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NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

RULES COMMITTEE

RICHARD NICOLELLO, Chairman

1550 Franklin Avenue
Mineola, New York

Monday, January 11, 2021
1:13 P.M

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

RICHARD NICOLELLO ,
Chairman

HOWARD KOPEL ,
Vice Chairman

STEVE RHOADS

LAURA SCHAEFER

KEVAN ABRAHAMS ,
Ranking

DELIA DERIGGI-WHITTON

SIELA BYNOE (1:19 p.m.)

MICHAEL C. PULITZER ,
Clerk of the Legislature

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LIST OF SPEAKERS

COMMISSIONER KEN ARNOLD 10

TORI KASO 25

BRIAN CURRAN 29

WILLIAM FIELD 30

BRIAN LIBERT 35

NANCY STANTON 39

LIONEL CHITTY 44

REGINA WILLIAMS 64

RHONDA MACO 75

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: I would like
3 to call the Rules Committee to order and ask
4 Legislator Schaefer to lead us in the Pledge
5 of Allegiance.

6 (The Pledge of Allegiance was
7 recited.)

8 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: All right.
9 Mike, call the roll.

10 CLERK PULITZER: Yes, sir. Rules
11 Committee roll call. Legislator Siela
12 Bynoe? Ms. Bynoe?

13 (No verbal response.)

14 CLERK PULITZER: Legislator Delia
15 DeRiggi-Whitton?

16 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Here.

17 CLERK PULITZER: Ranking member
18 Kevan Abrahams?

19 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Here.

20 CLERK PULITZER: Thank you.
21 Legislator Laura Schaefer?

22 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Here.

23 CLERK PULITZER: Legislator
24 Steven Rhoads?

25 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Present.

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 CLERK PULITZER: Vice chairman
3 Howard Kopel?

4 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Here.

5 CLERK PULITZER: Legislator Siela
6 Bynoe again?

7 (No verbal response.)

8 And Chairman Richard Nicolello?

9 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Here.

10 CLERK PULITZER: We have a
11 quorum, sir.

12 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Thank you.

13 As we always do, we will start off with the
14 contracts which we will call all at once.

15 Let's get started. B-1, B-3, B-4, B-5, B-6
16 of 2021, resolutions authorizing the County
17 Executive to award and execute contracts
18 between the county and 192 Branch Interior
19 Services, Inc., Palace Electrical
20 Contractors, RJ Industries, Polaris
21 Electrical Construction Corp., Eldor
22 Contracting Corp.

23 E-146, a resolution authorizing
24 the County Executive to execute a use and
25 occupancy agreement between the county and

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 Smith & DeGroat Real Estate.

3 E-1, E-2, E-3, E-4, E-5, E-6,
4 E-7, E-8, E-10, E-11, E-12, E-13 and U-1 of
5 2021, these are resolutions authorizing the
6 County Executive to execute personal
7 services agreements or amendments to
8 personal services agreements between the
9 county and Hazen and Sawyer, Wildlife In
10 Need of Rescue, Public Safety Communication
11 Officials International, C&R Automotive,
12 Campanelli & Associates, Helinet Aviation
13 Services, Contemporary Computer Services,
14 IIT, Inc., Greenman Pederson, Inc., Mason
15 Tillman Associates, Precise Court Reporting,
16 Top Key Court Reporting and Sheehan &
17 Company, CPA, PC.

18 Motion to put those before us?

19 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: So
20 moved.

21 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Second.

22 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Moved by
23 Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton, seconded by
24 Legislator Rhoads.

25 Before we start going into that,

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 I need a motion to untable A-50 of 2020
3 which is a resolution authorizing the
4 commissioner of shared services to award and
5 execute a blanket purchase order between the
6 county and Hinck Electrical Contracting.

7 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: So moved.

8 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:

9 Second.

10 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Moved by
11 Legislator Rhoads, seconded by Legislator
12 DeRiggi-Whitton.

13 Lastly I need a motion to suspend
14 the rules.

15 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: So moved.

16 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:

17 Second.

18 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Moved by
19 Legislator Rhoads, seconded by Legislator
20 DeRiggi-Whitton. As to the motion to
21 suspend the rules, all in favor signify by
22 saying aye.

23 (Aye.)

24 Those opposed?

25 (No verbal response.)

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 The rules are suspended.

3 I know I didn't take a motion to
4 untable that item so we will have to have a
5 vote on that. Had a motion, a second. On
6 the motion to untable A-50 of 2020 signify
7 by saying aye.

8 (Aye.)

9 Those opposed?

10 (No verbal response.)

11 Carries unanimously.

12 Lastly, I'm going to call E-171
13 of 2020, a resolution authorizing the County
14 Executive to execute a personal services
15 agreement between the county and PFM
16 Financial Advisors.

17 Need a motion for that one.

18 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: So
19 moved.

20 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Second.

21 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Moved by
22 Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton, seconded by
23 Legislator Schaefer.

24 Now all those items are before
25 us. Actually we are going to start off with

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 a couple of other contracts before we get to
3 public works, Ken.

4 Public administrator. So we are
5 going to start off with U-1 of 2021, a
6 contract with Sheehan & Company, CPA. I
7 thought we would do that one first because
8 it's a small contract, a stand alone
9 contract. Doesn't look like a public
10 administrator is here now so let's go to the
11 next contract which is going to be untabled.

12 For the record Legislator Bynoe
13 is here.

14 With respect to E-171 of 2020, it
15 was called. We're going to table that
16 matter. Motion to table.

17 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: So moved.

18 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Second.

19 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Moved by
20 Legislator Rhoads, seconded by Legislator
21 Bynoe. All in favor of tabling E-171 of
22 2020 signify by saying aye.

23 (Aye.)

24 Those opposed?

25 (No verbal response.)

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 Carries unanimously.

3 There's one other contract to
4 untable, E-2 of 2021 related to Wildlife in
5 Need Of Rescue. The IGA is still
6 investigating that so we need a motion to
7 table that one as well.

8 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: So
9 moved.

10 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Second.

11 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Moved by
12 Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton, seconded by
13 Legislator Schaefer. All in favor of
14 tabling signify by saying aye.

15 (Aye.)

16 Those opposed?

17 (No verbal response.)

18 That's tabled as well.

19 Now we will do public works
20 contracts.

21 MR. ARNOLD: Ken Arnold, public
22 works.

23 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Ken, take a
24 look at that. We put that up there.

25 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Go ahead,

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 road warrior.

3 MR. ARNOLD: I'll start with B-1.
4 B-1 is a requirements contract for our
5 asbestos and lead remediation services. The
6 contract is four years with a cap of \$2
7 million. We received two bids and Branch
8 was the lowest responsible bidder and they
9 will fulfil the work and they are an MBE
10 firm.

11 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: I'm sorry.
12 Is there any debate or discussion as to 192.
13 Legislator Schaefer.

14 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Hi. Just
15 wondering, what issues are they going to
16 address, what particular buildings?

17 MR. ARNOLD: We have two
18 contractors that work on our our asbestos
19 and lead issues. We have Broderick which is
20 our consultant services contract and then we
21 have Branch who does the actual remediation
22 of lead or asbestos.

23 So as my facilities people or any
24 other contractor that runs across these
25 types of issues, we typically look to use

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 these contracts instead of issuing change
3 orders in other contracts to address these
4 issues.

5 So, as an example, if there's a
6 lead issue at a building, we would bring
7 Broderick in to do a consultant services and
8 then we would hire Branch under a work order
9 to remediate the situation.

10 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Are there
11 are any that you are particularly looking to
12 have addressed now?

13 MR. ARNOLD: For asbestos, things
14 come up all at time. A good example is,
15 police headquarters is an asbestos building,
16 so any time my guys do work there, we
17 usually have to have the contractor come in
18 first to remediate any asbestos on the hot
19 water piping or steam piping and then my
20 staff will go in and do the work that's
21 required.

22 Same thing with lead. If we have
23 an issue with a housing unit that has to be
24 remediated we will take care of that using
25 this contract.

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Okay, thank
3 you.

4 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Any other
5 questions?

6 (No verbal response.)

7 Go on to the next one.

8 MR. ARNOLD: The next item is
9 B-3. B-3 is an electrical contract
10 associated with HVAC and fire alarm upgrades
11 at the Police Highway Patrol Facility in
12 Bellmore. Palace was the only bidder for
13 the work. The bid was significantly lower
14 than our engineer's estimate and they're
15 proposing one percent MBE on the project.

16 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: I think the
17 backup says the bids were opened in December
18 of 2019 and it's getting presented to us
19 now. What was the delay on this?

20 MR. ARNOLD: We had some issues
21 getting all the packages together with
22 Palace. They had some things we had to
23 straighten out with them and we also had to
24 work out our financing plan on our cash flow
25 so we were looking to get that project set

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 up for the right timing for that.

3 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: The other
4 question we had was, only one vendor
5 submitted a bid for this?

6 MR. ARNOLD: Yes.

7 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Why do you
8 think that is?

9 MR. ARNOLD: Well, we believe --
10 this is the electrical component of this job
11 and there's also a HVAC contractor and when
12 we don't go Wicks Law which is Wicks Law,
13 when these contractors have to work together
14 sometimes we don't get a lot of bids on the
15 smaller jobs.

16 We typically look to do PLAs
17 which eliminates that issue but this job did
18 qualify for a PLA.

19 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Anyone else
20 have any questions?

21 (No verbal response.)

22 Next B-4.

23 MR. ARNOLD: B-4 is a
24 construction contract to upgrade the sludge
25 dewatering facility at the Glen Cove plant.

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 Seven bids were received and RJ Industries
3 was the lowest responsible bidder. The bid
4 was below the engineer's estimate and NWBE
5 is at 20 percent for this project.

6 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Questions?

7 (No verbal response.)

8 There is a sizeable contract. Is
9 there a specific budget for the Glen Cove
10 facility?

11 MR. ARNOLD: Well, we have a
12 total cash flow setup for all of SSW and
13 Glen Cove is part of that work as we look at
14 how much we can spend per year.

15 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Do we know
16 in terms of over the long term how much has
17 been spent at the Glen Cove sewage treatment
18 plant?

19 MR. ARNOLD: I went back and
20 looked at that. Since 2014 everything that
21 we have planned right now we are looking at
22 about \$30 million.

23 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Any other
24 questions? Legislator Schaefer.

25 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Hi. I

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 know you said -- it sounded like you said
3 this was part of a package or that it's
4 funding that's going to be coming out of a
5 larger amount of funding. Do you know how
6 much specifically you will be allotting to
7 the Glen Cove sewage treatment facility when
8 this passes?

9 MR. ARNOLD: I don't have those
10 numbers in front of me. I know when the
11 question was asked and emailed Chris Astuni,
12 I looked at what I had spent and what I'm
13 planning to spend currently and that's the
14 \$30 million.

15 I think I had two or three larger
16 projects that we completed so it's probably
17 \$15 million moving forward right now that I
18 have laid out in the next couple of years.

19 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Okay.

20 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Are there
21 any other questions? Legislator Bynoe.

22 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Thank you,
23 Presiding Officer. Good afternoon,
24 Commissioner Arnold. So you said it's lower
25 than the engineer's estimate. Am I accurate

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 to say that it's about 1.6 or \$1.5 million
3 less than the engineer's estimate?

4 MR. ARNOLD: Yes. The
5 engineer's estimate was 7.8 million and this
6 came in at 6.2.

7 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: So kind of a
8 significant difference. Are we comfortable
9 that this entity will be able to do this
10 work at this price point?

11 MR. ARNOLD: Yes. We had our
12 design consultant, H2M do the analysis and
13 they assured us they can do the work for the
14 price that was proposed.

15 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Because it
16 seems significantly --

17 MR. ARNOLD: Yes. I share your
18 concerns and that's why we have our design
19 consultants always go back and sit with the
20 contractors and make sure there are no
21 unexpected issues that are going to come up,
22 that they're going to try to get me through
23 change orders or something to that affect,
24 so we do have that conversation.

25 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: That's exactly

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 what I would be looking at, change order
3 requests that come in and get us at the 1.5
4 or above, but as long as you're keenly
5 watching this, I hope that we don't
6 encounter that. Thank you.

7 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Any other
8 questions?

9 (No verbal response.)

10 Let's move on to the next one.

11 MR. ARNOLD: The next contract is
12 B-5. This is a construction contract for
13 the installation of the emergency generator
14 for the police academy. The original design
15 had a much smaller generator just for life
16 service items like the elevators but, as the
17 job was completed, PD wanted total back up
18 power at the plant.

19 The department analyzed issuing a
20 change order versus bidding a separate
21 contract and it was determined that we had
22 appropriate time to bid a separate contract
23 and we also felt we would get better value
24 for bidding a separate contract. So that's
25 what we did here.

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 We had 11 bids received. Polaris
3 was selected as the lowest responsible
4 bidder and they're looking at 13 percent for
5 the MWBE.

6 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Any
7 questions?

8 (No verbal response.)

9 The next one.

10 MR. ARNOLD: The next one is B-6,
11 a construction contract to install SCADAS,
12 or supervisory control and data acquisition
13 system at both Glen Cove and Cedar Creej
14 sewage treatment plants.

15 We do propose to do this at Bay
16 Park at our pump stations also but those are
17 separate contracts. SCADA will allow for
18 the automation of the wastewater processes
19 enabling operators to control processes more
20 efficiently and be able to respond to
21 emergencies more quickly.

22 Finally, the system will provide
23 better security of the equipment and
24 increased equipment resiliency.

25 Six bids were received and one

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 bid was not opened because their bid bond
3 was incorrectly put together.

4 Eldor is the lowest responsible
5 bidder and below the engineer's estimate,
6 and MWBE is at 30 percent.

7 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Any
8 questions on this one?

9 (No verbal response.)

10 Let's go to the next one.

11 MR. ARNOLD: The next one is E-1.

12 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Yes.

13 MR. ARNOLD: E-1 is a design
14 contract for the Cedar Creek digesters.
15 Four consultants submitted proposals. Hazen
16 and Sawyer had the highest technically
17 ranked and lowest cost proposal, the MWBE is
18 at 21 percent.

19 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Any
20 questions?

21 (No verbal response.)

22 MR. ARNOLD: The next one is
23 E-10. E-10 is a design contract to
24 rehabilitate and modernize traffic signal
25 equipment. This project called phase nine

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 is for 16 signals on Long Beach Road in
3 Oceanside. Four bids were received. GPI
4 had the highest technically ranked proposal.
5 MWBE is at 13 percent.

6 I will note that this was done a
7 while back. We had held onto this job
8 because this has been tip funded and we
9 wanted to make sure if it was in our tip
10 program, that's why it didn't present to you
11 as soon as you anticipated.

12 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Legislator
13 Schaefer.

14 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Quick
15 question. Why were they ranked so high?

16 MR. ARNOLD: GPI has lots of
17 experience in this area. One of the best
18 consultants in putting together the ITS
19 which is the computer aspect and the signal
20 equipment aspect together and giving us an
21 efficient project.

22 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Have we
23 used them before in other parts of the
24 county?

25 MR. ARNOLD: Yes. They do a lot

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 of our work; not all, but a lot of our work.

3 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Any other
4 questions?

5 (No verbal response.)

6 Let's go on to the next one.

7 MR. ARNOLD: Is that A-50?

8 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Yes.

9 MR. ARNOLD: A-50 is our bridge
10 repair services contract. This contract was
11 previously tabled because of language about
12 operators. We have removed that language
13 from the contract. This is now strictly a
14 maintenance and repair contract on our two
15 draw bridges we have in the county.

16 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Yes. Thank
17 you for removing that. There was an issue
18 with the CSEA.

19 MR. ARNOLD: We had a long
20 conversation with them.

21 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Appreciate
22 that. Any other discussion? Legislator
23 DeRiggi-Whitton.

24 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I
25 have to say, Ken, I can't imagine looking

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 half as good as you did with the picture.

3 In fact, I wouldn't even want to imagine it.

4 Anyway, do you know when the work
5 might be started in Bayville? I know
6 they're always worried about the summer.

7 MR. ARNOLD: The Bayville
8 project, we issued a limited notice to
9 proceed to have the contractor start
10 ordering long lead time equipment.

11 I'm working right now with my
12 staff to get me the schedule for closures
13 depending if we issue a full notice to
14 proceed at what point this summer. I want
15 to make sure I optimize the closure periods
16 that I'm allowed.

17 So once I have that conversation
18 with them, we'll be issuing a full notice to
19 proceed for June, July, August, that time
20 frame, depending on when we maximize all our
21 closure periods. As you're aware of, we
22 have a lot of things we can do and can't do
23 during certain times of the year.

24 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: How
25 long do you think that bridge will be able

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 to be open and shut? Do you have any idea?

3 MR. ARNOLD: It's a very
4 detailed plan. We met with the community
5 and took their issues at hand. There is
6 limited full closures of the bridge. I
7 believe we are doing it twice for a month.

8 And now there is also limited
9 lane reductions of the bridge. It's also
10 programmed not to happen during certain
11 times of the year because there are
12 different things that go on in that
13 community.

14 We have limited to the maximum
15 extent practical that we can do. Plus we
16 have work periods for the contractor in
17 condensing all this work.

18 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Any other
19 questions?

20 (No verbal response.)

21 Thank you. I think that's the
22 last public works contract.

23 MR. ARNOLD: The only one, WSP
24 was not going to be untabled today, shared
25 services, shared mobility?

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: No, it's
3 not. Not ready.

4 The next contract is with parks
5 E-146-2020, Smith & Degroat Realty Corp.

6 MS. KASO: Good afternoon. Tori
7 Kaso with the Department of Parks. So E-146
8 is a use and occupancy permit with Smith &
9 Degroat working as agents on behalf of
10 Carlie and James Hagadorn for a property
11 known as Mill Floor at One Beach Road, Sands
12 Point.

13 It is a revenue producing permit
14 that will provide the county with \$108,000
15 for the year.

16 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: That is the
17 Gold Coast mansion on the grounds of the
18 Sands Point Preserve, right?

19 MS. KASO: Yes.

20 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Do you know
21 how Smith & Degroat went about securing a
22 tenant for that location, is it advertised?

23 MS. KASO: As per their permit,
24 they do commercial best practices and seek
25 out applications for interested tenants, and

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 then evaluate the tenants based on their
3 credit and income and background checks.

4 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Do the
5 tenants have use of the whole place or do
6 they have a certain area in which to live in
7 the facility? It literally is a 20, 30, 40
8 room mansion.

9 MS. KASO: I believe -- I can
10 confirm this for you, but I believe it's
11 whole use as a residential use of the
12 property.

13 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: There is
14 an obligation on the tenants to do
15 maintenance or keep the place in good order?

16 MS. KASO: Yes, and they are
17 required to have renter's insurance as well.

18 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: How do you
19 maintain a facility that big?

20 MS. KASO: You're asking the
21 wrong person. I've always rented
22 apartments.

23 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Do we know
24 in terms of the cost, how do we know that
25 \$9,000 a month is fair and accurate to rent

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 for this place?

3 MS. KASO: I believe it is based
4 on fair market values and I think -- I don't
5 know that I printed it out, but I think in
6 the permit there is some information about
7 that, which I don't have in front of me, but
8 I can confirm that.

9 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Obviously
10 they're not paying taxes, it's a county
11 facility on county land, but a mansion like
12 this I would -- do they look at how much it
13 would cost if it was a private facility, how
14 much it would cost in taxes alone?

15 Just trying to get at whether
16 \$9,000 a month is a fair rental for someone
17 renting one of the most unique and beautiful
18 spots in the county on Long Island.

19 MS. KASO: Per the permit, they
20 are required to have it at a good value for
21 the county and the property. But I believe
22 it's in the packet, if it's not, I will get
23 that information as soon as possible for
24 you.

25 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Legislator

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 Schaefer.

3 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: How old are
4 Carlie and James Hagadorn?

5 MS. KASO: How old? I do not
6 know, no.

7 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Have you
8 ever met them?

9 MS. KASO: Me, personally, no.

10 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: No idea?
11 Are they in their '80s, 40s?

12 MS. KASO: I believe they're
13 adults.

14 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: I'm just
15 curious if they have certain duties that
16 come with renting it. I understand they're
17 supposed to be sort of providing service.
18 Just curious how that's going to happen
19 based on their circumstances.

20 MS. KASO: I don't believe age is
21 necessarily a consideration for when you're
22 renting an apartment or properties.

23 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: It's not an
24 apartment.

25 MS. KASO: Understand. There was

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 income credit check, background credit, were
3 all done.

4 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Right. I
5 just think that this is a little bit of a
6 different situation because of what they're
7 required to do to maintain it. So if you
8 could find out I would like to know

9 MS. KASO: Sure.

10 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Does anyone
11 else have any questions? Did you have
12 something you wanted to add?

13 MS. KASO: No.

14 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: I think
15 we're good. Thank you.

16 MS. KASO: Thank you.

17 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Let's go
18 back to the first contract that I called
19 which was U-1 of 2021 with Sheehan &
20 Company, CPA, public administrator.

21 MR. CURRAN: Sorry about that.
22 We had technical difficulties.

23 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: State your
24 name for the record, Brian.

25 MR. CURRAN: Brian F. Curran,

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 Nassau County public administrator.

3 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Let us know
4 what the contract is about.

5 MR. CURRAN: It's the annual
6 request to the Legislature for a personal
7 services contract for \$10,000 for accounting
8 internal audit of the public administrator's
9 office that's required under the Surrogate's
10 Court act and we are required to submit it
11 every year.

12 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: The maximum
13 amount is \$10,000?

14 MR. CURRAN: Yes, it is.

15 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Any
16 questions?

17 (No verbal response.)

18 We're good, thank you.

19 MR. CURRAN: Thank you very much,
20 Chairman.

21 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: The next
22 three contracts are with the police
23 department. E-3 of 2021 is with APCO
24 International, Inc.

25 MR. FIELD: Good afternoon,

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 William Field, deputy inspector for Nassau
3 County Police Department.

4 The first contract is Item E-3-21
5 with APCO International. This contract is
6 for conducting and preparing a review and
7 also providing recommendations to the police
8 department involving our 911 dispatching
9 operations as well as reviewing our in
10 service training.

11 The terms of the contract is for
12 one year and has a maximum amount of
13 \$57,900. This training is also required by
14 law.

15 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Any
16 questions?

17 (No verbal response.)

18 Go on to the next one.

19 MR. FIELD: Item E-4 of '21, this
20 is a contract between the police department
21 and CR Automative Incorporated.

22 This is an amendment to an
23 existing contract to provide the police
24 department with towing and storage services
25 for vehicles. It's necessary to have these

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 services available 24 hours a day, 7 days a
3 week. The purpose of this amendment is to
4 renew and extend the term of the contract by
5 one year and six months, encumber additional
6 funds of \$49,000.

7 The contractor was originally
8 determined to be the highest scorer proposer
9 and we are in the process of issuing a new
10 bid to secure services going forward.

11 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Any
12 questions?

13 (No verbal response.)

14 Move ahead E-6.

15 MR. FIELD: E-6-21 is a contract
16 between the police department and Helinet
17 Aviation Services. This is an amendment to
18 a contract for the design and installation
19 of airborne video surveillance system for
20 the Nassau County Police Department's
21 aviation unit.

22 The amendment was to extend the
23 term of the original contract so the
24 contractor can complete the relocation of an
25 antennae from the Sixth Precinct to the

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 North Shore University Hospital location.

3 The Sixth Precinct antennae was
4 contemplated under the original agreement
5 but there were issues that needed to be
6 worked out before they can do the bill.
7 Those issues appear to have been resolved.
8 No work has been done on this part of the
9 project yet.

10 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: How does the
11 antennae figure into the airborne video
12 surveillance system?

13 MR. FIELD: I'm not an expert on
14 the technological part but my understanding
15 is that it does actually -- it assists the
16 ability of distributing the down link.

17 So this -- the camera views from
18 the helicopter are then able to be properly
19 distributed to the people on the ground.
20 Does that answer the question?

21 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Yes.
22 Actually that's interesting. First we
23 thought it was drones or something like
24 that.

25 MR. FIELD: No, sir. This is

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 related to the downlink program that can
3 actually view from the helicopter and then
4 it can distribute that feed to the people on
5 the ground.

6 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: And the need
7 to move it from the Sixth Precinct to the
8 hospital is what, because of the height of
9 the hospital?

10 MR. FIELD: I'm not really sure
11 of the technical need. I believe it's going
12 to the top of the hospital. I can find out
13 the technical reason.

14 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: The Sixth
15 Precinct is at a low point. It's possible
16 it's that. Legislator Schaefer.

17 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Quick
18 question. I thought I saw that the county
19 has to pay a certain amount, maybe about one
20 third of the total cost before the services
21 are rendered; is that correct?

22 MR. FIELD: Not sure. I can find
23 out for you but I'm not sure the money would
24 be paid upfront. I'm not aware. I will
25 definitely find out.

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: I'm just
3 curious. That's not always the way it's
4 done so I'm just wondering why we're paying
5 them something upfront, what the history is
6 like in paying.

7 MR. FIELD: I understand.

8 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Thank you.

9 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Any other
10 questions?

11 (No verbal response.)

12 Thank you, inspector. The county
13 attorney is the next one with Campanelli &
14 Associates, E-5 of 2021.

15 MR. LIBERT: Good afternoon,
16 Brian Libert from the County Attorney's
17 Office.

18 This is a contract with
19 Campanelli & Associates for the county's
20 vehicle forfeiture program. This is the DWI
21 forfeiture program typically limited to
22 misdemeanors and lower offenses. If you
23 have any questions I'm happy to answer
24 those.

25 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Okay. Are

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 there any questions on this contract?

3 Legislator Rhoads and then Legislator

4 DeRiggi-Whitton.

5 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Mr. Libert, I

6 just wanted to confirm that this is

7 completely unrelated to the boot and tow

8 program, right?

9 MR. LIBERT: Sorry, what program?

10 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: I just

11 wanted to confirm that this is completely

12 unrelated to the boot and tow program,

13 that's a separate item?

14 MR. LIBERT: That's contract.

15 That's a totally separate thing. 100

16 percent.

17 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Thank you.

18 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Legislator

19 DeRiggi-Whitton.

20 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I

21 was just wondering if you could go over the

22 procurement process for this contract.

23 MR. LIBERT: Absolutely. Do you

24 want me to go through or did you have

25 specific questions?

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: If
3 you could just give an overview.

4 MR. LIBERT: Sure. Absolutely.
5 Andrew Campanelli's office is the incumbent
6 vendor. They have been providing these
7 services to the county for quite a number of
8 years. We did issue a public RFP pursuant
9 to the ordinary procurement process. It was
10 advertised publically on the county website,
11 in Newsday, on the state contract reporter
12 and proof of each advertisement was provided
13 to the IG's office.

14 Also, the RFP was sent
15 specifically to a few vendors that the
16 county attorney's office identified as being
17 qualified and, in fact, Campanelli was the
18 only vendor who responded as being
19 interested. So Campanelli was selected.
20 Relative to that procurement process, again,
21 however they were the only law firm that
22 responded.

23 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I
24 mean I guess I just thought that might be a
25 little strange that we only got one response

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 to this type of work. They're currently
3 doing the county's DWI forfeiture plan also?

4 MR. LIBERT: I don't know that
5 it's an also, Legislator, because like this
6 is the program, this contract is for that
7 program.

8 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:
9 Right, but they are currently doing it; is
10 that correct?

11 MR. LIBERT: Correct.

12 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I
13 just wanted to insure the word, what was out
14 there, because I just wanted to make sure
15 since we are basically giving it to the same
16 company again and no one else bidded, I just
17 wanted you to put that on the record so
18 thank you.

19 MR. LIBERT: I understand, and
20 just to provide with some piece of mind,
21 Legislator, I do work on this program myself
22 a little bit and it is a niche area of law.
23 It's very specific and there are some very
24 particular deadlines.

25 So that might be a reason that

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 there weren't bidders also. But certainly
3 my notes indicate that it was very publicly
4 available just to your concern.

5 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Okay.
6 Thank you for your explanation.

7 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Anyone else?
8 (No verbal response.)
9 Thank you.

10 MR. LIBERT: Thank you.

11 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: The next two
12 contracts are with Information Technology;
13 E-7 of 2021, Contemporary Computer Services.

14 MS. STANTON: Good afternoon,
15 Nancy Stanton, IT.

16 E-7-21, Contemporary Computer
17 Services. This amendment is to increase
18 funds by \$200,000.

19 We are also asking to extend this
20 contract until April 4th. We currently use
21 this vendor to support HR and use the
22 community on people soft.

23 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Any
24 questions on this contract?

25 (No verbal response.)

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 Go to the next one.

3 MS. STANTON: E-8-21, IIT, Inc.

4 This is a contract for supplemental staffing
5 services, contract term is three years with
6 two one year renewals for a total of five
7 years. We are encumbering \$100,000 at this
8 time and we use it for supplemental
9 staffing.

10 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: I believe
11 that this is one of nine vendors?

12 MS. STANTON: Correct.

13 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: The maximum
14 amount is \$5 million?

15 MS. STANTON: Correct.

16 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: We've been
17 asking for a while and it seems like every
18 meeting there is a supplemental staffing for
19 IT before us.

20 Is there anyone working there
21 anymore or simply everyone is being
22 contracted out?

23 MS. STANTON: Oh, no. We have
24 lots of people working on lots of projects.
25 Primarily, supplemental staffing is used now

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 for people soft. I did send over a write-up
3 on it. I'm not sure if it got to you yet.
4 You have seven full time people working on
5 people soft and one part timer.

6 We have one consultant working on
7 a PD Motorola project. We have two
8 consultants also working from IIT on people
9 soft and, again, CCSI, that contract will be
10 gone after we extend this and we are working
11 on a GIS project.

12 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: I did not
13 have an opportunity to, but I saw it came
14 over this morning. I think we will take a
15 look at this and ultimately what we are
16 looking for, and we are looking at this for
17 a while, this is the overall plan in terms
18 of perhaps drawing down to some extent the
19 need for supplemental staffing.

20 MS. STANTON: I agree and I would
21 love to get the supplemental replaced. We
22 did put out an RFP for recruitment services
23 which I work with civil service on, and
24 hopefully they will be able to provide us
25 some of these people soft resources that we

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 can hire full time. You will be seeing
3 those contracts coming through very soon.

4 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Okay. It
5 would seem like an area that there should be
6 many people who would be very interested to
7 serve in the IT field.

8 MS. STANTON: Yes. The people
9 soft, it's very hard to get people soft
10 people. Very hard.

11 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: What does
12 that mean?

13 MS. STANTON: Developers.
14 Developers on the people soft product.

15 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Anyone else
16 have any questions? Legislator Bynoe.

17 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Thank you,
18 Presiding Officer. Good day, commissioner.
19 I share the sentiments of the Presiding
20 Officer and you know I've spoken to you
21 directly on this issue before.

22 I'd like to see what kind of
23 hiring you've done over the last 12 months
24 or 24 month period in all aspects of your
25 department.

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 MS. STANTON: Absolutely.

3 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I understand
4 that people soft might be a little more of a
5 complex --

6 MS. STANTON: Very challenging.

7 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: A complex
8 issue for you around hiring, but we do get a
9 large number of supplemental housing --
10 sorry, supplemental staffing requests. I
11 think your department more so than any other
12 department. So I think that's why we're so
13 concerned. If you can tell us what you have
14 done over the last 24 months. I think that
15 that would be helpful.

16 MS. STANTON: I will. There are
17 nine contracts. So I keep coming back for
18 them. That's the issue.

19 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I know every
20 time you get up to the podium, it's like, oh
21 God, they're going to ask me again. I think
22 if you tell us what you did over the last 24
23 months we might gain some level of comfort.

24 MS. STANTON: I would love to
25 hire CSEA full time. That's my priority.

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: What you have
3 done in the last 24 months and what you plan
4 to do over the next year would be helpful,
5 so thank you.

6 MS. STANTON: Okay. Thank you.

7 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Any other
8 debate or discussion?

9 (No verbal response.)

10 We're good. Thank you.

11 MS. STANTON: Thank you.

12 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: E-11,
13 contract with Minority Affairs and Mason
14 Tillman Associates.

15 MR. CHITTY: Good afternoon
16 everyone, Presiding Officer Nicolello,
17 Minority Leader Abrahams and legislators.

18 E-11-21, yes. My name is Lionel
19 Chitty. I'm the executive director for the
20 Office of Minority Affairs. Joining me
21 today from office of minority affairs is
22 deputy director Regina Williams and also new
23 director of special projects Rhonda Maco.
24 We are very excited to have Rhonda on board
25 as she is a very experienced attorney who is

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 returning to the county after having served
3 on the controller's staff for several years.
4 She has certainly hit the ground running
5 including assisting with final negotiations
6 on the contract for disparity study and
7 consulting services you are considering
8 today.

9 I also thank Deputy County
10 Attorney Daniel Gregware and Chief
11 Procurement Officer Robert Cleary for their
12 expertise and collaboration on this contract
13 and for joining us today.

14 Nassau County Executive Laura
15 Curran is committed to transforming county
16 procurement processes to insure transparency
17 and opportunities for all businesses.

18 The administration has developed
19 a comprehensive strategy to increase
20 participation in county contracting
21 including elimination of a long standing
22 vendor registration fee which was especially
23 detrimental to minority small businesses who
24 did not think it was worthwhile to register.
25 Extreme blank procurement systems with new

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 checks in place for all to review and
3 opportunities. Launch numerous programs to
4 promote our minority and women owned
5 business enterprises and service disabled
6 veteran owned businesses lead by the active
7 engaged OMA.

8 The county will now undertake the
9 next critical important step in this effort
10 conducting a disparity study of MWBEs,
11 SDVOBs as part of a unique shared service
12 agreement with Suffolk County.

13 OMA proposes to enter into a
14 personal services agreement with Mason
15 Tillman Associates, Ltd., a highly regarded
16 national expert to conduct a disparity study
17 and provide consulting services.

18 This contrat is scheduled to
19 begin on January 1th.

20 Due to the regional nature of the
21 business opportunities on Long Island and in
22 order to leverage the combined expenditure,
23 Nassau and Suffolk County will share the
24 cost of the consulting services and advance
25 the work collaboratively, while separate

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 contracts provide for each county to secure
3 its own disparity study.

4 The disparity study and
5 consultant services contract is intended to
6 offer both counties tremendous insight into
7 the categories of goods and services being
8 offered by MWBEs and SDVOBs in the region,
9 identify any significant disparities and
10 MWBE and SDVOB participation in the county's
11 contracting form the basis for meaningful
12 county contracting goals and improve ongoing
13 efforts to develop MWBE, SDVOB capacity and
14 participation.

15 Working jointly with Suffolk and
16 Mason Tillman may anticipate an active
17 process which will involve multiple county
18 agencies and data collection, review of
19 related county laws, policies and procedures
20 and a robust regional market analysis.

21 There will be monthly progress
22 reports and deliverables to OMA with a draft
23 disparity study report expected to be issued
24 to us the first quarter of 2022.

25 We appreciate the legislative

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 support for funding for this support study
3 within the capital budget.

4 The proposed Nassau County
5 contract amount is \$499,848 which falls just
6 under the capital budget allocation of
7 \$500,000.

8 The contract is for a two year
9 term with an opportunity to extend for one
10 year.

11 Now, let me provide you with a
12 little bit of background information on the
13 RFP and the selection of Mason Tillman.

14 On June 20, 2019, OMA issued a
15 request for expressions of interest REFI in
16 order to solicit input concerning an
17 anticipated request for proposals for
18 disparity study of MWBE, SDVOB utilization
19 and opportunity in Nassau County.

20 Following an extensive input from
21 consultants and experts in the field of
22 procurement and capacity building, community
23 stakeholders and government partners, Nassau
24 County issued its RFP on December 13th,
25 2019.

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 Suffolk County subsequently
3 joined the effort as a shared services
4 procurement. Five proposals were received
5 by OMA made by the deadline of January 31,
6 2020.

7 An RFP evaluation and selection
8 committee was formed comprised of the
9 following personnel from Nassau County in
10 addition to myself as well as senior staff
11 from Suffolk.

12 Donald Prosley, deputy director
13 of Nassau County Office of Community
14 Development, Farrah Mozzawalla, secretary
15 director of office of Asian-American
16 Affairs; David Vienna, Planner, Nassau
17 County Department of Public Works.

18 In addition to participation by
19 technical advisors from both counties,
20 procurement and legal terms, a
21 representative of the Nassau County Office
22 of the Inspector General also observed the
23 committee meetings.

24 The committee met regularly
25 beginning in February of 2020 rating

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 proposers on categories such as services
3 offered, cost, local subcontracting
4 utilization, and experience conducting
5 disparity studies and other issues.

6 The first round of proposal
7 evaluations was completed in June but due to
8 the COVID-19 Pandemic, it became difficult
9 to reach many of the finalist's references
10 who are also municipal entities.

11 As such, the final step we were
12 able to accommodate and get further input
13 from references in order to continue with
14 our process.

15 Following the record's check,
16 final presentations by two finalists were
17 conducted this past summer. Among the two
18 discussed were -- amongst some of the items
19 that were discussed of the topics were
20 language access, outreach and marketing
21 strategy, data collection, methodology, and
22 gauging the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic
23 on MWBEs and SDVOBs.

24 The committee concluded that
25 Mason Tillman and Associates proposal met

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 both county expectations of completeness,
3 quality, cost and ongoing services.

4 Based in California, Mason
5 Tillman is a highly regarded expert in the
6 field of disparity study research, and the
7 companies conducted the state of New York's
8 disparity study in 2017.

9 Mason Tillman will provide
10 services in connection with the
11 comprehensive disparity study to include
12 providing the county with best practices
13 concerning the utilization of MWBEs and
14 SDVOBs, review of county procurement
15 policies, procedures and legal authorities,
16 review prime subcontract for availability,
17 utilization and disparity by ethnicity and
18 gender review; conduct anecdotal interviews
19 to determine relevant geographic areas and
20 provide detail gap analysis.

21 Again, as noted previously, there
22 will be monthly reports as well as a final
23 draft report and recommendations expected by
24 the first quarter of 2022.

25 Mason Tillman will subcontract

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 with several regional consultants to support
3 their work including the national center for
4 suburban studies at Hofstra University, the
5 center for entrepreneurship, INVT Only
6 Management LLC, McBride Consultants and
7 Business Development Group, and Inspire
8 Enterprises.

9 Included in the Nassau County
10 contract is ongoing support and consulting
11 in the form of outreach, community forms,
12 webinars, virtual town hall meetings,
13 engagement, and other efforts to increase
14 the overall awareness, participation,
15 capacity availability and economic
16 opportunities for MWBEs and SDVOBs.

17 Are there any questions?

18 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Are there
19 any questions from the committee?

20 (No verbal response.)

21 First of all, Lionel, thank you
22 very much for that in-depth description of
23 this project. Legislator Rhoads.

24 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Obviously the
25 vote today is going to have my full support.

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 My understanding though, Mr. Chitty, is that
3 the money for the disparity study was
4 approved back in the summer of 2019 as I
5 recall.

6 I understand that COVID may have
7 delayed the awarding or the selection
8 process, the eventual awarding of the
9 contract, but I guess my questions is, is
10 there a reason why when the funding for the
11 disparity study, given its importance to
12 MWBE, and our ability to fulfill our
13 obligations as a county, COVID didn't happen
14 until March of 2020, what was the reason for
15 the eight or nine month delay in getting
16 this process started?

17 MR. CHITTY: As I mentioned, we
18 started off with the RFP, expressions of
19 interest, and I actually did participate in
20 that prior to my coming on board as
21 executive director, but once I came in, we
22 got to work. We created the RFP. This
23 office really doesn't do a lot of large RFPs
24 like this.

25 When we got the RFP out, we

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 waited the standard time, and once we
3 started in February things were going along
4 smoothly.

5 Again, this is a bi-county
6 process so we had to make sure that both
7 counties were involved equally and also
8 making sure we took a look at any
9 differences as far as county contracting and
10 procurement and any questions that needed to
11 be answered.

12 Again, we were going very well
13 again until COVID hit, and that one
14 challenge we had was getting some references
15 back because the disparity studies were
16 mostly done with other municipalities and
17 being able to reach out to them and get some
18 feedback during the midst of COVID was a
19 challenge.

20 We were able to get past that
21 and, once we were able to get those
22 together, we moved quickly to get this done
23 and select a vendor and here we stand before
24 you today.

25 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: This is a two

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 year contract, correct?

3 MR. CHITTY: Yes. With an option
4 to expand.

5 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Do we have a
6 reasonable expectation at this point that's
7 going to take two years for us to get this
8 disparity study?

9 MR. CHITTY: That time frame was
10 put together just because of what's been
11 done in the past. It will always be
12 depending on how quickly we can get the
13 information back from our specific
14 departments so that the vendor can work
15 directly with us in order to make sure we
16 have the correct information and they can do
17 their calculations, included in their
18 contract, and also have the link so that we
19 make sure we have proper transparency and
20 that we can also have sufficient outreach
21 and consultative processes with the vendor.

22 Again, our goal is not only to
23 have the disparity study completed, but to
24 also have recommendations to make us more
25 efficient as we move forward in our county

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 contracting process.

3 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: But the
4 vendor certainly understands and I know your
5 department is certainly aware, I presume the
6 administration, that there is some sense of
7 urgency behind this?

8 MR. CHITTY: Absolutely.

9 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: It's been a
10 lengthy period of time since there was a
11 disparity study, something we have looking
12 for for a significant period of time, and
13 funded a significant period of time ago.

14 They do understand though that
15 there is an urgency to this, and, of course,
16 we don't want to sacrifice accuracy and
17 thoroughness of the report, but we are
18 looking to get results as quickly as
19 possible so we can evaluate our own
20 processes and be able to implement its
21 recommendations.

22 MR. CHITTY: Absolutely. Part of
23 whatever we have initiated in the contract
24 is ongoing services. We are not going to
25 sit and wait until the entire disparity is

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 completed. We are also looking and working
3 directly with the consultant to implement
4 some best practices while we're going
5 through this.

6 Again, we all understand the
7 importance of this, especially our MWBEs and
8 we want to make sure it's done expeditiously
9 but also correctly and make sure we get the
10 proper information and making sure they take
11 a total look at all of our processes, and,
12 as far as procurements are concerned, if we
13 can start implementing some best practices.

14 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Thank you.

15 MR. CHITTY: Thank you.

16 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Legislator
17 Bynoe.

18 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Good day, Mr.
19 Chitty, how are you?

20 MR. CHITTY: I'm well, and
21 yourself?

22 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Good. Thank
23 you. So what is the timeline? You may have
24 mentioned it.

25 MR. CHITTY: We're looking at to

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 have significant numbers, a final report by
3 the first quarter of 2022.

4 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: So how
5 involved is the county Minority Affairs
6 department have to be in this process, is
7 this really going to be vendor initiated or
8 is it really going to require a lot of work
9 within our own administration?

10 MR. CHITTY: There will be a lot
11 of work. Again, it will be myself, Rhonda
12 Maco and also Deputy Director Regina
13 Williams because this is not a small task.
14 We're going to be touching basically every
15 agency within the county, anybody who does
16 that procurement process, we want to start
17 up by sitting with them, going over exactly
18 what's going to be expected as far as
19 getting us the proper information, getting
20 that to the consultant, and working directly
21 with them.

22 Another portion, again, will be
23 those additional services that we know will
24 be needed as far as community outreach,
25 consulting directly with us and putting

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 specific processes in place.

3 So it's going to be three of us
4 working diligently with the consultant and
5 also hand in hand where possible with
6 Suffolk County because, again, we're looking
7 at this regionally, and we're extremely
8 excited to get this going and also the fact
9 that we're working with Suffolk County
10 because we are sister counties.

11 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: And normally
12 when we get a contract it indicates whether
13 the entity is Mason Tillman?

14 MR. CHITTY: Mason Tillman
15 Associates.

16 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Are they an
17 MWBE?

18 MR. CHITTY: Yes, they are.

19 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: So they are
20 going to also be looking at service disabled
21 veterans through this process as well?

22 MR. CHITTY: Absolutely.
23 Absolutely. Again, it will be utilization
24 across the entire board for MWBEs and
25 service disabled veteran owned businesses.

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: So they just
3 give us a study, do they give us any kind of
4 suggestions?

5 MR. CHITTY: Absolutely.

6 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: And they will
7 give us ideas on what policies and
8 procedures and what legislation potentially
9 should be enacted to be able to resolve some
10 of the issues that they see as they
11 undertake the study?

12 MR. CHITTY: Absolutely. Part of
13 the process will be an entire review of our
14 current procurement policies and, again, it
15 will be those ongoing services. Again,
16 we're not going to wait until everything is
17 over. We're going to be consulting directly
18 with them for both best practices because,
19 again, we understand that disparity studies
20 haven't been done in such a long time, we
21 want to make sure that we give enough input
22 and be able to put sustainable and practical
23 processes in place so that we can address
24 the needs and increase those numbers for
25 MWBEs once that goal is set.

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Good. And I
3 know there are phases. Will there be an
4 ability for them to report out during those
5 phases even to this body or to the OMA
6 committee?

7 MR. CHITTY: Absolutely. OMA
8 will be receiving monthly reports and we can
9 periodically report back to the Legislature
10 as far as how we are progressing and bring
11 attention to things that need to be brought
12 attention to.

13 We are very excited. They did
14 give us a significant process and there are
15 numerous steps within it, but we will be
16 receiving those monthly reports.

17 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I think it
18 would be great if not the full body but at
19 least the OMA committee could be briefed
20 periodically, because, as you stated, it's a
21 huge undertaking, and if there's work that
22 we can do in phases, that probably would be
23 helpful for us as well.

24 MR. CHITTY: We appreciate that.

25 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Thank you very

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 much.

3 MR. CHITTY: Thank you.

4 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Anyone else?
5 Legislator Rhoads.

6 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Obviously we
7 have been speaking about the disparity
8 study, and it's incredibly important, but at
9 the end of the day when these
10 recommendations were made, has there been
11 any indication to you that the
12 administration is going to make the
13 necessary commitment to staffing to make
14 sure that these recommendations can be
15 implemented?

16 MR. CHITTY: At that point we
17 will still be working directly with the
18 consultant and with the administration until
19 we are done with the consultant as far as
20 their processes are in place, have the
21 commitment of the administration that they
22 will be taking a look at all these processes
23 and these recommendations and to make sure
24 we are constantly reviewing our budget and
25 our staffing needs and they will be able t

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 make those adjustments.

3 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Okay. But I
4 guess the question is, and it's really not a
5 question for you, obviously it's not your
6 decision to make, obviously if you were
7 given additional resources you would happily
8 take them and bring on some additional staff
9 I'm sure to help you do your work.

10 But, just looking at, and
11 obviously the disparity study is going to
12 impact our MWBE compliance and our
13 protocols.

14 Just in your office now, my
15 understanding is that at your current
16 staffing every vendor that needs to certify
17 as an MWBE vendor has to be vetted by your
18 office, correct?

19 MR. CHITTY: Correct. That's
20 part of the certification process.

21 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Right now
22 based on your current staff at its most
23 productive, how many of those investigations
24 can be conducted on an annual basis?

25 MR. CHITTY: I will state this.

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 Last year we did about 100 percent. Since
3 June of this year with our MWBE application,
4 we completed 175 certifications. I would
5 like to ask Dr. Williams to please step up
6 just to go over that a little bit if you
7 wouldn't mind.

8 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Sure.

9 MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you. Regina
10 Williams, Deputy Director for the Office of
11 Minority Affairs.

12 We have one certification analyst
13 who was able to use the MWBE app that we
14 created to handle those certifications for
15 2020.

16 When we concluded in 2019 we had
17 just a little over 100, about 103. From
18 June 12th was when we started with the app,
19 we were able to complete the year with 175
20 certifications.

21 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: So almost
22 double the production?

23 MS. WILLIAMS: Yes.

24 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: So the
25 question becomes, what's the backlog?

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 My understanding is, you had as
3 many as 1,400 MWBE vendors that are still
4 awaiting certification.

5 MS. WILLIAMS: Well, technically,
6 there's really not a backlog. Once they
7 register then they are able to certify with
8 our office.

9 So we're trying to follow
10 protocols that have been established, for
11 example, New York State there is like a two
12 or three year process when it comes to their
13 certification. We are running much shorter
14 than that.

15 Currently we are really handling
16 what we could during this time period. The
17 issue we have for the most part is getting
18 the paperwork from our constituents. So
19 we're working along with them to make sure
20 we have what we need to be able to certify
21 them accordingly.

22 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: In order to
23 get through that process, obviously, and
24 they can't be certified as an MWBE vendor
25 until they actually go through that process.

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 MS. WILLIAMS: Absolutely.

3 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: If in fact
4 the information is correct that there are
5 1,400 companies that are going through that
6 process presently awaiting certification, my
7 concern is that as much as we want to talk
8 about trying to help our MWBEs and as much
9 as your department is utilizing technology
10 and your staff is doing as much as it
11 possibly can to try to help companies
12 through that process as quickly as possible,
13 based on the numbers that I'm hearing, there
14 seems to be almost a seven year backlog of
15 cases at your current staffing levels before
16 a company who certifies today theoretically
17 would be able to -- the company that
18 registers today, would theoretically be able
19 to be certified.

20 I'm just concerned that since we
21 don't have a commitment to adequate staffing
22 currently by the administration, as part of
23 our budget amendments, we tried get you an
24 additional staff person which was vetoed by
25 the County Executive. And that's on top of

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 the three or four you are already short on
3 what your budgeted amount is supposed to be.

4 I'm concerned that when we have
5 the disparity study is the administration,
6 if it's still the administration, going to
7 make a commitment to the Office of Minority
8 Affairs and to the Legislature that it is
9 going to provide the resources to let you
10 fully implement what the recommendations
11 from the disparity study are.

12 And I know that's not really a
13 fair question to ask you because I'm sure
14 you don't know the answer, but I would like
15 that information from the administration
16 because looking at the four year budget
17 projection for the Office of Minority
18 Affairs, that budget projection is flat.
19 There is no indication that there is going
20 to be any additional staff.

21 This was sort of my argument
22 three, four months ago when we were going
23 through the budget process for 2021.
24 Something needs to be done.

25 We can talk all we want about

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 trying to make progress and trying to be
3 more inclusive and trying to support our
4 MWBEs, but the actions have to match the
5 words. That's my concern.

6 MS. WILLIAMS: My only response
7 to the 1,400 is the fact, the reason I say
8 there's really no backlog is because of the
9 fact most of them do not have their
10 applications filed as of yet.

11 As they come in, then we're able
12 to work with them with their certification.

13 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: But part of
14 what your office would normally do with
15 those 1,400 is that they would work, if you
16 have the staffing, you would work with those
17 1,400 companies to help them put together
18 the information that they need in order to
19 complete their application and get them
20 through the process. That's part of what
21 your office -- if it had the proper
22 staffing, that's part of what your office
23 would do, I'm assuming, right?

24 MS. WILLIAMS: That would be part
25 of what our office would do, right.

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: I appreciate
3 it. Thank you.

4 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Legislator
5 Bynoe.

6 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Thank you,
7 Presiding Officer. I'm not sure which of
8 the three of you want to answer this
9 question.

10 Here's a question. You explained
11 the state process that could take up to two
12 years.

13 MR. CHITTY: Correct.

14 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: But that's not
15 the process here in Nassau County. They are
16 actually going through a full certification.

17 Here, quite honestly, it's more
18 of a registration. So if somebody gave you
19 their completed paperwork tomorrow, how long
20 does it take for that person to be
21 legitimately registered?

22 MS. WILLIAMS: If they gave us
23 all of their paperwork tomorrow, we can do
24 it in 30 minutes through the app.

25 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: So if you

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 wouldn't mind. Question, of the 1,400 at
3 this point that have completed their
4 application, is it because we're not
5 following up?

6 MS. WILLIAMS: Not at all.

7 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: It's because
8 they are in a stalled kind of status right
9 now, for whatever reason, the company, the
10 entity, hasn't followed up, correct?

11 MS. WILLIAMS: Right. The thing
12 about it is, when they register, that's when
13 they get a notation that they qualify. Once
14 they self identified that they are minority
15 or women owned business, upon registration,
16 that's when they get a notification that
17 they qualify for certification.

18 Then there's information that's
19 given to them, at that point it's up to them
20 to follow those directives and give us the
21 documentation.

22 What our staff does is, our
23 certification analyst, she sends out a
24 reminder or say just a congratulations, now
25 you qualify, the application process, blah,

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 blah, blah, then that's done through the
3 computer.

4 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: So that's how
5 I understood the process to really be rolled
6 out.

7 So from what I'm understanding is
8 that it's automated, for the most part, in
9 terms of the notification, congratulations,
10 you're at the next step, this is what we
11 require to get beyond the next step and to
12 complete the process. There is an automated
13 reminder that goes out?

14 MS. WILLIAMS: That's correct.

15 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: How many
16 automated reminders do they receive?

17 MS. WILLIAMS: I would say on a
18 daily basis, there's maybe between 20 to 40
19 automated reminders that go out.

20 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Just to remind
21 them?

22 MS. WILLIAMS: It's an
23 application that needs to be filed, or when
24 there's taxes that need to be filed or
25 supporting documents of some kind.

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: So they will
3 get an automated response more than once is
4 what you're saying?

5 MS. WILLIAMS: Yes.

6 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: And, until
7 they actually complete the process, will
8 there be automated responses or reminders
9 that go out that say push in your
10 information?

11 MS. WILLIAMS: Correct.

12 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: So that
13 doesn't really take an additional person to
14 manage that, you have automated your process
15 to the extent that it runs efficiently; it's
16 the entity that has to really get to the
17 next step. And then at the state level, I
18 don't why they take so long, but I do know
19 they do a much more thorough --

20 MS. WILLIAMS: It's much more
21 intensified there of course.

22 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Two years
23 seems long anyway. But in any event, their
24 process is definitely more thorough than
25 what we're doing. We're doing more of a

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 registration.

3 MS. WILLIAMS: If I can, we do
4 have a short form process where someone is
5 certified through New York State or New York
6 City, MTA, that there is a short form
7 process. So they don't go through as much
8 with us.

9 The thing is, our staff has to
10 actually review the documents still to make
11 sure that they're accurate. That's where
12 the time comes.

13 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: How many of
14 those do you think we get?

15 MS. WILLIAMS: What is that?

16 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: The ones that
17 are doing the short one process because
18 they're already established as an MWBE with
19 some other municipal government or agency.

20 MS. WILLIAMS: I would say at
21 least 50 percent.

22 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: So it's a
23 short process. I mean, you have to do some
24 level of the review of documents just to
25 verify they have been approved by some other

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 entity and then they are entered into the
3 system and you said it's within 30 minutes?

4 MS. WILLIAMS: Absolutely. We
5 can do it, absolutely.

6 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Do we feel
7 that we need someone additional to support
8 that effort?

9 MS. WILLIAMS: Well, I'll say,
10 there's always room for growth.

11 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Absolutely.
12 But right now are you not hitting those
13 1,400 because you don't have the staff?

14 MS. WILLIAMS: No. We are not
15 hitting those 1,400 because they don't have
16 the documents.

17 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: And you don't
18 have the documents. It's not because your
19 staff is failing to follow-up, it's because
20 although they're getting automated
21 reminders, they are just not responding?

22 MS. WILLIAMS: Absolutely.

23 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Our newest
24 member of the OMA staff is an attorney which
25 this body supported the hiring of an

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 attorney in that department, not even in
3 this last budget but the budget before that.

4 So it's a long time coming and we
5 welcome you onto the staff here at OMA and
6 we hope that you can assist in making the
7 process more efficient and effective and we
8 can try and engage as many MWBEs as
9 possible.

10 Again, don't forget our service
11 disabled veterans. So thank you for your
12 presentation and I look forward to moving
13 this item forward so we can start doing the
14 work.

15 MS. MACO: Thank you. Rhonda
16 Maco. I am the director of special projects
17 for the Office of Minority Affairs. I just
18 want to say thank you for that and I
19 appreciate it. We look forward to working
20 with you and as Mr. Chitty said, I hit the
21 ground running getting here and we would
22 like to continue with this disparity study
23 as soon as possible.

24 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Thank you
25 very much. Any other legislators?

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 Legislator Rhoads? Anyone else?

3 (No verbal response.)

4 Thank you very much again.

5 The last item, the last two items
6 are legislative items. E-12, Precise Court
7 Reporting, E-13 with Top Key Court
8 Reporting, these are both contracts to
9 provide stenographic services for the
10 meetings and hearings of the Nassau County
11 Legislature, and its committees as required.

12 The term is January 1, 2021 with
13 an initial term ending December 31st, 2022.
14 The agreement may be we renewed for two
15 renewal periods each for a period of two
16 years for a total of six years.

17 The maximum amount to be paid for
18 the first two years is \$170,000.

19 I don't know if anyone has any
20 questions or wants to discuss this. We had
21 to find court reporters who were able to sit
22 for a meeting for hours on end without
23 losing their mind. Turns out that Frank is
24 the only person in the world that could do
25 that.

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 Any debate or discussion?

3 (No verbal response.)

4 Any public comment on the
5 contracts?

6 (No verbal response.)

7 Hearing none, let me call all
8 those contracts again, not again, but just
9 to identify them other than the two tabled
10 contracts.

11 This includes U-1, B-1, B-3, B-4,
12 B-5, B-6, E-1, E-10, A-50, E-146, E-3, E-4,
13 E-6, E-5, E-6, E-7, E-8, E-11, E-12, and
14 E-13.

15 Any further debate or discussion
16 on those items?

17 (No verbal response.)

18 All in favor signify by saying
19 aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 Those opposed?

22 (No verbal response.)

23 They all pass unanimously and we
24 will go into recess until the other
25 committees are done.

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 (Whereupon, the Rules Committee
3 recessed at 2:21 p.m. and reconvened at 4:20
4 p.m.)

5 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: I'm going to
6 call the Rules Committee back into session.
7 We have a number of items that have gone
8 through committee, and it's been agreed that
9 there is no further debate or discussion
10 needed at this time on these items.

11 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 22, and 23.

12 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: So
13 moved.

14 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Second.

15 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Those items
16 are moved by Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton,
17 seconded by Legislator Schaefer. Any debate
18 or discussion on those items?

19 (No verbal response.)

20 Is there any public comment?

21 (No verbal response.)

22 All those in favor signify by
23 saying aye.

24 (Aye.)

25 Those opposed?

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 (No verbal response.)

3 Carries unanimously.

4 Item 7 of 2021, a resolution
5 authorizing the County Executive to execute
6 an intermunicipal agreement with the
7 Incorporated Village of South Floral Park in
8 relation to the purchase of thermal imaging
9 cameras, chain kits, storage lockers and
10 related items.

11 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: So moved.

12 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Second.

13 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Moved by
14 Minority Leader Abrahams, seconded by
15 Legislator Schaefer. Do we have any
16 questions or discussion on these?

17 (No verbal response.)

18 (No verbal response.)

19 Hearing none, all those in favor
20 signify by saying aye.

21 (Aye.)

22 Those opposed?

23 (No verbal response.)

24 Carries unanimously.

25 Item 8 of 2020, a resolution to

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 authorize the total maximum estimated cost
3 of the Bay Park outfall district structure
4 pipeline rehabilitation project.

5 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: So moved.

6 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Second.

7 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Moved by
8 Legislator Bynoe, seconded by Legislator
9 Schaefer.

10 Any debate or discussion?
11 Legislator Rhoads.

12 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: I just one
13 question, Ken. I believe you were asked the
14 question before by Mr. Budnick regarding the
15 project.

16 I just want to make sure on some
17 of the terminology, I don't want incorrect
18 information going on the record.

19 With respect to this particular
20 project, the diversion project. You will be
21 diverting treated effluent, not raw sewage;
22 is that correct?

23 MR. ARNOLD: That's correct.

24 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: That will be
25 diverted to the Cedar Creek outfall pipe,

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 not to the plant; is that correct?

3 MR. ARNOLD: That is correct.

4 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Thank you.

5 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Any further
6 debate or discussion?

7 (No verbal response.)

8 Hearing none, all in favor
9 signify by saying.

10 (Aye.)

11 Those opposed?

12 (No verbal response.)

13 Carries unanimously.

14 Now we have the items on the
15 addendum. Legislator Rhoads will be
16 recusing himself, leaving the chambers and
17 will not be participating in any debate or
18 discussion on these items.

19 These are items 9, 10, 11, 12,
20 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21.

21 These are all resolutions authorizing the
22 county attorney to compromise and settle
23 claims of the various plaintiffs against the
24 County of Nassau pursuant to the county law,
25 the County Government Law of Nassau County

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21
2 and the Nassau County Administrative Code.
3 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: So moved.
4 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Second.
5 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Moved by
6 Legislator Schaefer, seconded by Deputy
7 Presiding Officer Kopel.
8 Any debate or discussion on these
9 items?
10 (No verbal response.)
11 Hearing none, all in favor
12 signify by saying aye.
13 (Aye.)
14 Those opposed?
15 (No verbal response.)
16 Carries unanimously.
17 Ask Legislator Rhoads to come
18 back into the room and we can have a motion
19 to adjourn rather.
20 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: So moved.
21 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:
22 Second.
23 CHAIRMAN NICOLELLO: Moved by
24 Legislator Schaefer, seconded by Legislator
25 DeRiggi-Whitton.

1 Rules Committee/1-11-21

2 All in favor of adjourning

3 signify by saying aye.

4 (Aye.)

5 Those opposed?

6 (No verbal response.)

7 We are adjourned.

8 (Whereupon, the Rules Committee

9 adjourned at 4:23 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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

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

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
my hand this 12th day of January, 2021.

FRANK GRAY