MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Held in Room 1B of the Legislative Office Building on May 5, 2005.

PRESENT: Governor M. Jodi Rell

Lieutenant Governor Kevin Sullivan Mark Ojakian, Deputy State Comptroller

Senator Toni Harp Senator David Cappiello Representative Denise Merrill Representative Douglas McCrory

Representative Peter Tercyak

Robert L. Genuario, Secretary and Clerk,

Office of Policy & Management

John Bacewicz, Executive Budget Officer, Office of

Policy & Management, Budget and Financial Management Division

ABSENT: Denise Nappier, State Treasurer

Representative Arthur O'Neill

Governor Rell called the meeting to order at 2:12 P.M.

- 1. Lieutenant Governor Sullivan requested to change the record taking of the minutes of future meetings to indicate the voting on each item and to record discussions made by Committee members. This was agreed upon by Committee members and the Clerk of the Finance Advisory Committee. It was then voted to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 7, 2005.
- 2. The following new transactions were approved by the Committee:

<u>FAC 2005-22 – Department of Veterans' Affairs</u> –A transfer of \$150,000 from Personal Services to Other Expenses to cover costs of hiring temporary nurses. There was no discussion on this item and it was unanimously approved by the Committee.

<u>FAC 2005-23 – Division of Criminal Justice</u> – A total transfer of \$215,000 from Personal Services; \$80,000 to Other Expenses to complete the upgrade of agency computers and \$135,000 to Forensic Sex Evidence Exams to cover payments for forensic sex evidence exams.

Senator Harp expressed support for the Division moving forward with its Forensic Sex Evidence Exams. This item was unanimously approved by the Committee.

<u>FAC 2005-24 – Workers' Compensation Commission</u> – A transfer of \$402,331 from Indirect Overhead to Fringe Benefits to pay for the last quarter's fringe benefits.

Lieutenant Governor Sullivan asked for an explanation of CORE-CT's inability to allow for a fringe variance on Commissioners' Retirement. Secretary Genuario responded that the accounting methods used by CORE-CT charges current Commissioner Retirement payments against the Fringe Benefits account when in the past the Comptroller just billed the agency for the previous fiscal year's Commissioner Retirement payments which were then paid out of the Indirect Overhead account. This item was unanimously approved by the Committee.

<u>FAC 2005-25 – Department of Agriculture</u> – A transfer of \$50,000 from Personal Services to Fringe Benefits to meet the expenditures at the Regional Market for FY 2005. There was no discussion on this item and it was unanimously approved by the Committee.

<u>FAC 2005-26 - CT Commission on Culture & Tourism</u> - A total transfer of \$272,800.19 from various accounts to Other Expenses to pay for the consolidation of its three main divisions in one location.

Commission on Culture and Tourism (CCT) needed to transfer funds from various accounts into the Other Expenses account to accommodate the agency's move to one location. Lt. Governor Sullivan expressed his concern about lease costs for the new location as compared with the current lease costs. Since the agency has not been involved in the negotiations with the landlord and the Department of Public Works was not present at the meeting, no comparison could be given. However, the agency stated that its divisions are currently located at three different locations, which impedes the agency's functioning. This item was unanimously approved by the Committee.

<u>FAC 2005-27 – Department of Social Services</u> – A transfer of \$8,525,000 from Medicaid to meet anticipated end of year requirements in various accounts to meet year end requirements.

There were several questions asked about DSS' FAC from Governor Rell, Senator Harp, Senator Cappiello, Representative Tercyak, including the reason dollars are available for transfer in the Medicaid account and pursuant discussion about rebates. In response to additional questions, DSS provided an update on the implementation of the preferred drug list and clarified the purpose for the Refunds of Collections account. This item was unanimously approved by the Committee.

<u>FAC 2005-28 – Department of Children and Families</u> – A total transfer of \$3,631,418 from various accounts to cover deficits and resolve immediate cash flow issues. There was no discussion on this item and it was unanimously approved by the Committee.

<u>FAC 2005-29 – Judicial Branch</u> – A total transfer of \$1,350,000 from Other Expenses and OCE Alt Inc Program to Personal Services to fund the cost associated with implementing an Objective Job Evaluation study. There was no discussion on this item and it was unanimously approved by the Committee.

3. The meeting was then adjourned at 2:29 P.M.

Robert L. Genuario Clerk