

**RULES, ENACTMENTS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE  
MEETING  
Held in Room 318  
PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING  
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

**Members: Chairman Othmer, Legislators Albano, & Gross**

**Thursday** **April 17, 2012** **6:30 P.M.**

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The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Chairman Othmer who led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call, Legislators Albano, Gross, and Chairman Othmer were present.

**Item #3 - Approval of Minutes – March 22, 2012**

The minutes were approved as submitted.

**Item #4 - Amend Resolution #375 of 2011/County Signage Policy/Discussion**

Chairman Othmer introduced the subject.

Legislator Albano opened the discussion stating that he would like to make clear a point he mentioned at a previous meeting regarding this subject, the people doing the Adopt-a-Road program were doing a good job and that he misspoke at previous meetings alluding to the contrary.

Legislator Oliverio stated this amendment would apply to only governmental individuals.

Legislator Tamagna stated that this amendment prohibits agencies such as the EDC or IDA from placing agency's name on items.

Legislator Oliverio requested that the term "unofficial" be removed from the proposed resolution.

Legislator Tamagna suggested the Committee add the language, "unless approved by the legislature" if County funds were used.

The Committee and meeting attendees further debated the benefits and harms of having specific names and wording on signage.

The Committee moved to amend the proposed resolution by adding the Adopt-a-Road program paragraph from Legislative Chairwoman Conklin's additional presented at the beginning of the meeting. The word "unofficial" was taken out of the proposed resolution per Legislator Oliverio's request.

The motion to pass the proposed resolution as amended was moved by Chairman Othmer and seconded by Legislator Albano, all in favor.

**Item #5 - Proposed Resolution/Ceremoniously Designate a Portion of Route 301  
“The Hudson River Turnpike” Formally Known as the Philipstown  
Turnpike/Discussion**

Legislator Tamagna thanked the Administration for introducing this item especially in the County’s Bicentennial year. He believes it truly identifies that road; this is the way to get to the Hudson River and brings the County together from east to west.

Chairman Othmer agreed and believes it will create community connection county-wide.

County Executive Odell clarified that it will not re-designate the portion of the road already designated as the “Sergeant Albert Ireland Memorial Highway,” stating that portion of the road will remain as “Sergeant Albert Ireland Memorial Highway.” County Executive Odell also reminded the Legislature and meeting attendees of the brief written by County Historian Denis Castelli for Eventful magazine regarding the turnpike and its historical significance.

Chairman Othmer made a motion to accept the additional for this item. Seconded by Legislator Albano, all in favor.

The proposed resolution was moved by Legislator Albano, seconded by Chairman Othmer, all in favor.

**Item #6 - Approval/Re-Appointments/Plumbing & Mechanical Trades Board/  
Bleakley/Sleight**

Chairman Othmer moved to pass the proposed re-appointments, seconded by Legislator Albano, all in favor.

**Item #7 - Fund Transfer (12T047)/Board of Elections/Contracts/FYI**

Item was duly noted.

**Item #8 - Electrical Board Items**

**a) Proposed Changes/Putnam County Code/Chapter 145 Entitled  
“Electricians”/Discussion**

Chairman Othmer invited Director of Consumer Affairs, Jean Marie Noel, and Electrical Board Vice Chairman to come forward for participation in the discussion of this item.

Chairman Othmer explained that he wanted the Electrical Board to review changes and present them to the Legislature to be reviewed by Committee.

Legislative Counsel Van Ross stated that he had one issue with the quorum aspect of the proposed changes. He believed that it had to be a majority of the whole board and that the language would need to be modified to address this issue. Deputy County Attorney Danielle Harris stated that she is able to make that change for the Legislature.

Legislator Gross requested that the language “upon recommendation of the board” be removed.

Director Noel stated that the board voted unanimously to have this language included.

Chairman Othmer agreed with Director Noel that the recommendation should come from the board and that the language should remain as suggested by the board.

The Committee and meeting attendees clarified that the Legislature will make the final approval of appointments and re-appointments upon recommendation from the board.

Director Noel stated that the Legislature would receive notice of the Electrical, Plumbing, and Home Improvement Board’s meetings, copies of submitted resumes, and invitations to the Legislature to participate in review. Director Noel emphasized a partnership for the purpose of discussion.

Legislator Tamagna stated that the goal is to empower the board and to have a good variety of skills and geographical location represented. Legislator Tamagna also reminded everyone to take the politics out of board selection.

Director Noel stated the additional changes to the law.

Deputy County Attorney Harris explained the justification for the removal of the restitution clause of the law.

Director Noel stated the addition to the law regarding the ability to suspend or revoke licenses and on what grounds.

Chairman Othmer moved to pass the resolution with the quorum modification, seconded by Legislator Albano, all in favor.

#### **b) Approval/Board of Electrical Examiners/2012 Fee/Violation Schedule**

Director Noel stated that the board voted for these fee changes with one individual voting in opposition of the limited data technician fee increase of \$50.00. This individual, Electrical Board Member Andrew Elio, was present at the meeting and came forward to defend his opposing opinion.

The Electrical Board Member Andrew Elio and the Vice Chair of the Electrical Board explained the intricacies of the limited data technician license, comparing and

contrasting to other licenses and corresponding job opportunities, and gave examples of applicable scenarios.

The Committee and attendees discussed the details of the above examples.

Board Member Elio asked if he could read a letter from the President of Regional Alarm and Systems Integrators Association to the Chairman of the Electrical Board. Director Noel stated the board had not received this letter as of yet. Board Member Elio stated he just received this letter today and it would be presented to Electrical Board Chairman Pidala on Friday at the Electrical Board Meeting. Board Member Elio read the letter which made comparisons of the license/fee in question to neighboring counties and the State.

The Committee amended Item #8b by removing the suggestion of charging \$200.00 for a Limited Data Technician Fee beginning with year 2013.

The Committee and attendees then discussed the new graduated violation fees. The Committee agreed with this suggestion.

Chairman Othmer moved to pass the proposed resolution as amended, seconded by Legislator Albano, all in favor.

There being no further business, at 8:00 P.M., Chairman Othmer made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Legislator Albano. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Krista M. Butler, Administrative Assistant.