

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Held in Room 1E at the Legislative Office Building on April 2, 2009.

PRESENT: Lieutenant Governor Michael Fedele  
Mark Ojakian, Deputy State Comptroller  
Howard Rifkin, Deputy State Treasurer  
Senator Toni Harp  
Representative Joan Lewis  
Representative John Geragosian  
Representative Craig Miner  
Senator Dan Debicella  
Michael Cicchetti, Deputy Secretary and Clerk,  
Office of Policy & Management  
Barry Sullivan, Assistant Executive Budget Officer,  
Office of Policy & Management, Budget and Financial Management Division

ABSENT: Governor M. Jodi Rell

Lieutenant Governor Fedele called the meeting to order at 1:04 P.M.

1. It was voted to approve the minutes of the meeting of February 5, 2009.
2. The following new transactions were approved by the Committee:

FAC 2009-10 – Commission on Children – A total transfer of \$19,000 from Other Expenses and Equipment to Personal Services to cover payroll impacted by the Governor's 5% rescissions.

Senator Debicella said we should not be taking programmatic funds and equipment funds for highly compensated employees.

Senator Debicella and Representative Miner voted no and this item was approved the by committee.

FAC 2009-11 – Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission – A total transfer of \$37,000 from Other Expenses and Equipment to Personal Services to cover payroll impacted by the Governor's 5% rescissions.

Senator Debicella said we should not be taking programmatic funds and equipment funds for highly compensated employees.

Senator Debicella and Representative Miner voted no and this item was approved the by committee.

FAC 2009-12 – Department of Veterans Affairs – A transfer of \$200,000 from Personal Services to Other Expenses to offset risings increases in energy costs.

This item was unanimously approved by the Committee.

FAC 2009-13 – Division of Criminal Justice – A total transfer of \$1,001,921 from Persistent Violent Felony Offender Act to various accounts to meet expenditures.

This item was unanimously approved by the Committee.

FAC 2009-14 – Department of Motor Vehicles – A transfer of \$200,000 from Personal Services to Other Expenses to provide funding for the renovation of the Wethersfield Branch to move employees from Waterbury to Wethersfield.

Representative Miner wondered if of \$220million in fund swept, any bond funding could be allocated for projects of the nature for which DMV needs to move funding from PS to OE (renovation and asbestos remediation in anticipation of the move from Waterbury to Wethersfield). Deputy Secretary Cicchetti noted that the Bond Commission would need to agree to move funding; none has been allocated for this purpose. Perhaps Personal Services can be reimbursed by bond funds later.

This item was unanimously approved by the Committee.

FAC 2009-15 – Military Department – A transfer of \$150,000 from Personal Services to Other Expenses to cover deficits associated with Facilities Management.

This item was unanimously approved by the Committee.

FAC 2009-16 – Department of Economic & Community Development – A transfer of \$266,607 from Other Expenses to Personal Services to match salaries for the federal Community Development Grant Program.

This item was unanimously approved by the Committee.

FAC 2009-17 – Department of Public Health – A transfer of \$340,000 from Personal Services to X-Ray Screening and Tuberculosis Care for the cost of care for TB patients.

This item was unanimously approved by the Committee.

FAC 2009-18 – Office of the Chief Medical Examiner – A transfer of \$85,000 from Personal Services to Other Expenses due to higher than anticipated costs in various accounts.

This item was unanimously approved by the Committee.

FAC 2009-19 – Department of Developmental Services – A total transfer of \$10,525,672 from Various Accounts to Various Accounts to meet end of fiscal year obligations.

Representative. Miner questioned why DDS had so much money available to transfer to other accounts and why the accounts proposed to receive additional money needed it. Commissioner O'Meara explained that DDS has been making a concerted effort throughout the year to generate these savings. The Commissioner further explained that the rent subsidy account supports rents for individuals DDS supports in their own apartments and that although they had a shortfall in the Workers' Compensation account, the actual number of individuals filing claims are down.

This item was unanimously approved by the Committee.

FAC 2009-20 – Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services – A total transfer of \$3,000,000 from Various Accounts to Various Accounts to meet end of fiscal year obligations.

Senator Harp asked whether the Department could support the transfer of \$700,000 from its Workers' Compensation account given that lapse projections seem to be coming in lower. Commissioner Kirk responded that the agency had been assured by the Workers' Compensation Commission that claims would continue to decline and thus the lapse would grow to support this transfer.

She also asked whether there were plans for the projected lapses beyond what was being proposed for transfer in this FAC request. Deputy Secretary Cicchetti explained that several accounts were being monitored for potential end of the year shortfalls and therefore, OPM and DMHAS were reluctant to reduce the anticipated deficiency or declare this money lapses until a determination could be made that it would not be needed to transfer to cover last minute shortfalls.

This item was unanimously approved by the Committee.

FAC 2009-21 – Department of Transportation – A total transfer of \$5,599,000 from Various Accounts to Other Expenses and ADA Para-transit Program to meet end of fiscal year obligations.

This item was unanimously approved by the Committee.

FAC 2009-22 – Department of Social Services – A total transfer of \$53,500,000 from HUSKY Program, Medicaid and ConnPACE to meet end of fiscal year obligations.

This item was unanimously approved by the Committee.

FAC 2009-23 – Department of Correction – A total transfer of \$1,760,000 from Inmate Medical Services and Persistent Violent Felony Offender Act to Other Expenses to meet the operational needs of the Agency.

Senator Harp asked why is persistent violent felony offender account lapsing. Deputy Secretary Cicchetti responded it wasn't any policy decision; it's simply delays in getting the programs up and running, but the agency is working as fast as they can to do so. Senator Debicella asked what is driving the \$17 million deficit if population has dropped from 19,800 to 19,000? Deputy Secretary Cicchetti responded the population did not drop early on in the fiscal year, the drop has been more recent. During the time of the higher population, the costs of food and heating and cooling facilities were necessary expenses that occurred during a majority of the fiscal year on a higher on average population count.

This item was unanimously approved by the Committee.

FAC 2009-24 – Department of Children and Families – A total transfer of \$4,500,000 from Board and Care for Children-Residential to Board and Care for Children Adoption and Individualized Family Supports to meet end of fiscal year obligations.

This item was unanimously approved by the Committee.

FAC 2009-25 – Children’s Trust Fund Council – A transfer of \$75,000 from Safe Harbor Respite to Personal Services due to payout of accrued time for retiree.

This item was unanimously approved by the Committee.

3. The meeting was then adjourned at 1:29 P.M.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert L. Genuario', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert L. Genuario  
Clerk