of the suburban campuses expressed reservations concerning the County Executive's consolidated campus proposal, and

WHEREAS, that study was conducted throughout 2003 with little to no inclusion of the public nor the Legislature in the study or the process, and

WHEREAS, all meetings of the ECC Working Committee which included ECC, Legislature and Executive representatives were canceled during 2003, and

WHEREAS, in November 2003, just days after his reelection, the County Executive announced that his "Topic 1" priority in his second term was closing the two suburban campuses, and merging them into a single downtown campus and eventually merging ECC with NCCC, and

WHEREAS, demonstrating the preponderance of suburban students in the college's current and future enrollment, and the need to maintain suburban campuses, at Spring 2004, of the 12,354 enrolled students at the three campuses, 6,173, or 50% attend the north campus, 3,356, or 27% attend south campus, and 2,825, or 23% attend the city campus, and

WHEREAS, the consultants delivered the Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement (DGEIS) to the Giambra Administration in late 2003 and to the ECC Board of Trustees in January 2004, and

WHEREAS, on February 9, 2004, the County Executive stated that he was seeking to close the two suburban campuses, and

WHEREAS, in mid-March 2004, a copy of the DGEIS became available to the Erie County Legislature, and

WHEREAS, the DGEIS proposes three plans for ECC, with alternative one maintaining the three campuses as currently arranged and using traditional public funding mechanisms to make necessary repairs and upgrades at a potential total cost of \$132.6 million, and

WHEREAS, alternative two creates a single consolidated campus in downtown Buffalo and sells the suburban campuses to developers for future development and/or greenspace at a potential total cost of \$166.5 million, and

WHEREAS, alternative three retains the three campuses but creates a more active participation between the public and private sectors working together to completely rehabilitate and modernize and expand the existing three campuses and create student dormitory housing on both suburban campuses at a potential total cost of \$134 million, and

WHEREAS, prior to the release of the DGEIS to the public in March 2004, three community forums were held by members of the Legislature in late February 2004, and public meetings were held by the ECC Board of Trustees in early May 2004, and

WHEREAS, many residents at those meetings, as well as a majority of ECC students, parents, faculty and staff and some trustees expressed concern and opposition to the consolidation proposal, stating their desire that the suburban campuses be maintained, and with ECC faculty, staff and trustees pointing out that their sole mission is to educate and train students for future careers – not promote economic development per se, and

WHEREAS, in a survey of 6,993 ECC students conducted by ECC itself in Spring 2004, 66% of students said they would transfer to another college if the college was consolidated in a downtown Buffalo campus, and 75% of those nearly 7,000 students expressed opposition to the County Executive's consolidation proposal, and

WHEREAS, residents and college and local government officials have expressed concern that any consolidation plan might lead to a massive loss of student population to neighboring community colleges or other academic institutions, resulting in significant financial losses for the college and its sponsors, and

WHEREAS, residents and college and local government officials have expressed concern that any consolidation plan might lead to the unwise private redevelopment of the Amherst and Orchard Park campuses, the elimination of greenspaces at those sites, and the further loss of parks and playing fields in those communities, and

WHEREAS, residents and college and local government officials have expressed concern that the consolidation plan would cost significantly more than any other alternatives in the DGEIS or other possibilities not included in or contemplated in the DGEIS, resulting in a significant financial burden for the college, the State University of New York, and Erie County at a time when each entity is facing significant financial pressures and difficulty,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature expresses its opposition to any consolidation proposal or plan that closes the suburban campuses in Amherst and Orchard Park and which does not take into account the wishes and needs of the students and faculty and staff of ECC, as well as the local residents and local governments in those suburban communities, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Honorable Body expresses its support for a facilities master plan and a DGEIS that recognizes the important role the suburban campuses play for commuter students, non-traditional students, and students who might otherwise not attend college, and embraces the needs and demands of the college's constituency – its students, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Honorable Body calls on the ECC Board and leadership to work with the County Administration, the Legislature, and others to develop new proposals for the future rehabilitation and improvement of the three campuses, including facilities and curriculum, and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be transmitted to the ECC Board of Trustees, ECC President, SUNY Chancellor, County Executive, and to the ECC Faculty Federation, ECC Administrator Association, CSEA, AFSCME, SES, and ECC Student Association.

Fiscal Impact: Not known at this time.

(5-0)

3. COMM. 4E-21 (2005)

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

WHEREAS, the Erie County Legislature has already appropriated funds for the Expanded In-home Services for the Elderly Program (EISEP) and the Community Services for the Elderly (CSE) grants for the period April 1, 2004 to March 31, 2005, and for the Area Agency for Aging grant (III-B) for the period January 1, 2004 to December 31, 2004, and

WHEREAS, the New York State Office for the Aging decreased the funding for CSE and EISEP, and

WHEREAS, the Department has reviewed the budgets and actual costs of carrying out the programs' objectives, and

WHEREAS, the Department and three of the Cluster agencies have identified CSE funds that the Custer agency will be unable to use prior to March 31, 2005, and

WHEREAS, the Department desires to allocate these funds to benefit the entire case management network by covering all home care and day care costs, and

WHEREAS, the grant budgets are in need of revision.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the EISEP grant budget, Project 163EISEP0405, be revised as follows:

		CURRENT BUDGET	CHANGES	AMENDED BUDGET
REVENUES				
Account	Description			
409000	State Aid Revenues	\$1,448,951	-\$41,573	\$1,407,378
	Other Revenue-Grant			
466100	Program	\$111,620	<u>-\$14,500</u>	97,120
	TOTAL CHANGE		<u><u>-\$56,073</u></u>	
APPROPRIATIONS				
500000	Full time Salaries	\$394,751	-\$30,941	\$363,810
505000	Office Supplies	3,000	-1,500	1,500
516020	Other Projected Agencies	16,584	-16,584	0
516020	Home Care Services	1,083,780	26,952	1,110,732
530000	Other Expenses	9,930	-4,000	5,930
980000	ID DISS Services	37,571	<u>-30,000</u>	7,571
	TOTAL CHANGE		<u><u>-\$56,073</u></u>	

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the CSE grant budget, Project 163CSE0405, be revised as follows:

		CURRENT BUDGET	CHANGES	AMENDED BUDGET
REVENUES				
Account	Description			
409000	State Aid Revenues	\$927,327	<u>-\$18,363</u>	\$908,964
	TOTAL CHANGE		<u><u>-\$18,363</u></u>	
APPROPRIATIONS				
500000	Full time Salaries	\$164,219	-\$38,925	\$125,294
502000	Fringe Benefits	49,381	-6,781	42,600
516010	BFNC	100,728	-5,000	95,728
516010	Lt. Col. Matt Urban Center	113,948	-3,000	110,948
516010	St. Augustine Comm.	147,374	-10,500	136,874

	Center			
516020	Other Projected Agencies	1,135	-1,135	0
516020	Home Care Services	0	51,978	51,978
980000	ID DISS Services	20,831	<u>-5,000</u>	15,831
	TOTAL CHANGE		<u><u>-\$18,363</u></u>	

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the III-B grant budget, Project 163III-B2004, be revised as follows:

		CURRENT BUDGET	CHANGES	AMENDED BUDGET
APPROPRIATIONS				
Account	Description			
500000	Personal Services	\$954,331	-\$55,000	\$899,331
516020	Adult Day Care Services	51,153	<u>55,000</u>	106,153
	TOTAL CHANGE		<u><u>\$0</u></u>	

and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the County Executive's Office, the Comptroller's Office, the Division of Budget, Management and Finance and the Department of Senior Services.

(5-0)

4. COMM. 6E-21 (2005)

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

WHEREAS, the Erie County Public Health Laboratories are responsible for laboratory services for the Erie County Departments, other government agencies, local health care providers and hospitals, and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and the Prevention/Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) have requested that the Erie County Public Health Laboratories conduct a survey to assess antibiotic susceptibility of gonorrhea (GC) in Erie County, and

WHEREAS, the Association of Public Health Laboratories has agreed to Reimburse the Erie County Public Health Laboratories for the cost of this survey, and

WHEREAS, the Erie County Public Health Laboratories 2005 General Operating Budget needs to be modified to accomplish this survey.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature hereby authorizes the County Executive to enter into an agreement with the Association of Public Health Laboratories for services to be budgeted as follows:

**Erie County Public Health Laboratory
GC Susceptibility Survey**

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>
416610	PH Lab Fees – APHL Survey	<u>\$15,000</u>
	TOTAL	<u>\$15,000</u>
	EXPENSES	
505800	Laboratory & Medical Supplies	<u>\$15,000</u>
	TOTAL	<u>\$15,000</u>

and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the County Executive, the Department of Health, the Office of the Comptroller, the Division of Budget, Management and Finance, and the Department of Law.

(5-0)

TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY
CHAIRMAN