

REORGANIZATION

HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

Hunterdon County Historic Court House
71 Main Street, Flemington, New Jersey 08822

JANUARY 02, 2007

The reorganization meeting of the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders was called to order at 3:41 p.m., in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

Clerk of the Board, Denise B. Doolan, welcomed everyone present to the annual reorganization meeting of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Hunterdon for 2007.

The Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders read the following meeting notice: "This meeting is being held in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Adequate notice has been posted by prominently posting and maintaining so posted throughout the year on the first and second floor of the County Administration Building, Main Street, Flemington, New Jersey, a public place reserved for such announcements, and by mailing on or before December 21, 2006, to the Hunterdon County Democrat, Lambertville Beacon, The Express, Courier News, Trenton Times, Hunterdon Review, and Star Ledger, newspapers designated to receive such notices and by filing with the Hunterdon County Clerk a schedule of time, date and place of the holding of these regular meetings."

Mrs. Doolan introduced Father Harry Mazujian to give the Invocation.

Father Mazujian led the flag salute.

Pledge Allegiance.

County Surrogate, Susan J. Hoffman, swore in Mary H. Melfi as the County Clerk, as her friend and sister, held of the Bible.

All present stood to recognize retired County Clerk, Dorothy K. Tirpok.

County Surrogate, Susan J. Hoffman, swore in Mary Beth Hurford as the Deputy County Clerk, as her husband and daughter, held of the Bible.

Mrs. Doolan asked the Honorable Leonard Lance to swear in Freeholder Elect Ronald M. Sworen.

The Honorable Leonard Lance swore in Freeholder Elect, Ronald M. Sworen, as his wife and daughter, held the Bible.

Freeholder Sworn addressed those present saying he is humbled and honored to stand here today in this historic court room as a Freeholder and thanked all for their trust in putting him here today. He thanked his wife and children for their support during his campaign.

Freeholders Sworen stated this responsibility means so much to him. He promised to make himself available to the residents of the County and to continue listening to the citizens of the County and to continue to make himself available to the residents. He will make sure the Board of Freeholders hold meetings, periodically, throughout the County, so as to be accessible to the residents.

Mrs. Doolan asked the Honorable Leonard Lance to swear in Freeholder Elect, J. Matthew Holt.

The Honorable Leonard Lance swore in Freeholder Elect, J. Matthew Holt, as his wife held the Bible.

Freeholder Holt stated there are many people to thank that supported him and Ron. That support is heartfelt. He thanked his wife, who is the best partner to go through life with.

Freeholder Holt feels Hunterdon County is a business and should be run as a business. He has a long range vision for the County. He feels the County needs to empower its employees. The Freeholder Board and its employees need to go in a unified direction.

Freeholder Holt thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve, as County Freeholder.

Mrs. Doolan asked for nominations for Director of the Board of Chosen Freeholders. Mr. Peterson moved and Mr. Sworen seconded a motion electing George D. Muller as Freeholder Director.

**ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. PETERSON, MR. SWOREN, MR. HOLT, MR. MELICK.
(ABSTAIN) MR. MELICK.**

Mrs. Doolan asked for nominations for Deputy Director of the Board of Chosen Freeholders. Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Muller seconded a motion electing Erik C. Peterson as Deputy Freeholder Director.

**ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. SWOREN, MR. MULLER, MR. HOLT, MR. MELICK.
(ABSTAIN) MR. PETERSON,**

Mrs. Doolan asked the Honorable Leonard Lance to swear in Erik C. Peterson as Deputy Director of the Board of Chosen Freeholders.

The Honorable Leonard Lance swore in Erik C. Peterson, as Deputy Director, of the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders, as his wife, daughter and son held the Bible.

Deputy Director Peterson thanked his colleagues on the Freeholder Board for electing him as Deputy Director. He will do his best to live up to their expectations. He thanked his staff, in his law office that have done extra work so that he could serve on the Freeholder Board and the Highlands' Council. He thanked his wife, who is the love of his life.

Deputy Director Peterson looks forward to the new year and is optimistic about Hunterdon County in 2007. He stated he represents all the people in Hunterdon, the rich, the poor, the young, the seniors, the new residents and the long time residents. He believes in good open conservative government.

Deputy Director Peterson feels Hunterdon County with the help of the Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce through shared services will be able to reduce the cost of living in the County. The County will be preserving more open space and farmland, and will keep County taxes down. The County's Human Services Department is researching an Aging and Disability Center for the County. His goal is to keep seniors in their homes. The Hunterdon County M.A.P. program through the Hunterdon Medical Center will help to reduce costs of prescription medications and in some cases, people who qualify won't have to pay for their medications.

Deputy Director Peterson advised the New Jersey Division of Veterans Services will be spending a day in Hunterdon County to meet the needs of our veterans, and to make sure that services are provided to Hunterdon veterans.

Deputy Director Peterson reported the County recently purchased land next to the Parks and Recreation Arboretum for expanding Park services. There is a tunnel from the Arboretum property to Echo Hill Park and the County is looking at putting in a bridge to connect the two park properties.

Deputy Director Peterson is optimistic about 2007, not just for his family but for everyone's family. This year there will be three members who have been here less than two years on the Board of Chosen Freeholders and with that, there will be a whole new direction given from the Board.

Deputy Director Peterson wished everyone a Happy New Jersey.

Mrs. Doolan asked the Honorable Leonard Lance to swear in George D. Muller as Freeholder Director.

The Honorable Leonard Lance swore in George D. Muller, as Director, of the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders, as his wife, daughter and grandchildren held the family Bible.

Director Muller recognized his wife, two daughters, and four grand-children for their support. He knows what a toll this past year has been on his family.

Director Muller stated it is a pleasure to hold his office, as a citizen of the County of Hunterdon, of the State of New Jersey, in the United States of America.

Director Muller acknowledged and thanked former Freeholders, Marcia A. Karrow and Nancy I. Palladino for their many hours in getting the job done and for all their hard work. He recognized his two new colleagues and supports Freeholder Sworen's idea to hold meetings in different municipalities around the County.

Director Muller advised in 2007 the Freeholder meetings will start in open session at 3:00 p.m., with the Board going into executive session from 4:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. At 5:30 p.m. the Board will hold its public hearings, and meetings with the public on various issues.

Director Muller announced that in 2006, the Freeholders completed the historic Court House, the renovation of the jail and the senior center. In addition, a lot of open space was purchased last year and the County closed on 26 farms in the Farmland Preservation Program; plus there are already 32 farmland applications pending for 2007. Last year the County worked on 23 miles of roadway and 27 miles are projected for 2007.

Director Muller reported the Hunterdon County Vocational School District, known as Polytech, finally has a home at the Hunterdon Central Regional High School campus. A contract is in place with Raritan Valley Community College for students at the County's High Schools and Polytech to receive college credit for various courses. The lease is ending for the Polytech campus at Bartles Corner, so the County needs to decide if its going to add another campus.

Director Muller reported in 2006 the addition and renovations to the Route 12 County Library Headquarters were completed and improvements were made at the Echo Hill Park property.

Director Muller advised to be completed in 2007 is the addition and renovation to the County's Emergency Services Building, the renovations to the Hall of Records and the Southard Building; plus the Route 12 County Garage expansion and renovation will be done.

Director Muller advised the County will be looking into putting a Library on the South County Park property and in building a clubhouse for the County Golf Course, Heron Glen.

Director Muller recognized the outstanding services provided by the County's employees to the residents of Hunterdon County. He noted that volunteers in the County are giving their time because they care about their community and fellow residents. He asked people to consider volunteering, because more volunteers are needed to serve on various County Board, Committees and Council. A list of vacancies will be compiled and placed on the County's webpage for those who are interested.

Director Muller wished everyone a very safe and Happy New Year.

Mrs. Doolan thanked Senator Lance and Father Harry Mazujian for being able to be here today for the meeting.

Mrs. Doolan turned the meeting over to Freeholder Director, George D. Muller.

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-3A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving 2007 Freeholder Departmental Chairmanship and Assignment Designations.

**ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. HOLT, MR. SWOREN, MR. PETERSON, MR. MULLER.
(ABSTAIN) MR. MELICK.**

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Peterson seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-3B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the establishment of County Office hours.

**ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. MELICK, MR. PETERSON, MR. HOLT, MR. SWOREN,
MR. MULLER.**

Mr. Peterson moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-3C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Setting regular meeting times and days for the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

**ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. PETERSON, MR. SWOREN, MR. HOLT, MR. MELICK,
MR. MULLER.**

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Peterson seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-3D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Setting pay days and audit days.

**ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. HOLT, MR. PETERSON, MR. MELICK, MR. SWOREN,
MR. MULLER.**

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Peterson seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-3E

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Naming of Depositories of funds for the County of Hunterdon.

**ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. MELICK, MR. PETERSON, MR. HOLT, MR. SWOREN,
MR. MULLER.**

Mr. Peterson moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-3F

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Designating official newspapers for the publication of County items.

**ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. PETERSON, MR. SWOREN, MR. HOLT, MR. MELICK,
MR. MULLER.**

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Peterson seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-2A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the manual signature for checks drawn for penalties against the County.

**ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. MELICK, MR. PETERSON, MR. HOLT, MR. SWOREN,
MR. MULLER.**

Mr. Peterson moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-2B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing 2007 salary and longevity payments for employees covered under the Hunterdon County Correction Line Officers' Association, FOP Lodge 29.

**ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. PETERSON, MR. SWOREN, MR. HOLT, MR. MELICK,
MR. MULLER.**

Mr. Peterson moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-2C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the 2007 salary and longevity payments for eligible employees covered under the Hunterdon County Prosecutor's Investigators, PBA Local 358.

**ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. PETERSON, MR. MELICK, MR. HOLT, MR. SWOREN,
MR. MULLER.**

Mr. Peterson moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-2D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the hold over 2006 salary and longevity payments for Sergeants in the Hunterdon County Sheriff's Office.

**ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. PETERSON, MR. MELICK, MR. HOLT, MR. SWOREN,
MR. MULLER.**

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-2E

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the hold over 2006 salaries and longevity for eligible employees covered under the Supervisory Communications Workers of America, Local 1034.

**ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. MELICK, MR. PETERSON, MR. HOLT, MR. SWOREN,
MR. MULLER.**

Mr. Peterson moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-2F

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the hold over 2005 salaries for employees covered under the Hunterdon County Sheriff's Officers' Association, FOP Lodge 94.

**ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. PETERSON, MR. MELICK, MR. HOLT, MR. SWOREN,
MR. MULLER.**

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Peterson seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-2G

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the hold over 2006 salaries for unclassified employees in the Board of Elections.

**ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. MELICK, MR. PETERSON, MR. HOLT, MR. SWOREN,
MR. MULLER.**

Mr. Peterson moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-2H

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the hold over 2006 salaries for elected, appointed and unclassified officials.

**ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. MELICK, MR. PETERSON, MR. HOLT, MR. SWOREN,
MR. MULLER.**

Mr. Peterson moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-3A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the hold over 2006 salaries for unclassified employees in the Prosecutor's Office.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. PETERSON, MR. MELICK, MR. HOLT, MR. SWOREN, MR. MULLER.

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Peterson seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-3B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving 2007 salaries for eligible employees at the Correctional Facility, covered under FOP Lodge 133.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. SWOREN, MR. PETERSON, MR. HOLT, MR. MELICK, MR. MULLER.

Mr. Peterson moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-3C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving appointments to the New Jersey Association of Counties, Board of Directors.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. PETERSON, MR. HOLT, MR. MELICK, MR. SWOREN, MR. MULLER.

Mr. Peterson moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-3D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving Appointments to the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, Inc.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. PETERSON, MR. SWOREN, MR. HOLT, MR. MELICK, MR. MULLER.

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Peterson seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-3E

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the appointment of Cynthia J. Yard as the County's Public Compliance Officer.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. MELICK, MR. PETERSON, MR. HOLT, MR. SWOREN, MR. MULLER.

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Peterson seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-3F

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the appointment of Denise B. Doolan as the County's Fair Housing Officer.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. MELICK, MR. PETERSON, MR. HOLT, MR. SWOREN, MR. MULLER.

Mr. Peterson moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-3G

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Danielle Lauyer appointed provisional, full time County Correction Sergeant, Division of Corrections of the Department of Public Safety.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. PETERSON, MR. HOLT, MR. MELICK, MR. SWOREN, MR. MULLER.

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-3H

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Joseph Ent appointed provisional, full time County Correction Officer, Division of Corrections of the Department of Public Safety.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. MELICK, MR. HOLT, MR. PETERSON, MR. SWOREN, MR. MULLER.

Mr. Peterson moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-4A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Dennis Broderick appointed provisional, full time County Correction Officer, Division of Corrections of the Department of Public Safety.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. PETERSON, MR. SWOREN, MR. HOLT, MR. MELICK, MR. MULLER.

Mr. Peterson moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-4B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Wesley Kollmer appointed provisional, full time County Correction Officer, Division of Corrections of the Department of Public Safety.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. PETERSON, MR. MELICK, MR. HOLT, MR. SWOREN, MR. MULLER.

Mr. Peterson moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-4C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, John Grossmith appointed permanent, full time County Correction Officer, Division of Corrections of the Department of Public Safety.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. PETERSON, MR. SWOREN, MR. HOLT, MR. MELICK, MR. MULLER.

Mr. Peterson moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-4D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Carrie Muscatell appointed provisional, full time Senior Account Clerk, Division of Social Services of the Department of Human Services.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. PETERSON, MR. SWOREN, MR. HOLT, MR. MELICK, MR. MULLER.

Mr. Peterson moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-4E

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Sharon MacLean appointed permanent, full time Senior Planner, Planning Board.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. PETERSON, MR. SWOREN, MR. HOLT, MR. MELICK, MR. MULLER.

Mr. Peterson moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-4F

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Rick Steffy appointed provisional, full time Assistant Planner, Planning Board.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. PETERSON, MR. HOLT, MR. MELICK, MR. SWOREN, MR. MULLER.

Mr. Peterson moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-4G

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving appointments to various Boards, Committees, Councils and Commissions.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. PETERSON, MR. SWOREN, MR. HOLT, MR. MELICK, MR. MULLER.

Mr. Peterson moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

See Page 01/02/07-4H

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving appointments to the Emergency Services Council.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. PETERSON, MR. SWOREN, MR. HOLT, MR. MELICK, MR. MULLER.

Director Muller asked all elected officials from the various municipalities to stand and be recognized.

Director Muller recognized the County's Constitutional Officers, Surrogate Susan J. Hoffman, County Clerk Mary Melfi, and Sheriff William Doyle; as well as New Jersey Assemblywoman Marcia A. Karrow and Assemblyman Mike Doherty.

Director Muller also acknowledged former Senator, William Schluter and former Freeholders Frank Fuzo and Paul Sauerland.

Director Muller again wished everyone a Happy New Jersey and invited everyone back to the Freeholders' Meeting Room for refreshments.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Director Muller adjourned the meeting at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise B. Doolan
Clerk of the Board.