

# The Legislature of Rockland County



**JAY HOOD, JR.**

*Legislator – District 3*

Chair, Public Safety Committee

**Members Present:**

Leg. J. Hood, Jr. Chair  
Leg. T. Earl, Vice Chair  
Leg. D. Jobson  
Leg. A. Paul  
Leg. P. Soskin

**Members Absent:**

Leg. F. Sparaco  
Leg. N. Low-Hogan

**Others Present:**

Leg. M. Grant  
J. Birnbaum, Esq.  
J. Rosenthal  
P. McNamee  
L. Bolson

Leg. A. Wieder  
R. Van Cura  
J. Hartwick  
C. Gitlin

B. Sullivan  
K. Mulligan  
J. Fella  
F. Hutton

MINUTES

***PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE***

TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2015

6:00 PM

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADOPTION OF MINUTES, MEETING OF MARCH 31, 2015

**MOTION TO ADOPT:**

**EARL/PAUL**

**UNAN**

1. REF. #5327 - APPROVING INTERMUNICIPAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF ROCKLAND AND THE VILLAGE OF SPRING VALLEY FOR REIMBURSEMENT TO THE VILLAGE OF SPRING VALLEY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$50,000 (NCTD) USING PREVIOUSLY BUDGETED FEDERAL FORFEITURE FUNDS TO COVER THE COST OF TECHNOLOGICAL PURCHASES THAT ARE NEEDED TO UPDATE VILLAGE OF SPRING VALLEY PATROL CARS FOR THE PERIOD DECEMBER 1, 2014 THROUGH DECEMBER 1, 2015 AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF THIS AGREEMENT BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE [SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT] (\$50,000)  
**(LOUIS FALCO, SHERIFF)**  
**DL# 2015-01194**

Undersheriff Van Cura said this is for computers and equipment.

**MOTION TO APPROVE:**

**EARL/SOSKIN, JOBSON, PAUL**

**ADDED SPONSORS: LEGS. HOOD, EARL, JOBSON, PAUL, SOSKIN**

**UNAN**  
**TRANSFER TO B&F 4/14/15**

2. REF. #6704 - APPROPRIATION OF FEDERAL FORFEITURE FUNDS REQUESTED BY THE OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY TO COVER OVERTIME COSTS CONNECTED TO A REGIONAL INVESTIGATIVE RESOURCE CENTER (RIRC) CONFIDENTIAL INVESTIGATION, AS WELL AS COVER COSTS RELATED TO LEASES AND A COMMUNITY RELATIONS CONSULTANT [OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY] (\$100,000)  
**(THOMAS ZUGIBE, DISTRICT ATTORNEY)**  
**DL# 2015-01107**

Judy Rosenthal said this goes to the Ramapo Police Department for overtime pertaining to a confidential investigation of the RIRC. Money is also going to vehicle leases, and a community relations staffer who puts together reports.

**MOTION TO APPROVE:** **UNAN**  
**JOBSON/PAUL** **TRANSFER TO B&F 4/14/15**

**ADDED SPONSORS:** **LEGS. HOOD, EARL, JOBSON, PAUL, SOSKIN**

3. REF. #6704 - APPROVING ACCEPTANCE OF CONTINUATION GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$164,970 (NCTD) FROM THE NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES TO SUPPORT THE SPECIAL VICTIMS CENTER-CHILD ADVOCACY PROGRAM FOR THE PERIOD FEBRUARY 1, 2015 THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2016 AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF ALL GRANT DOCUMENTS BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE [OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY] (\$164,970)  
**(THOMAS ZUGIBE, DISTRICT ATTORNEY)**  
**DL# 2015-00956**

Judy Rosenthal said this covers the cost of the Special Victims Center.

**MOTION TO APPROVE:** **UNAN**  
**PAUL/SOSKIN** **TRANSFER TO B&F 4/14/15**

**ADDED SPONSORS:** **LEGS. HOOD, EARL, JOBSON, PAUL, SOSKIN**

4. REF. #7300 - APPROVING AMENDMENT TO AN AGREEMENT IN AN ADDITIONAL AMOUNT OF \$30,000 FOR A TOTAL CONTRACT SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$215,000 BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF ROCKLAND AND DONAHOO CONSULTING, LLC (RFP-RC-2010-008) FOR RAILWAY SECURITY AND TRAINING EXERCISES AS NEEDED FROM AUGUST 13, 2014 THROUGH AUGUST 12, 2015 AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF THIS AGREEMENT BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE [SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT] (\$215,000)  
**(LOUIS FALCO, SHERIFF)**  
**DL# 2015-00883**

Undersheriff Van Cura said this is for training exercises related to the oil trains.

**MOTION TO APPROVE:** **UNAN**  
**JOBSON/EARL, SOSKIN** **TRANSFER TO B&F 4/14/15**

**ADDED SPONSORS:** **LEGS. HOOD, EARL, JOBSON, PAUL, SOSKIN**

5. REF. #4817 - *DISCUSSION ITEM:* REVIEW OF THE NEW YORK STATE COMPTROLLER'S FINDINGS/AUDIT OF VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S BENEFIT PROGRAM LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM (LOSAP)  
**(HON. ANEY PAUL, LEGISLATURE)**

Legislator Paul:

I want to thank all the fire officials and volunteers who have come here tonight for this discussion. This meeting is just that - a discussion - about the recent audit conducted by the New York State Comptroller which showed that fire districts and departments calculate and record firefighter's LOSAP benefits differently, which has resulted in firefighters getting fewer benefits than they are entitled to.

After reading the audit report, I thought it would be productive to utilize my position as a county official to bring together some of the different fire officials in Rockland, so that they could share the ways in which they calculate and record LOSAP benefits for their firefighters.

By bringing together different officials, we could also share ideas and thoughts of a set of best practices that each fire department and district could then - on their own - utilize moving forward when calculating and recording LOSAP benefits.

The county does not play a role in the LOSAP program. That is a job best left to each fire department and district. What we can do today is share ideas and the best practices of each department in Rockland- in order to ensure that each firefighter in our county receives the maximum LOSAP benefit based on their service.

What I would like to do to begin is to invite Gordon Wren to speak and share with everyone here how, to his knowledge, LOSAP benefits are calculated and recorded by the different fire districts and departments in Rockland.

Chair Hood said that it's important to share ideas on how to make sure that firefighters get the benefits they deserve.

Frank Hutton said that the audit showed that a few departments did not compute benefits properly. Differences in bylaws of fire districts also contributed to issues. He also explained the background of the program.

Leg. Paul asked how the points are computed, and Mr. Hutton said that they were done on a monthly basis and posted with information on all firefighters.

Jim Hartwick discussed information about the LOSAP program in Nyack. Someone is assigned to enter into the computer each firefighter's activities so that they can be computed into points and relayed to the fire district commissioners.

Leg. Paul and Chair Hood thanked everyone for coming out.

**DISCUSSED**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN: 6:45 PM  
EARL/PAUL**

**UNAN**

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