

HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

Main Street County Complex, Second Floor

Flemington, New Jersey 08822

December 16, 2008

The regular meeting of the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders convened at 4:05 p.m. in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

PRESENT: MR. MENNEN, MR. HOLT, MR. MELICK, MR. SWOREN.

ABSENT: MR. PETERSON.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

Deputy Director Mennen announced: "This meeting is being held in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Adequate notice has been given by posting throughout the year a copy of the notice on Bulletin Boards on the First and Second Floor of the Main Street County Complex, Building #1, Flemington, New Jersey, a public place reserved for such announcements. A copy was mailed on or before July 29, 2008, to the Hunterdon County Democrat, Lambertville Beacon, The Express, Courier News, Trenton Times, Hunterdon Review and The Star Ledger, newspapers designated to receive such notices and by filing a copy with the Hunterdon County Clerk."

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTS

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Sworen seconded these:

See Page 12/16/08-1A RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive session to discuss claims regarding the 911/Emergency Services Center.

See Page 12/16/08-1B RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive session to discuss the reassignment of a member of the staff from one job to another position.

See Page 12/16/08-1C RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive session to discuss legal issues regarding the Sheriff's temporary budget, staffing and new hires.

See Page 12/16/08-1D RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive session to discuss leases on homes on Park property.

See Page 12/16/08-1E RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive session to discuss the status of the Prosecutor's negotiations.

See Page 12/16/08-1F RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive session to discuss hiring an attorney in connection with Nugent vs. the Hunterdon County Prosecutor.

See Page 12/16/08-1G RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive session to discuss the executive session minutes of November 18, 2008 and December 02, 2008.

See Page 12/16/08-1H RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive session to discuss legal issues concerning wireless towers in Raritan Township.

See Page 12/16/08-1I RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive session to discuss appraisals for the replacement of County Bridge E-166 in East Amwell Township.

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

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders went into Executive Session at 4:09 p.m. and reconvened in Open Session at 6:20 p.m.

PRESENT: MR. PETERSON, MR. MENNEN, MR. HOLT, MR. MELICK, MR. SWOREN.

CONSENT AGENDA

Director Peterson announced: "All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Hunterdon and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately."

Items #9, 13, 24 and 26 were held at this time.

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Mennen seconded a motion to approve the regular session minutes of March 04, 2008, November 06, 2008, November 18, 2008 and December 02, 2008.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Mennen seconded a motion to approve claims in accordance with the Claims Register dated December 16, 2008.

See Page 12/16/08-2A CLAIMS REGISTER

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Mennen seconded these:

See Page 12/16/08-2B RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, James Molinaro appointed unclassified, full time County Investigator, Prosecutor's Office. (Approved as part of 3 year plan).

See Page 12/16/08-2C RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Ana Sierra appointed permanent, full time Advocate Victim Witness Program, Prosecutor's Office. (Passed Civil Service exam).

See Page 12/16/08-2D RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Anthony Sturchio appointed permanent, full time Public Safety Telecommunicator Trainee, Communications' Division of Public Safety Department. (replacement).

See Page 12/16/08-2E RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Kathleen Bronish appointed permanent, part time Geographic Information Specialist 3, Health Department. (passed Civil Service exam).

See Page 12/16/08-2F RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Lizandra Toree Cuevas appointed permanent, full time Geographic Information Specialist 3, Information Technology Department. (passed Civil Service exam).

See Page 12/16/08-2G RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Amy Manning appointed permanent, full time Park Naturalist, Parks and Recreation. (passed Civil Service exam).

See Page 12/16/08-2F RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the Transportation Fare Restructure for the County Community Transportation service in Human Services.

See Page 12/16/08-2G RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the final application for payment, #25 FINAL, for Bid #2003-38, for the renovations and addition to the Hunterdon County Library Headquarters, with Rampart Construction, in the amount of \$86,537.49.

See Page 12/16/08-2H RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the final application for payment, #21 FINAL, for Bid #2003-38, for the renovations and addition to the Hunterdon County Library Headquarters, with Tore Electric Company, Inc., in the amount of \$98,127.89.

See Page 12/16/08-2I RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Mutual Assistance Agreement with the Township of Clinton for specialized law enforcement services for emergencies, through the Hunterdon County Emergency Response Team (CERT Team).

See Page 12/16/08-3A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Volunteer Agreement for the Hunterdon County Emergency Response Team (CERT Team), with Drew MacQueen, Clinton Township Police.

See Page 12/16/08-3B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Mutual Assistance Agreement with the Town of Clinton for specialized law enforcement services for emergencies, through the Hunterdon County Emergency Response Team (CERT Team).

See Page 12/16/08-3C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Volunteer Agreement for the Hunterdon County Emergency Response Team (CERT Team), with Tim McGuire, Clinton Town Police.

See Page 12/16/08-3D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Mutual Assistance Agreement with the Township of Readington for specialized law enforcement services for emergencies, through the Hunterdon County Emergency Response Team (CERT Team).

See Page 12/16/08-3E

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Volunteer Agreement for the Hunterdon County Emergency Response Team (CERT Team), with Gregory Wester, Readington Township Police.

See Page 12/16/08-3F

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a 2007 agreement with the Hunterdon Medical Center for public health nursing services.

See Page 12/16/08-3G

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a 2008 agreement with the Hunterdon Medical Center for public health nursing services.

See Page 12/16/08-3H

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the appointment of Herder Terricone Associates as the County's Risk Management Coordinator and designating Kim Browne as the local unit's Fund Commissioner.

See Page 12/16/08-3I

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the renewal of membership into the Public Alliance Insurance Coverage Fund, for three years.

See Page 12/16/08-3J

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the redacted executive session minutes of October 21, 2008 and November 06, 2008.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 12/16/08-3K

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, James Thatch appointed provisional, full time Program Coordinator Special Events, Library. (Desk audit results from NJ Dept. of Personnel to determine correct title).

Mr. Sworen stated that he wanted to hold this resolution to speak about the individual whom he has done an excellent job in the Library with the Library system and working with the bookmobile. Mr. Sworen felt this needed to be acknowledged.

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

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Mennen seconded this:

See Page 12/16/08-3L

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Requesting the resignation of the Hunterdon County Sheriff.

Mr. Sworen does not think it is in the Freeholders' right to demand the resignation of an elected official. While he does not agree with everything that the Sheriff has done; he does not feel this is the proper way for the Board to go about handling this issue.

Mr. Holt advised is not sure that this is the solution as this Board looks beyond 2008 into 2009 and 2010.

Mr. Peterson spoke with County Counsel earlier today because he had concerns on the impact this may have if the Sheriff decides to sue. County Counsel did not feel this will have an impact. This is not forcing someone to resign but it is making a statement about the problems that have taken place in the Sheriff's Office. He does not think this is over stepping the Board's authority. This is an opinion, which Mr. Melick felt complied enough to make that opinion known, as well as the issues in the Sheriff's Office. I.

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

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 12/16/08-4A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Invoking the County's right of sovereign immunity in order to move forward with a construction project for the County's wireless project.

Mr. Mennen explained a lot of thought has been given to this resolution. It has not been an easy resolution to come to terms with. The resolution itself deals with the relationship between the County Government and Municipal Government. While he did not support the construction project; he is supportive of the County's right to move forward. Mr. Mennen stated the County's staff followed the procedures outlined in case law and statutory law.

Mr. Peterson has given this resolution a lot of thought; in his opinion government has three extraordinary powers: the power to tax, the power of emanate domain and sovereign immunity. The legal right which this Board has under this resolution does not always make the exercise of that legal right legitimate. He is not voting for this resolution because he does not believe that the underlining basis rises to the level of using that extraordinary power. He has been skeptic of this construction from the very beginning.

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

Mr. Sworen and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 12/16/08-4B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a settlement agreement in the matter of Pizzolato v. Hunterdon County, et al.

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

SOLAR ENERGY PRESENTATION

Director Peterson stated he has invited Vanguard to the meeting this evening to speak about alternative sources of energy. He feels everyone has to do their part, including municipalities and the County. He said this is something to pursue on the County and municipal level.

Alex Rivera and Jerry Turnowitz came before the Board to try and put into perspective how the County and New Jersey can enjoy the benefits of renewable energy. They also have the ability to monitor renewable energy in a user friendly fashion.

Mr. Turnowitz advised that Vanguard has merged with the Ferarri Group, which is off of County Line Road on the Hunterdon County side. By combining the two companies they received more resources and they specialize in alternative energy sources. In New Jersey, solar energy is most explored even though most people do not see New Jersey as being a good place for solar energy. Solar panels are used which have solar cells; the sun hits the panels and generates electricity. This is a way to save money.

There are initial investments involved to purchase the system. Non-profits usually want to enter into a relationship, called the Power Purchase Agreement and that seems to be the most attractive for a township or any government body especially with the cut backs on the State level. This is seen as a way to save money instead of investing money. Mr. Turnowitz stated a profit can be made on the system long term. Non-profits tend to look at this as a way to save money and reduce costs.

In a Power Purchase Agreement, there is a third party but they take ownership of the system where the solar systems can reside and the end user would be the township or the school or wherever and they become a utility. They can offer electricity at a lower rate than is being currently charged, 10%-15% less. The reason this works is because the entity is taxed by individuals and corporations that are looking for a way to offset expenses. A power purchase agreement is similar to a lease and it is a little more open ended; where a lease is a fixed arrangement. In either case the system is owned and operated by that entity.

Mr. Rivera advised a lot of municipalities are looking into this system and it is very good because of the savings. This is a good investment and there are ways to interface a solar system on the roof and provide the County with a way to provide power that is clean and more efficient. The end user will enjoy a lower rate and then someone else maintains it.

Mr. Turnowitz added that this could help the County to become green and you will not only be saving energy and dollars but many trees will be saved.

Mr. Rivera explained the workings of the State of New Jersey's Solar Renewable Energy Certificate, and how the program works. They believe the public sites should take full responsibility and send a strong message to the public on saving money. They left an open invitation to visit their site to see how this works. He assured the Board they would love their building and it would be an educational experience.

Director Peterson stated if anyone had any questions.

Warren Cooper, reporter for the Hunterdon County Democrat asked if there were any other Counties in New Jersey participating in this program. Mr. Rivera advised that Morris and Burlington Counties are coming out with their RFP and Ocean County will be next. The counties are figuring out which municipalities would be interested and then they will go to the next step of getting an RFP. He said it takes awhile to get to the RFI and RFP stages but there are a number of Counties that are looking into this.

Mr. Holt questioned what size field and number of panels would be needed for Hunterdon County, with all its different locations and what determines what is in the RFP. Is there a minimum size that you need to have before entering into a contract. Mr. Rivera explained it is all about the usable space in the facility, there is no minimum. He just finished a site with 14 panels for a local school and it shows the students that there are alternative ways to save power and use power. If you have a list of projects that the County would like to do, then they could look into the solutions for the panel. They talked with the mayor of Branchburg and they are looking at a site off Route 202 that could accommodate this program. The Township not only would get benefits for the land but also for the solar power. The Board may want to look at it on a County level to determine if you can do a co-development type program where you clean up a property like the building by Walgreens that was redeveloped. They talked last week with an adult community in Oldwick and they are looking to put it throughout so each opportunity is vastly different and can be structured to fit that need.

Mr. Sworen asked if they took one building here and it creates 50% more energy than the County uses, would the other 50% be bought? How does that work. Mr. Rivera advised that currently you can not generate more than you use. There will eventually be a Community Solar Bill that will provide that one site to provide all of the energy in the County.

Director Peterson said the Board needs to look and determine what is involved. The Board will have to reach out to the municipalities before going forward with anything. The Freeholders also need to see what other counties and municipalities are doing and they may have something that will work in Hunterdon. He will be asking Morris County for information on their program for this Board to consider.

Director Peterson explained he wanted this presentation tonight as he thinks this is a great idea but Hunterdon doesn't want to do this so fast that things may be lost. This Board needs to determine the best process that will work here. He asked the life expectancy of the solar panels. Mr. Rivera stated the guaranteed life is 25 years but you can get more than that. The warranty period is 25 years but they can last longer than that.

Director Peterson thanked everyone for coming tonight.

Director Peterson left the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

PROCLAMATION/RECOGNITION

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

See Page 12/16/08-5A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Recognizing George Wickard for having served 18 years on the Hunterdon County Planning Board.

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

Director Peterson returned to the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

COUNTY UPDATE

County Vehicle Policy

Cynthia J. Yard, County Administrator informed the Board that the vehicle use policy has gone through many changes. The Fleet Management Committee has included everything the Board was concerned about. This policy states many things that were already in the policy and took on new policies from the County's Policy Manual. One of the outstanding issues was working with the Sheriff to decide how many vehicles would go home as "on call". The Sheriff wrote a letter to the Board on November 26, 2008 stating she would comply to the Freeholders' decision to have two vehicles go home with employees of her choice. The Fleet Management Committee met December 4 and 5, 2008, and they wrote a memorandum saying they understand the importance of Project Lifesaver but do not feel a vehicle is necessary for that program. Project Lifesaver violates all of the County's policies and it is not recommended they be able to use a vehicle as a take home vehicle.

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

See Page 12/16/08-6A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the revised County Vehicle Policy.

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

Mr. Holt questioned how often has the Project Lifesaver box been activated in any given year. Mrs. Yard advised it has never been activated for a missing person but it was tested for a drill, not an emergency. Once the Project Lifesaver box is activated, it is like a geiger counter and it would have to go the location that the person is missing but if they are out of the realm of the transmitter it doesn't work. It is not like GPS because it does not pinpoint the exact location but it does give an approximate area.

Director Peterson asked how much this system costs. Mrs. Yard is not sure how much the Project Lifesaver equipment costs but would assume it is like a GPS unit. Director Peterson thinks that a private entity could do this cheaper.

FINANCE

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Mennen seconded this:

See Page 12/16/08-6A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the cancellation of various Ordinances.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

See Page 12/16/08-6B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the cancellation of a grant receivable for the 2008 Hunterdon County Agriculture Market Development Program, in the amount of \$23,275.75.

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

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

See Page 12/16/08-6C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Requesting the Division of Local Government Services insert an item of revenue in the 2008 County Budget for the Division of Criminal Justice, Body Armor Replacement Fund, in the amount of \$8,550.38.

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

FOR DISCUSSION

A request was received from the Cultural and Heritage Commission, for funding to update the *Sites of Historic Interest* of the County. Mrs. Yard reminded the Board when they were talking about the Open Space Tax Trust Fund for Historic Preservation, this was talked about and the Board said it would make the final discussion. The Cultural and Heritage Commission has sent a request to the Board for \$5,000 to \$10,000 worth of funding to complete their site reach for the County. Cultural and Heritage has used money from fiscal year 2008 and fiscal year 2009 to have this project completed. They thought the money could come from either the Open Space Tax Trust Fund or money they have been putting aside for the 2014 Bicentennial. She wanted to bring this to the Board's attention and stated it does not have to be decided tonight.

Mr. Sworen asked if Mr. DeSapio had looked into this to make sure that it is legal. Mrs. Yard confirmed this has been looked into. The Bicentennial fund comes up every year at budget time, just like the County fair and other events that take place.

Mrs. Yard will look into this further and bring it back to the Board on December 29, 2008.

Mr. Melick recused himself at 7:50 p.m.

FARMLAND PRESERVATION

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 12/16/08-6D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the acquisition of a development easement from Readington Township, on property owned by Hanna Saqa and Hanna Abu Ghattas, Block 75, Lot 33, estimated 116 acres, (SADC-1,531,200, County-\$510,400, Township-\$510,400), total amount of \$2,552,000.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 12/16/08-7A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the final cost share to purchase a development easement from Delaware Township, on the Danese Farm, Block 32, Lot 32, estimated 67 acres, (SADC-\$627,750, County-\$251,100, USDA FRPP-\$273,725, Township-\$156,250), total amount of \$1,308,825.

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

PURCHASING

Mr. Mennen moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

See Page 12/16/08-7B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving Requisition #24107, using State Contract A-53804, with Motorola, for communications equipment, for the Communications Division, Public Safety Department, in the amount of \$137,046.80.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Mennen seconded this:

See Page 12/16/08-7C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving Requisition #HCJ.47383, using County Quote #0114-2008, with E&A Hotel & Restaurant Supply, for a dishwasher, for the Corrections Division, Public Safety Department, in the amount of \$11,261.69.

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

Mr. Melick returned to the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 12/16/08-7D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2008-28, for Food and Commissary Services, for the Public Safety Department, to Aramark Correctional Services, in an amount not to exceed \$976,614.08.

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

Mr. Melick MOVED and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 12/16/08-7E

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2008-33, to furnish and deliver Custom Fitted Uniforms for the Hunterdon County Corrections Division and Emergency Services Division of the Public Safety Department, Parks and Recreation and the Sheriff's Office, to Universal Uniform Sales Co., Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$96,386.50.

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

Public Health Nursing

Mr. Mennen advised on December 11, 2008 the Board has a discussion on Public Health Nursing and he thought that discussion would continue tonight. The December 11, 2008 discussed concerned the pros and cons/pluses and minuses to bidding out these services.

Mr. Mennen advised he requested the ability to read the contracts, which he has done, and he has a couple of observations, a question or two and a suggestion on how the County should proceed. He is aware there was discussion on what would happen if the calendar year lapsed. The other more noteworthy observation is that the basis of the discussion with Mr. Beckley was about the costs. He did not read anywhere in the contract where it is specifically stated, not is there any level of detail which sets forth a cost structure. The contract sets a maximum amount for a scope of services which are an attachment to the agreement; it does not say in anyway, shape or form each training session and it is not broken down for each task. A large part of Mr. Beckley's rationale to be in favor of this is that if we do not use the service we are not charged for it and he has ever reason that that is the case.

John Davenport, County Purchasing Agent thinks Mr. Beckley was trying to show the Board that the hospital does not take the total dollar amount and that the cost is broken up into four different payments, and the Hunterdon Medical Center (HMC) bills the County each quarter. HMC bills the County for each service that they feel they have provided, so each bill will be different as to what they supply to Mr. Beckley as the services for that quarter. Mr. Mennen advised he understands that but he is concerned because who is to say what is reasonable and right.

Mr. Mennen feels the wording in the contract needs to be changed to reflect what a reasonable charge is for each service. No matter what the County does, the wording has to be revised. The contract is not written correctly.

Mr. Mennen said in looking at Exhibit A, the Scope of Services, it appears to him that there are a number of items; if not all the items in the scope of services that could be individually bid. He understands the argument for local benefits and having someone that has local knowledge but he does not see why one if not all of the items can't be bid.

Mrs. Yard informed the Board that meetings have been held, and there was to be some discussion or reconciliation on the ability to spend that contract. The Board has time to work on the contract, as the contract states after the termination date; the contract goes on a month to month basis. A good part of 2008 was spent on this issue. What needs to be done, is to clearly state what is expected of the County and what is expected of the Hunterdon Medical Center.

Mrs. Yard said one of the other things that Mr. Davenport and herself spoke with Mr. Beckley about is when you start to put in an RFP and say you do \$1000 for an RN and it is \$30 an hour then they figure out how much they can do with that amount and what services they can provide. This way they will know how much it will cost for them to do this. They need to know what kind of staffing levels they need to make the service take place. Mr. Davenport said that is the difficulty in this because you can identify a flu clinic but the idea of what a flu clinic will entail may be different from scope to scope.

Mr. DeSapio said if the majority of the Board wants to do this, then you need to make the decision on what kind of In-Kind services you will provide; whether it be space, cars or anything else you will provide and then everyone will know and be on the same page. He suggested that for the first year we can mirror the situation and see how it goes.

Mrs. Yard advised the Board that is a provision in the contract to extend it and then the County will have to get together and work on it. Mr. Mennen wants to see cost transparency. The concept has been batted around but at the end of the day it is an employee contract; whether it is a nurse or someone with a different title, it must state that only x-dollars an hour be charged; then at least the County will get something on paper from the beginning of the contract which is agreed too, and know that certain people would be billed in certain ways. Mr. Mennen advised he still thinks certain items can be bid out.

Mrs. Yard stated that the Board can say to Public Health Nursing that they want to see certain programs run and determine how much to spend on each program being held. The County can dictate what it wants to see done, such as a County Health Fair and then that would be part of the services the Board wants them to deliver.

Mr. Melick confirmed the County has the means to change the contract language and it should be done, so the County is fully aware of each service provided and the cost for same. Director Peterson agreed.

Mr. Mennen and Director Peterson are interested in working on this contract further with John Beckley, the Health Director and John Davenport, the Purchasing Agent. Mr. Mennen hopes to be able to present something to the Board for consideration by the end of January 2009.

PROJECT UPDATE

Frank J. Bell, AIA, County Project Administrator updated the Board on various County facilities and projects:

- The Deer Path Park project is being closed out. The County is waiting for the final closing out paperwork.
- Negotiations with the contractor on the Route 12 County Garage Headquarters to repair or replace one lift and correct the fuel pump system continues. Money is being held from the contract on the lifts.
- The propane system for the Emergency Services Center has been installed and once they are up and running, the County will apply for a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy and move the group into the new section and work will begin on the old section of the building.
- The Hall of Records should be completed by the end of this year and the Southard Building work will begin next year.
- The Everittstown Garage is about 90% complete.
- The South County Garage permit based on DEP recommendations has been received.
- The County is working with the architect on the issues concerning the Warehouse/Records Retention Center.
- The County is still receiving applications for the Small Cities Housing Rehabilitation grant project. Contracts are being closed out and 2004 is now completed and the County will be reimbursed.

Solar Energy

Mr. Holt made a quick comment about the solar panels and mentioned that he heard a consultant was hired. Mr. Holt stated the assessment is being done in-house. He asked that anyone working on this email him. The preliminary committee that comes back to help the Board needs to be aware of what they need to accomplish.

GRANTS

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Mennen seconded this:

See Page 12/16/08-9A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a grant for Personal Assistance Services, with the State Department of Human Services, to administer non-service related aspects of the program, in the amount of \$33,300 (state funds).

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Mennen seconded this:

See Page 12/16/08-9B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a grant application for Recreational Opportunities for the Disabled, in the amount of \$8,400.01 (\$7,000 state funds, County match of \$1,400.01).

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

CEHA Grant

Mrs. Yard reported to the Board that the County has a grant management committee that reviews all grants brought before the Board. A resolution needs to be adopted authorizing an application to apply for a grant and a resolution needs to be adopted to accept the grant.

Three years ago a grant management committee was formed, which consists of Mrs. Yard, Jeanne Ferrari and Rhonda Kelly. They meet with the departments applying for grants. In the situation of the Department of Health, they met with Carla Hobbs. Last year's CEHA grant was for \$153,000. There has been discussion on the impact of the recycling plan, its enforcement and education which will be on the County. This is such an important issue that it was placed in the goals and objectives for the Health Department. The State Department of Environmental Protection has stated this is an excellent part of for the CEHA grant. Unfortunately when the CEHA grant came the Health Department sent it to Trenton before it came was reviewed by the Grant Committee, which must be done to get approval from the Board. Mrs. Yard stated she is bringing this to the Board's attention because there has been no such money allocated for this and it is so important that she included it in the goals and objectives of the Department.

Mrs. Yard explained the way the CEHA grant is put into practice, six employees have their salary deferred from it and she also asked for the number of the actual investigations that the Health Department had completed. When the Freeholders authorize signature of the CEHA grant the County is saying that it will enforce all of the state's rules.

Mrs. Yard asked the Board to delay approving this Grant resolution because she feels there is a need to discuss this further with the Health Director, John Beckley. The expectations are very clearly yet the Health Department has chosen other directions for the Grant, with the biggest part of the grant being used for salaries. Mrs. Yard believes 90% is used for salaries of six people.

Mrs. Yard has spoken with Somerset County on what they do with their grant. She feels there is a better way to administer the grant and stated the County of Hunterdon has to take a good look at the CEHA grant to make sure it is being utilized in the best manner possible to help the County. She asked the Board to pull this from the agenda for now to allow her time to speak with Mr. Beckley.

Director Peterson questioned how the County knows it's benefiting from the CEHA grant if all we are doing is state DEP enforcement.

Mrs. Yard explained out of 400 inspections done by the County Health staff, half was done for CEHA. This challenge is faced with any grant and it is very difficult for managers to give up free money, although it is not always free when it comes with strings attached.

After further discussion, Mrs. Yard was directed to ask Mr. Beckley to prepare an analysis of the grant for the Board to consider.

CORRESPONDENCE

A request was received from the Garden State Underwater Recovery Unit for permission to hold a Coin Toss, on Saturday, December 20, 2008, from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 pm., at the intersection of County Route 519 and Bridge Street in Milford. Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Melick seconded a motion granting permission, provided this event is coordinated through the County Department of Roads, Bridges and Engineering.

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

FREEHOLDERS ASSIGNMENT REPORTS

NJTPA

Mr. Holt began speaking about the NJTPA, stating the County still sits on the Committee and about a year ago Hunterdon had a project in the plan, there is a section on Route 31 eroding and that project was taken off but funded by NJTPA. Mr. Holt is pleased to inform the Board that at the NJTPA meeting on Monday the project has been added back into plan for funding.

Mr. Holt advised that Hunterdon County has had had three success stories with the NJTPA, this year with Route 22, then Route 29 and now Route 31.

Deer Recovery

Mr. Melick brought up the issue of deer collection. He advised that the Director of Public Safety has an idea to use inmate to collect dead deer from the County's roads. This time of year there is no smell as it is cold. The State has informed the Board that it is our responsibility to go out and pick them up.

Mr. Mennen suggested after the deer are collected they could be taken to the transfer station. He thought when this was brought up the last time that there was to be a test area to see how the County could handle this situation and if it could work. Mr. Sworen agreed saying the County was going to see which roads had the most deer on them and go from there.

Mr. Wagner informed the Board that Mr. Glynn is looking at a mechanism that could be used at the transfer station to pick them up and process them.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Director Peterson opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Director Peterson adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise B. Doolan
Clerk of the Board