

District Manager Taylor stated the Keep Putnam Farming Program will be announced to the community. She stated farmers, community members, and municipalities of the County will be attending.

Legislator Gross questioned if this event will take place in the morning.

District Manager Taylor stated the event will take place in the evening.

Legislator Tartaro stated the concept of “Food to Table” is talked about on food channels regarding the Slow Food Movement. He questioned if this is a similar concept.

District Manager Taylor stated the Slow Food Movement is a similar concept.

Item # 3 - Approval of Minutes – March 10, 2014

Legislator Gross made a motion to approve the minutes; Seconded by Chairwoman Scuccimarra. All in Favor.

Item # 4 – Approval/Putnam County Chambers of Commerce/Proclamations

- a. Shop Putnam Business and Home Expo Week**
- b. Small Business Recognition Month**

Putnam County Chamber of Commerce President Bill Nulk stated the Chambers of Commerce has an Expo that has grown a lot. He stated the Expo will be held in June this year instead of May. He stated the Chambers of Commerce asked for the Proclamations be announced in May for the June Small Business Month in coordination with the Expo on June 7th.

Legislator LoBue questioned if the Expo will be held at the Putnam Hospital.

President Nulk stated the Expo will be held at the Putnam Hospital. He stated last year was the Expo’s first year and it turned out well. He stated improvements were made so the program will be even better this year. He stated the Expo will be County inclusive.

Item # 7 – Energy Rates Hikes/FYI

Legislator Albano stated the Legislature has to start to look into future technology such as solar panels. He stated the County is going to be a zone connected to ConEd Development soon.

Legislator LoBue stated this matter is different. She stated it is referencing an energy increase.

Consumer Affairs Director Jean Noel stated Putnam County will now be included in Zone J. She stated Putnam County will be supplementing a large portion of New York City’s electric costs. She stated some people will see their electric bills increase 30% to 40%.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra questioned if the Legislature needs to write our Congressmen.

Legislator Albano stated the Legislature needs to write to numerous people.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated there were many complaints regarding the increase in electric bills.

Legislator Albano stated the electric bill increase is a way to offset things from New York City to average out their rates. He stated Putnam County is going to assist New York City similar to the Watershed and MTA Tax.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated the Energy Rate Hikes is something the Legislature needs to look into and see if the Legislature can write letters or write a Resolution. She stated the Legislature needs to receive an explanation for the Energy Rate Hikes.

Director Noel stated the Energy Rate Hikes will begin May 1st.

Legislator Albano stated the Legislature needs to look into the future technology because it will offset County expenses.

Item # 8 – Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail/NYCRUNS Event/FYI

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail links the Town of Cold Spring with the City of Beacon along the Hudson River. She stated the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail has received a \$100,000 grant. She stated the Trail received matching grants from private funds that total to \$325,000. She stated the funds received still do not cover the whole project. She stated the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail is organizing a 5k run in the fall to raise money.

Item # 9 – Putnam County Economic Development Corporation/Meghan Taylor **a. Project Update**

Putnam County Economic Development Corporation President, Meghan Taylor stated she has been working with the Putnam County Planning Department to identify all of the projects that are before the Planning Boards, Town Boards and other municipalities to identify the main projects that are moving forward and to see if the projects are eligible for different types of funding. She stated she is also researching where porters for growth are regarding the projects before the Planning Board to see if the County can apply for a Consolidated Funding Application (“CFA”) for infrastructure upgrades.

Legislator Wright questioned President Taylor if the boards routinely coordinate with the Putnam County Economic Development Corporation (“EDC”) to get information.

President Taylor stated the boards sometimes coordinate with the EDC. She stated she keeps in close contact with the other boards. She stated she meets with the Supervisors of the Boards a few times a year.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated President Taylor is a new resource. She stated it will take time for the Boards to be aware of using President Taylor as a resource.

President Taylor stated she has been working with Barbara Barosa from the Planning Department. She stated Barbara Barosa has also been reaching out to the Planning Board and Zoning Boards.

b. Business Mentor NY/FYI

President Taylor stated April's Business of the Month was Fryer Machine Systems. She stated they are located in Brewster. She stated Fryer Machine Systems manufacture different Computerized Machine Tools that cut and form different metal products. She stated Fryer Machine Systems plan on adding 4,000 square feet and hiring ten (10) more employees. She stated on May 14th, the Annual Breakfast for the Chambers of Commerce will be held at the Putnam County Golf Course. She stated the EDC and the Department of Labor will be attending to inform Putnam County residents about the free services that are provided to different businesses. She stated the second part of the presentation is on Unemployment Insurance Reform. She stated May 21st there will be a Veterans Job Readiness Workshop. She stated this workshop is open to all Veterans in the surrounding area. She stated the sole purpose is to develop Veterans' skills to be more employable to the civilian workforce.

Legislator Gross questioned if President Taylor has seen a change in the economic environment move in an upward trajectory within the last year.

President Taylor stated she has seen a movement in the upward trajectory within the last year. She stated there is a steady uptick in leads. She stated all of the surrounding counties have seen an uptick in leads as well. She stated there is a lot of redevelopment and repurposing of buildings.

Legislator Wright questioned if it would be burdensome to ask the form be sent in a digital format to the Planning Board.

President Taylor stated everyone has to post most of the form online because it is public record. She stated the municipalities do a good job keeping everything up to date. She stated we have not received any negative pushback.

c. Unemployment Rate Rank/FYI

President, Taylor stated the Unemployment Rate Rank information in the Economic Development Committee Meeting is out of date as of two (2) days ago. She stated the EDC received the March 2014 numbers and Putnam County is ranked second in New York State for the lowest unemployment rate at 5.2%. She stated this time last year Putnam County was at 6.2% of individuals being unemployed and Putnam County was still ranked second in the lowest Unemployment Rate. She stated Putnam County has been doing well compared to the neighboring counties. She stated the Press Release sent from Governor Cuomo's Office is regarding the CFA. She stated the timeline was moved up and the application is open to applicants on May 1st. She stated the deadline for the CFA is June 16th at 4pm. She stated she has heard they are hoping to announce the award in the fall. She stated this year the five (5) Regions

that were identified as top performers in 2013 will be competing for two (2) awards of \$25 million each. She stated five (5) other Regions were not identified as top performers in 2013 are going to compete for the additional of the top three (3) spots for the \$25 million each. She stated essentially there is an attempt to spread the wealth to the Regions.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra questioned if the EDC plans on having a workshop.

President Taylor stated there are plans on having a workshop the third week in May.

Item # 5 – Industrial Development Agency/Rich Ruchala

a. Approval/Appointments

b. Comptroller DiNapoli’s Audit/Update

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated there were some issues at the March Economic Development Committee Meeting that the Legislature needed to take a closer look at the Putnam County Industrial Development Agency (“IDA”). She stated she believes the IDA cannot run properly with the members on the current IDA Board. She stated it is the responsibility of the Legislature to ensure that the IDA runs smoothly. She stated she has five (5) issues that she would like to address. She stated the first issue is the Putnam County Legislature is the appointing authority for the IDA members and there are no statutory or other requirements to obtain the recommendations of the Chair Member of the IDA. She stated under the IDA By-Laws the Chair only appoints non-voting officers.

First Deputy County Attorney Andrew Negro stated past practice has dictated the recommendation of IDA Board members come from the IDA Chair. He stated is not established in the State Law or his interpretation under the Bylaws. He stated the matter of recommending IDA Board members was perhaps past practice. He stated 856 of the General Admissible Law provides it is the governing body of the municipality which the IDA serves. He stated the IDA Board serves at the pleasure of the Legislature.

Legislator LoBue stated this matter has not been an issue before.

First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated the Chair’s recommendations have been adhered to through past practice. He stated he is not weighing in the matter. He stated under the 856 General Admissible Law it is not required for the Legislature to adhere to the IDA Board Chair’s recommendations.

Legislator LoBue questioned how long ago First Deputy County Attorney Negro was asked to give his legal opinion on this issue.

First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated he was asked about this matter within the last week.

Legislator LoBue stated she has requested County Attorney Negro’s legal opinion on the County Seal for the last two (2) months and is still waiting to receive an answer. She questioned the reason behind the order in which First Deputy County Attorney Negro handles projects and their completion.

Legislator Albano stated this matter is time sensitive.

First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated the legal opinion of the County Seal does not have a clear cut answer and he has been looking into all legal aspects such as Case Law, Statutory Law, and Regulations. He stated the matter regarding the IDA is straight forward and did not require a tremendous amount of research.

Legislator LoBue stated that this was not mentioned before.

First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated he respectfully advised Legislator LoBue the matter would take some time to research and he apologized if there was any misunderstanding.

Legislator LoBue stated that she respectfully disagreed. She continued to explain that the IDA matter was discussed in the Rules Committee at great length. She stated that the Legislature asked the current Chair of the IDA to come back with the recommendations of the voting board.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated she was not at the Rules Committee Meeting and she did not agree to that.

Legislator LoBue stated this matter is an issue because the Legislature made a promise to the IDA Chair. She stated the Legislature agreed for the IDA Chair to come back in a month after the IDA Board voted and bring forth the recommendations. She stated the original agreement has changed.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated the matter has not changed. She then discussed the second issue; which is the present number of members on the IDA Board is insufficient to have a quorum to conduct business. She stated there are currently only four (4) members on the IDA Board. She stated they had four (4) reports due in March that were not completed because the IDA Board did not have quorum. She stated the three (3) open positions should be filled immediately.

First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated 856 of the General Admissible Law provides up to seven (7) members on the IDA Board. He stated he believes this is appropriate and the Legislature since 1995 has appointed seven (7) members. He stated the Legislature also can appoint alternative members under the IDA By-Laws.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated the third issue of the IDA is the past appointments of the IDA members terms have been inconsistent with Article 18A in the General Admissible Law, which states the IDA Board members serve at the pleasure of the Legislature. She stated the terms should be what the Legislature deems appropriate for each member. She stated the fourth issue of the IDA is the Putnam County IDA has failed to file its 2013 Financial Statement in the form prescribed by New York State's Comptroller ("State Comptroller"). She stated the IDA also precluded from offering financial assistance that provides exemptions from New York State taxes. She stated the IDA Board should comply quickly as they can. She stated the fifth issue with the IDA is they have to file Corrective Action Plan ("CAP") in response to the reported

examination prepared by the State Comptroller. She stated she was told by the State Comptroller's Office the IDA needs to have an accepted Corrective Action Plan ("CAP") in writing. She stated the IDA has not provided financials to the Legislature and the website is not up to date. She stated she believes the Legislature should have oversight of the IDA.

Legislator Nacerino stated a lesson has to be learned. She stated for the Legislature to take control and set accountability going forward. She stated it is time for the Legislature to see the list of candidates, and make sure the IDA is accountable. She stated the Legislature is not going to make the same mistakes from the past; the Legislature is going to move forward in the correct direction. She stated the Legislature takes part of the responsibility in allowing the IDA to be so lax in the past.

Legislator Gross stated there has been a lot of upheave of the IDA and they were thrown out of their office twice. He stated the IDA does not have a secretary, and the IDA does not have funding. He stated he agreed with Chairwoman Scuccimarra in that the Legislature needs the Financial Reports. He stated the Legislature needs to acknowledge there has been disruption in the IDA that has damaged the IDA. He stated he hopes the Legislature can come to an agreement on what will be done.

Legislator Albano stated he was in favor of appointing someone to be on the IDA Board last month. He stated the IDA is in the Legislature's jurisdiction. He stated the Board members of the IDA do not have enough help. He stated the IDA alternate members will be important for the purpose of having extra "man power".

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated she would like to move forward with three (3) applicants, who have submitted their resumes before the IDA Board; who are James Meyer, Bill Nulk and John Zarcone. She stated the other two (2) IDA Vice Chair Rich Ruchala brought forth be alternates for the IDA Board.

Legislator Gross stated the Legislature should make a compromise and have Bill Nulk, Raymond Ruyack and an individual chosen by Chairwoman Scuccimarra to fill the vacancies on the IDA Board.

Legislator Wright stated Legislator Gross' proposal is a reasonable compromise. He then questioned the number of members on the IDA Board and if the IDA can operate with less than seven (7) Board members.

First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated New York State provides there should be not less than three (3) IDA Board members and no more than seven (7) IDA Board members; however in 1995 the Legislature decided the IDA would have seven (7) Board members.

Legislator Wright questioned if there can be three (3) IDA Board members and have a quorum of two (2) Board members. He stated he is trying to better understand the IDA and also why the Legislature does not have Annual Financial Reports.

Legislator Oliverio stated he believes there were Annual Financial Reports filed and he remembers when former IDA Chair Bailey would present the reports to the Legislature.

Legislator Wright stated a month ago he made an inquiry and he was told there were no reports on file with the Legislature. He then referred back to the issue of quorums and questioned if the Legislature has the document where it states there must be seven (7) IDA Board members.

First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated there are seven (7) IDA Board members currently appointed based upon resolutions of the Legislature.

Legislator Wright questioned if the IDA is a movable quorum.

County Attorney Negro stated General Admissible Law provides that a majority of the members of the agency shall constitute a quorum since the Legislature has appointed seven (7). He stated for the IDA to transact business currently, there has to be a quorum of four (4).

Legislator Wright stated he would agree but, from time to time there has been less than seven (7) Board members. He stated he does not understand what constitutes a mandatory quorum.

First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated he believes the mandatory quorum requirements is provided in the General Admissible Law in the Correspondence Section in the By-Laws that says a majority of the total members that are on the IDA Board. He stated based on the resolution the IDA Board is composed of seven (7) Board members.

Legislator Wright questioned when the Legislature allows less than seven (7) Board members on the IDA Board; the quorum is still four (4).

First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated there are seven (7) IDA Board members appointed by the Legislature pursuant to the resolution. He stated to have a quorum four (4) Board members must be present.

Legislator Albano stated a problem the Legislature runs into is one (1) member is gone several months out of the year. He stated it is important that the Legislature acts on the issue.

Legislator Tartaro questioned if the Legislature wanted to change the number of members on the IDA Board, would the Legislature need a Reso.

County Attorney Negro stated a resolution would be needed.

Legislator Albano stated he supports Legislator Gross' idea in creating a compromise.

Legislator Wright stated it is still not clear to him regarding the quorum matter, but he supports Legislator Gross' compromise.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated she thinks it is imperative to fill all of the vacancies and fill the alternative positions. She stated at the last Economic Development Committee Meeting it was

decided anyone who has not filed Annual Financial Reports will be asked to leave. She stated the three (3) applicants that came in first should be put appointed on the IDA Board and the other individuals who applied last should be alternates for the IDA Board.

IDA Chairman Ruchala stated a lot of the Annual Reports go to the EDC and sometimes the Annual Reports cannot go to the Legislature because the information is confidential.

Legislator Wright stated it is stated in County Law or New York State Law that Annual Financial Report with the Legislature is required.

Chairman Ruchala stated Mr. Bailey put the Annual Report in the EDC. He stated again some of the items are confidential. He stated the EDC is not like the IDA. He stated the IDA has always had good Annual Financial Reports. He stated compared to the surrounding counties, the Putnam County IDA was the only one (1) to show positive growth and the Putnam County IDA also has the lowest cost per job to the County. He stated he can get access to the reports if the Legislature wanted them.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated the Legislature is not disputing with the report. She stated the IDA is currently not functioning as a proper Board. She stated it is the responsibility of the Legislature to fill the vacancies, move forward, and file the Annual Financial Reports.

IDA Chairman Ruchala stated the Legislature has not asked him who he would like to be on the IDA Board. He stated the Legislature was given three (3) candidates without any reason to accept them.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated she does not understand why IDA Chairman Ruchala believes that. She stated a job was advertised and the candidates responded to the advertisement by submitting a resume.

IDA Chairman Ruchala questioned Chamber of Commerce President Bill Nulk how he submitted his resume and questioned if he was asked by the Legislature to submit his resume.

President Nulk stated IDA's Chief Executive Officer ("IDA CEO") Neil Sullivan told him the IDA Board was looking for people that were interested to become a member of the IDA Board. He stated he then submitted his resume to IDA CEO Sullivan.

IDA Chairman Ruchala questioned President Nulk if he "reacted to the advertisement".

President Nulk stated he never saw the advertisement.

IDA Chairman Ruchala stated the people the IDA Board candidates were interviewed and approved by the entire IDA Board. He stated IDA CEO Sullivan had no right under the IDA By-Laws to submit anything to the Legislature.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated she read the meeting minutes from the IDA's October Meeting where IDA CEO Sullivan stated he was going to advertise for applicants and IDA Chairman Kevin Bailey responded "go ahead Neil".

IDA Chairman Ruchala stated the issue is there are three (3) people who are on the Governance Committee, which is Teri Waivada, Vincent Murphy, and Maureen McLaughlin. He stated to the best of his knowledge Teri Waivada has not interviewed the applicants. He stated at a minimum the IDA Board should vet the people that they are going to be working with. He stated the IDA Board has vetted the individuals that were described in the letter Chairwoman Scuccimarra is referring to. He stated he believes the Legislature is rushing to judgment. He stated the Legislature asked him to come on with the applicants, and send in the notices. He stated if needed, he has resumes of the applicants.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated she is not disputing if all of the applicants will be good candidates.

Legislator Wright stated he believes the Legislature should go into Executive Session to discuss the issues.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated she would like to hear from IDA CEO Sullivan before the Legislature goes into Executive Session.

IDA CEO Sullivan stated to clarify on the letter he sent to the Legislature, the letter was prepared by the Chair of the Governance Committee, Teri Waivada. He stated Chair Waivada stated "here is the letter to send to the Legislature, with the three (3) people who have submitted their resumes to go on the Board". He stated he did not submit the letter without anyone knowing. He stated the IDA Board did interview some people last week. He stated he does not know why Mr. Meyer and Mr. Zarccone were not interviewed by the IDA Board. He stated they were asked not to come.

IDA Chairman Ruchala stated no matter who sent it in; Chair Waivada was not supposed to send a letter to the Legislature without going before the IDA Board. He stated the IDA Board would be full and the IDA Board would be going forward in a positive way. He stated Mr. Meyer and Mr. Zarccone were not invited because the way the IDA Board is set up. He stated the IDA Board selects a person from each town and every town is represented. He stated the towns Mr. Meyer and Mr. Zarccone would be representing towns that are already represented by an IDA Board member. He stated President Nulk would represent a town that is vacant. He stated his selections are very good for the IDA. He stated the Legislature should be looking at the whole picture.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated she believes it is not written anywhere that the IDA needs a representation of each town. She stated she does not believe that has ever been a priority of the IDA.

IDA Chairman Ruchala stated it is meant to be a goal. He stated it is not a written policy because it is something that cannot always be upheld. He stated the IDA should go back to this principle.

Legislator LoBue stated that the notion IDA Chairman Ruchala stated makes sense. She stated she also agrees with Legislator Wright in how the Legislature should go into Executive Session. She stated she feels that IDA Chairman Ruchala is being treated in a disrespectful manner. She stated the Legislature should go into Executive Session to discuss the personnel issues. She stated the Legislature should do due diligence.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated she agreed to go into Executive Session, but she would like to complete the other items on the agenda. She then proceeded to discuss item # 10 on the agenda.

Item # 10 – Putnam County Commission for Fiscal Vision and Accountability/Appointments

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated Legislator Nacerino, County Executive Odell, Town of Kent Supervisor Maureen Fleming, Town of Putnam Valley Representative Denise Camilloni, Town of Carmel Representative Jeffery Kellogg, Town of Carmel Representative Charlie Melchner, and Town of Carmel Representative Neal Sullivan and herself are currently proposed to be on the Fiscal Vision and Accountability Commission. She stated she would like eleven (11) people on the Fiscal Vision and Accountability Commission.

Legislator Oliverio questioned why County Executive Odell is the on the Fiscal Vision and Accountability Commission. He stated this has always been a Legislative focus and a Legislative enterprise.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated she agreed with Legislator Oliverio. She stated she is going to follow Legislator Wright's recommendation and table the matter.

Legislator LoBue questioned how many seats there are for the Fiscal Vision and Accountability Commission.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated there are eleven (11) seats.

Legislator LoBue questioned if there are nine (9) applicants.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated there are nine (9) applicants. She stated she would like to have a cross section of people around the County to give their ideas and their input.

Legislator Oliverio question if President Nulk was on this Board. He stated President Nulk is more than welcome to come to the Fiscal Vision and Accountability Commission because he represents the business community.

Director of Consumer Affairs, Jean Noel questioned if there would be a purpose or reason to solicit one (1) Department Head.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated the Legislature did from time to time invite Department Heads to answer questions about different things.

Item # 11 – Unemployment Report/FYI- Duly Noted

Item # 12 – Foreclosure Report/FYI- Duly Noted

Item # 13 – Other Business – None

Item # 5 – Industrial Development Agency/Rich Ruchala Continued

At 7:37 P.M Chairwoman Scuccimarra made a motion to go into Executive Session for employment history of a particular persons leading to the appointment to the IDA Board; Seconded by Legislator Wright. All in Favor.

At 8:00 P.M. Chairwoman Scuccimarra made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:00 P.M.; Seconded by Legislator Gross. All in Favor.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated no action was taken during Executive Session. She stated it is known there vacancies on the IDA Board. She stated under the purview power of the Legislature to put on alternates. She stated the Legislature formed a compromise. She stated she is presenting the individuals who will fill the vacancies are Bill Nulk, Ray Rulyak, Randal Chiera and the alternates will be James Meyer, John Zarcone.

Legislator Gross made a motion to approve the Industrial Development Agency Appointments; Seconded by Legislator Wright. All in Favor.

Item # 14 – Adjournment

There being no further business at 8:03P.M. Chairwoman Scuccimarra made a motion to adjourn; Seconded by Legislator Gross. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Administrative Assistant, Lisa Sommers.