

HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

Main Street County Complex, 2nd Floor
Flemington, New Jersey 08822

January 20, 2009

The regular meeting of the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders convened at 3:04 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

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 January 02, 2009, 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."

EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTS

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Sworen seconded these:

See Page 01/20/09-1A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss the assignment of vehicles and labor negotiations with the County Prosecutor.

See Page 01/20/09-1B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss appointments to various boards and committees.

See Page 01/20/09-1C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss staffing issues and the reassignment of an employee.

See Page 01/20/09-1D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss various labor negotiations.

See Page 01/20/09-1E

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss legal issues regarding the wireless project, the Hunterdon County Housing Corporation dissolution, Parks rehabilitation and the Sheriff.

See Page 01/20/09-1F

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss the review of executive session minutes.

See Page 01/20/09-1G

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss land acquisition in various townships.

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 3:09 p.m. and reconvened in Open Session at 5:18 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

BUILDINGS AND MAINTENANCE

Pete Maddalena, Director of Buildings and Maintenance came before the Board to request permission to renew membership in the International Association of Electrical Inspectors, in the amount of \$90. He handed out a magazine about the Inspectors' Association saying most of the electrical inspectors in the United States belong to it and noted that most of the meetings are held in Woodbridge, New Jersey. Mr. Maddalena informed the Board that he has not attended the Woodbridge meetings but the meetings are moving to going to be moving to the Holiday Inn in Clinton, New Jersey and he would be attending some of them. He informed the Board also, that with the membership he would receive every three years a new code book.

Mrs. Yard explained it is County policy that if an international membership is denied, a department head requesting a waiver must come before the Board to make a presentation on why it is important to join or be a part of these associations.

Mr. Sworen asked to be provided with a list of all departments who have requested international memberships and were denied membership.

After further discussion, Mr. Melick and Mr. Holt seconded a motion to approve membership to the International Association of Electrical Inspectors, for Pete Maddalena, Director of Buildings and Maintenance, in the amount of \$90.

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

FINANCE

Director Mennen opened the public hearing on the establishment of a CAP bank.

Kim Browne, Finance Director explained to the Board that approval of this resolution would allow the County an extra 1% and would give the County an extra 3%; it does not mean that the County would need to use the CAP bank but it would be there if it was needed.

Director Mennen questioned if anyone from the public would like to make a comment or statement.

There being no comments or statements from the press or public, Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded a motion to close the public hearing.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 01/20/09-2A RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Resolution to exceed the County Budget Appropriation Limits and to establish a CAP Bank.

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

Director Mennen and Mr. Melick left the meeting at 5:25 p.m.

FARMLAND PRESERVATION

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 01/20/09-2B RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Contract of Sale of Development Easement from Tewksbury Associates, Inc., on Block 16, Lots 23, 23.01 and 23.02, consisting of 56.4 acres, (SADC-\$642,960, County-\$214,320, Township-\$214,320), total amount \$1,071,600.

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

Director Mennen returned to the meeting at 5:26 p.m.

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 01/20/09-2C RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the payment of installment balances for the Planning Incentive grants.

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

Mr. Melick returned to the meeting at 5:27pm.

PURCHASING

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 01/20/09-2D RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving Requisition #24117, using County Quote #0123-2008, with Whelan Enterprises, for the installation of antennas for the Public Safety Department, in the amount of \$22,300.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 01/20/09-2E RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving Requisition #24171, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5DD, with Unisys, for hardware maintenance for the Public Safety Department, in the amount of \$17,544.12.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

See Page 01/20/09-3A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving Requisition #IT.3029, using State Contract #A-72727, with Dell/ASAP Software, for software licenses for Information Technology, in the amount of \$117,828.38.

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

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

See Page 01/20/09-3B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving County Quote #0100-2008, for a professional services agreement to provide engineering design services for safety and mobility improvements to the intersection of County Route 600 (Wescott Drive) and County Route 612 (Sand Hill Road), in Raritan Township, with Malick & Scherer, PC, in an amount not to exceed \$113,940.75.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

See Page 01/20/09-3C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving County Quote #0102-2008, for a professional services agreement to provide engineering design services for the reconstruction of County Route 519/Warren Glen Hill Climbing Lane, in Holland Township, with Cherry, Weber and Associates, for an amount not to exceed \$349,986.

Mr. Sworen questioned if this would create a two lane Road. John P. Glynn, Director, Roads, Bridges and Engineering explained there is some widening and drainage on top of the hill but there will not be run off as part of the initial scope. Also, there will be one south bound lane and one lane north bound.

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

OPEN SPACE

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 01/20/09-3D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving three Municipal Grant Program applications with Readington (\$166,035), Tewksbury (\$157,290) and Union (\$47,595.18) Townships, and two non-profit Grant Program applications with New Jersey Conservation Foundation (\$207,720) and the Tewksbury Land Trust (\$146,500).

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

ROADS and BRIDGES Update

John P. Glynn, Director, Roads, Bridges and Engineering updated the Board on various County road and bridge projects:

- The contractor for the Route 514 has completed the surface course and the punch list items are ready to be completed in the Spring of 2009.
- Route 523 from Interstate 78 North to the Intersection of the 517/523 project, does have funding from the State Department of Transportation, and that project will be coming before the Board at the next meeting for approval, and should have a March 2009 start.
- The final plans and specifications for the retaining walls in Pittstown are being reviewed. Approval has been received from Franklin Township, as well as the State Historic Preservation Office. This project will be bid in the Spring of 2009.
- A public information session is being scheduled for Route 619 in Frenchtown Borough. The County has sent the Borough a sketch of the project.
- A public information session is being scheduled for Route 635 in Hampton Borough. The Borough has given the project favorable consideration.
- The plans for County Bridge D-345 in Delaware Township are being finalized, than the County will prepare to bid the project.
- A meeting was scheduled in Mercer County on Route 518, to go over the substructure conditions to make sure that the entire bridge needs to be replaced instead of just the superstructure.
- The County has responded back to the property owner and his attorney concerning Bridge M-110 in Milford Borough letting them know that the Freeholders did look favorable upon what was proposed. The County is waiting to receive Milford's response.
- The County has been in contact with the property owner concerning the Pennsylvania Avenue bridge, regarding obtaining the right of way for the project. A meeting is being scheduled to discuss the alignment of Pennsylvania Avenue.
- The application for County Bridge T-36S, has been finalized for the State Department of Environmental Protection.

- Proposals have been received for County Bridge W-124, which is under a design contract.
- A tentative start date for Mount Joy Road is March 2009.
- The permit for County Bridge K-137 has been received. This project will be done in-house.
- County Culvert T-52 in Tewksbury Township is advancing even though the weather conditions have been extreme. Paving should be completed next week and the bridge should be opened for traffic by the end of January 2009.
- Parks Department fueling system canopy is nearly completed. The foundation for the tanks were poured; the tanks have been delivered and the plumbing is being finished as well as the electrical work for that project.
- Mr. Glynn will be making a presentation again to East Amwell Township concerning County Bridge E-174 and E-166 on February 05, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. at East Amwell Township Municipal Building.
- The County has been working with County Counsel to resolve a couple of claims concerning the Intersection of Route 523 and River Road.
- The State Department of Transportation is going out to bid soon on the Main Street Circle Project in Flemington Borough. The state is purposing to create a roundabout and everyone will need to yield to oncoming traffic into the circle. They have also eliminated the ramp to Route 12. Flemington Borough has been working with DOT on this. Mr. Glynn explained this circle was identified as one of the highest places for accidents in the State. Flemington Borough has received the project and approved the circulation. The County is moving pieces of the sidewalk that need to be put in. Construction should be advertised and started sometime this year.

North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA)

Mr. Holt brought up an issue regarding the Economic Standards, explaining at the last NJTPA meeting last week, there was representation from NJDOT and the New Jersey Association of County Engineers. He spoke with Mr. Glynn and currently the package is being discussed and the dollars are also being discussed. It is important that as the State award the funds for the projects within a year and if the funds are not utilized they will then redistributed to other projects.

Mr. Holt said DOT is struggling with the terminology called "shovel ready" which has not been defined yet so they are unsure if engineering will be awarded the project or if it is ready to go to work. As we begin to see what this package looks like and how much it will end up saving New Jersey, there appears to be a need to insure that projects are ready to go and that we have a pipeline of projects ready to go so the County can take advantage of the funding.

Mr. Glynn said that the County of Engineers had a meeting last Friday and they are going to start to look at a process to streamline projects because if the State wants the Counties to turn around and get projects out on the street, the state has to provide the permits.

Mr. Holt said has yet to see a rule set from NJTPA but feels NJTPA will begin to set specific meetings which will include representation from DOT to make sure they are included in the process. It is necessary that NJDOT not hold up projects. He will provide the Board will information as he gets it.

PROJECT Update

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

- Closed out are the Deer Path Park restrooms and the Route 12 County Garage Headquarters addition. The County is waiting for the contractor to finish some documents to make the project finalized.
- Approval has been received on the generator for the Emergency Services Addition/Renovation. The County will be moving the employees over to the addition and begin work on the rest of the project.
- The Southard Building renovations are being completed. Punch list items will be done in the next two weeks and the project should be completed by the end of the month.
- The County is waiting on the final documents from the state on the Justice Center space for submission for the final payment.
- The Temporary Certificate of Occupancy for the Everittstown Garage was received. Punch list items are being done and the project is being finalized.
- The County is waiting on comments from the Fair Committee concerning the South County Park.
- The Warehouse/Records Retention Center agreement will be going out shortly.
- The A-Frame structure is a go. There is a contract with Sprint to do the wiring and once that is done the County will be able to get the desks in place.

Energy Audit presentation:

Mr. Bell explained that Freeholders Peterson and Holt brought up the idea of having an energy audit. He reported a grant is available, up to \$100,000.00 for towns and any county in the State can apply for; and they will receive 75% of those grant funds upfront and the remaining 25% if the program is implemented. There are also funds available to help to offset some of the other items needed to take place. The County would need to come up with a timeframe for the project. A Request for Proposals (RFP) would take about three weeks to get completed; bidding could take three weeks; then there is contract approval and the actual audit itself could take three to five months to get completed. Mr. Bell has talked to some of the consultants and they told him that depending on the amount of buildings and square feet the program could take between three to six months but once the audit is complete, the County would then be able to look at the different alternative issues such as solar issues. Should the County move forward with this, a resolution would be needed that the Freeholder Board approves or authorizes the application to apply for

such a grant. Generally, around \$50,000-\$60,000 is the average amount for a County this size to receive. Hunterdon would have to come up with a list of buildings for the energy audit and the Board may want to consider the costs and reconsider which buildings may be added to delete from the application. If Hunterdon wants to spend the whole amount of \$100,000; then Mr. Bell will figure out how many buildings to put in the application. Hunterdon will be acting as a back up to the consultant who gets hired. There are five consultants that were prequalified by the State so the County has a list to choose from. Mr. Holt suggests that Hunterdon name a subgroup to work on this application and figure out what needs to be on it and/or added.

Director Mennen stated since there is no objection to this that Mr. Bell bring something back to the board in two weeks to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. He asked members of the Board to be on the subcommittee to help with the process and in the meantime Purchasing should also look at this and figure out how and RFP could be done.

Choir School

Mr. Bell discussed with the Board the situation at the Choir School, stating the building does need some repair. He recommended someone look at the deed to determine if the County owns the building. Mr. DeSapio said he would look at the deed. Mr. DeSapio stated once he reviews the deed, the County can meet with whoever is in charge of the building and talk to them about whether there is an opportunity to release their rights or have the building put into the County's hands.

Mrs. Yard stated the Cultural and Heritage Commission had talked years ago about wanting to move into a building on Main Street. Cultural and Heritage is assigned space on the first floor in the Choir School building. Mrs. Yard explained this came about because of the Facilities Committee and Finance was looking at the open ordinances and saw there was an unfunded ordinance for some of the work done on Main Street. The Facilities Committee also discussed the need for work on that building.

Mr. Bell informed the Board that he did do a field evaluation and the side of the Choir School building needs to be repaired; it also needs to be repainted, and there are signs of rot. If the building is let go longer, the costs will be higher for repairs. Currently the work is manageable and will not be as costly, than if we wait longer.

Mrs. Yard advised the building is listed on the State's Historic Register and recommended using funding from the Historic Open Space Trust Fund plan. This is the proper time to bring this up so the Board can consider it during the budget process.

Mr. DeSapio said the question is whether the County is the captive owner of that building; that situation must be resolved before the County can move forward with the things that need to be repaired to get the building in a workable form.

Director Mennen stated revisiting the issue in two weeks to allow time for a subcommittee to put together more information to present to the Board of Chosen Freeholders.

SMALL CITIES GRANT status

Alan Johnson, Coordinator of the Small Cities Housing Rehabilitation grant, came before the Board requesting an extension for the Small Cities Housing Rehabilitation Grant, explaining a resolution is needed to extend the time for the grant. He also wanted update the Board on the status of the grant.

Mr. Johnson advised the grant is due to expire the end of this month and at this point \$130,000 of the grant money has been spent/budgeted. The County is well on its way with the grant and has made good progress. It is at the point of telling people that they may not get certain types of things for their house such as granite countertops and they are helping people understand what they can and can not have. A little more time is needed for assisting individuals in the program to have a better understanding as to why they may not have certain things over another. He does not believe there will be a problem with that in the time period that is being requested, which is eight months and that would put the County at the fourth quarter for the year. A resolution is not required but he wanted to bring it to the Board attention in case a motion was to place this matter on record.

Mr. Holt asked if under the paperwork that was submitted if there is a policy for the grant of the amount of \$150,000. Mr. Johnson reported that at this point the County has processed through Finance \$119,000 of the amount. There are some issues that are being problematic but progress has been made on a number of fronts. He does not see a problem for this grant being extended. This will also coincide also with the consideration of the Board for the next round of Small Cities grant applications.

Mrs. Yard noted for the Board that the reason the County did not apply for a 2008 grant is because Hunterdon was still trying to close out the 2004 grant; which was finally closed out and that is also when Hunterdon was able to be reimbursed.

Mr. Johnson explained that the extension of this grant will coincide with the 2009 grant round which would bring Hunterdon into the 2010 awards.

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Melick seconded a motion authorizing a time extension of eight months to the 2007 Small Cities Grant.

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

COUNTY Update

Use of the Route 12 Facility/Watercolor Society Request

Cynthia J. Yard, County Administrator updated the Board on a request by the Watercolor Society for a room at the Route 12 County Facility. This is a group of mostly senior citizens who use the space at Route 12 about two times a year; they have a workshop with one in the winter and one in the Fall. They have a session scheduled for March 2009. The County did waive the fee for the use of the building for them last Fall; but the session was cancelled as they did not get enough people to sign up for it. The group gets the painters together, they have a speaker and they talk about the paintings. Mrs. Yard added that this is not a for profit event. They meet twice a year. According to the County's policy the Board may waive the fee. Buildings and Maintenance has a maintenance person on duty at the County Library across the parking area, and they would unlock the door for the event, then they would lock the door once the event is over. The County's policy says this needs to be brought before the Board even through it has been done in the past.

Recording of public meetings

Mrs. Yard informed the Board that she has looked into the recording of public meetings, which came up at the last Freeholder meeting and she has talked to Mike Rasimowicz, Information Technology Department Head about it. Mr. Rasimowicz contacted the other counties to see if they record their meetings and Bergen explained that their Information Technology Department is not involved in recording their meetings because their Polytech Department does it. Mr. Rasimowicz did say that a vendor approached him last summer and he could get prices but he does not feel that the County has the equipment in-house to do this. The Freeholder Board would have to decide from a budget stand point whether or not they want this done and he would then get prices for the Board to consider for the equipment.

Mr. Peterson spoke to Flemington Borough and it only cost them \$75 for a video camera and they would be glad to come before the Board to make a presentation on this. He said if the Director does not mind that he would set something up with Flemington Borough to come before the Board to explain how they went about this process.

Mr. Sworen stated that Flemington Borough has something the County does not, which is a recording system that feeds into a program. Hunterdon does not have any of that technology. The only type of technology Hunterdon has is what is done by Denise Doolan, Clerk of the Board with a Dictaphone. If the County is going to pursue this, then the Freeholders will have to consider purchasing equipment to do it. He stated that Raritan Township has a personal computer that records everything.

Director Mennen suggested that Mr. Rasimowicz reach out to Flemington Borough and see what they have done and what it would take for the County to apply that process. Mrs. Yard thinks that the County would also need a microphone system set up in the Freeholders' Meeting room and a camera that moves around to make sure that it gets everyone in the room that is speaking. Also, there is a retention schedule for keeping records of the meetings of 80 days.

Mr. Melick thinks that the County may run into problems with this recording system because the Freeholder meetings will last longer, once people start talking. He questioned if the Board is serious about this. Director Mennen agreed that is a valid concern but does not feel it would hurt to make a phone call or two to find out what is involved. Mrs. Yard was asked to contact Mr. Rasimowicz and have him report back to the Board in two weeks after he has completed the process of getting the information from Flemington Borough.

GRANTS

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

See Page 01/20/09-6A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the time extension of the County Environmental Health Act (CEHA) Grant, with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, through June 30, 2009.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

See Page 01/20/09-6B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Victims of Witness Crime Act (VOCA) Supplemental Award, from the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, in the amount of \$11,040, for the period of November 01, 2008 through April 30, 2010.

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

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 01/20/09-6C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving an amendment to Area Plan Grant #10-001, for grant administration, decrease in federal funds of \$285, an increase in state funds of \$28,473 and an increase in local funds of \$101,377.

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

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

See Page 01/20/09-7A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving an amendment to Area Plan Grant #10-025/026, for Congregate Meals and Home Delivered Meals, decrease in participant funds of \$3,650.

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

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

See Page 01/20/09-7B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving an amendment to Area Plan Grant #10-032, for information and assistance, decrease in federal funds of \$2,946, an increase in state funds of \$1,955 and an increase in local funds of \$208.

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

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

See Page 01/20/09-7C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving an amendment to Area Plan Grant #10-054, for care coordination, increase in federal funds of \$8 and an increase in state funds of \$414.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 01/20/09-7D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving an amendment to Area Plan Grant #10-060, for the State Health Insurance Program, (S.H.I.P.), increase in state funds of \$5,500.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 01/20/09-7E

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving an amendment to Area Plan Grant #10-062, for the Mr. Fixit Program, decrease in federal funds of \$1,500, an increase in state funds of \$1,362 and an increase in donations of \$700.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 01/20/09-7F

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving an amendment to Area Plan Grant #10-064/065, for Senior Health and Preventive Health Services, increase in federal funds of \$207 and an increase in local funds of \$1,613.

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

Mr. Peterson left the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 01/20/09-7G

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Planning Assistance grant application, with the New Jersey Highlands Council, in the amount of \$15,000, in state funds.

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

Mr. Peterson returned to the meeting at 6:36 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

Director Mennen 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."

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Sworen seconded a motion to approve the reorganization minutes of January 02, 2009 and the regular session minutes of January 08, 2009.

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

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Sworen seconded these:

See Page 01/20/09-8A RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, James Palmer appointed provisional, full time Public Safety Telecommunicator, Communications Division of the Public Safety Department.

See Page 01/20/09-8B RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Devin Seppelt appointed temporary, as needed Student Assistant, Library.

See Page 01/20/09-8C RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Alison Albrecht appointed temporary, as needed Recreation Leader, Parks and Recreation Department.

See Page 01/20/09-8D RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Emily Rich, Recreation Supervisor, Parks and Recreation, adjusting hours from full time to part time.

See Page 01/20/09-8E RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving an application for funding to the New Jersey Department of Transportation to fund the Hunterdon County Route 523, Resurfacing, Widening and Storm Drainage project, in Raritan and Readington Townships.

See Page 01/20/09-8F RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the subordination of a mortgage held by Chase Home Finance and Hunterdon County, on Block 40, Lot 11, in High Bridge Borough.

See Page 01/20/09-8G RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the signing of the "Federal Fiscal Year 2009 Certifications and Assurances" for the Federal Transit Administration Assistance Program.

See Page 01/20/09-8H RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the 2009 State/County Partnership (SCP) and Family Court Appropriations Award notice, from the New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission, for funding in the amount of \$288,274, (consisting of \$135,567 in SCP program funds, \$55,550 in SCP Management funds, \$97,157 in Family Court Service funds and \$6,153 in Juvenile Accountability Block Grant funds).

See Page 01/20/09-8I RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Transportation Service agreement with The ARC of Hunterdon County, for the purchase of transportation services for 85 ARC consumers, for 2009, in the amount of \$189,667.

See Page 01/20/09-8J RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the appointment of Kim Browne to the Hunterdon County Utilities Authority.

See Page 01/20/09-8K RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the appointment of William Bowlby to the Hunterdon County Planning Board.

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

Mrs. Yard noted for the record that that the minutes of the Board are caught up to date.

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITION

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 01/20/09-9A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Recognizing Wayne Hunt for having served on the County Agriculture Development Board.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

A request was received from the Hunterdon County Shade Tree Commission for permission to maintain membership in the International Society of Arboriculture, in the amount of \$105, for 2009.

Mrs. Yard confirmed that the County's new policy on memberships and training says that requests for international memberships must come before the Board. The Shade Tree Commission which is under the office of Roads, Bridges and Engineering. The International Society of Arboriculture and Shaun Van Doren of the County's Shade Tree Commission indicates they realize the County has a new policy but wanted it noted that this is in the five year plan for the Shade Tree Commission. Mr. Glynn does not believe it is required but he knows it is in the plan and it is a valuable resource. The Shade Tree Commission did receive a disk about working around high powered transmission lines and feels there is a definite plus to being involved in this.

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Sworen seconded a motion granting permission for the Shade Tree Commission to be a member of the International Society of Arboriculture, for the amount of \$105.

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

A bill was received from the New Jersey Association of Counties (NJAC) for 2009 dues, in the amount of \$5,815. Director Mennen said this has been a source of discussion since last year and he asked that this be put on the agenda this evening because NJAC is having their reorganization meeting this Friday and feels the County needs to make clear its intentions so this can resolve in advance of the NJAC reorganization meeting.

Mr. Holt informed the Board that at the last few 6 County Coalition meetings, NJAC has provided updates on various issues and they represent the counties. NJAC is an organization which helps and assists New Jersey's counties.

Mr. Sworen is aware that NJAC's budget was reduced from last year and said that the dues have been reduced as well.

Mr. Melick said looking at their finances they have enough money to run the place but we need to keep in mind that they represent, County Clerks, Surrogates and the Sheriff's as well as the Freeholders. It is very enlightening how they keep people participating. He had requested information from NJAC on how they broke down the salaries for this year and last year. Mr. Melick explained he just wanted to see where the money went and how the money was spent. He feels NJAC may be dominated in functions for the urban counties. He stated he doesn't see them doing anything for Hunterdon County.

Mr. Melick asked Director Mennen if Hunterdon could hold off on voting on this issue until the information he requested is received. Mr. Peterson agreed.

Director Mennen said it had been his hope that the information would be here today for this meeting. He understands that Mr. Melick has asked a question and it is a valid question which deserves to be vetted. Director Mennen thought he had made it very clear to NJAC that it was important that this information be here for this meeting tonight.

FREEHOLDERS ASSIGNMENT REPORTS

Flemington Rail project

Mr. Holt began by speaking about the Flemington Rail Project and wanted to let the Board know that the two letters have gone out concerning this issue. He stated that the NJTPA has been given approval to get the project underway. Also, a letter was sent to Somerset County explaining that Hunterdon is still seeking information and it is Hunterdon's hope to have this done sometime in February 2009 and to have a subcommittee put together.

Route 29/Lambertville City

Mr. Holt reported to the Board that a letter is going out to Mr. Dilts about the project on Route 29 in Lambertville, which was pulled from funding. He noted that Mr. Dilts is going to work with us and will re-design something for us.

Polytech

Mr. Sworen informed the Board that Polytech had their open house and it went very well. He advised that three members from the Board are needed to be placed on the committee for Polytech.

6 County Coalition/Medical Access Program (MAP)

Mr. Peterson stated he is happy that at the 6 County Coalition meeting, the Medical Access Program was discussed as this is a way for counties to save money. He hopes other counties will move forward and go ahead with using the MAP program. He expressed his thanks to the Hunterdon Medical Access Partnership, especially Mark Peters and Karen Calence who were at the 6 County Coalition meeting and put together a presentation on the MAP program.

Mr. Peterson stated he does not remember if the Freeholders discussed this last year but the Hunterdon Medical Access Program received the Edward III Award for Excellence which is a high honor in the medical society for the work they had done. He wanted to publicly wish them a lot of success because not only will it help the taxpayers save money but it will help a lot of people have healthier lives.

New Jersey League of Municipalities and Homeland Task Force

Mr. Sworen stated that League of Municipalities and Homeland Task Force will be meeting next week to discuss the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) changes that are coming down from the State and they will affect Hunterdon County. He invited Mr. Wagner to join him to hear some of these changes so they can figure out a way to implement them once the State comes forward with the. Also, he is looking for some guidance from the EMS Captains on how to meet the needs. Gloucester County has a countywide project so that maybe something for Hunterdon to look at for future discussion.

Open Space Advisory Committee

Director Mennen advised there are openings on the Open Space Advisory Committee and the County is soliciting nominations from the municipalities to fill those openings. Also, the County needs to have ranking criteria for Open Space and it should be attached to the policy. He recommended that be done sometime during February. Mr. Sworen agreed that would be good to be considered.

Director Mennen said the County is approaching the first funding round and the criterion has to be clear.

Budget Hearings

Director Mennen asked the Board when it would like to start scheduling the budget meetings with the departments.

Mrs. Yard recommended the Board decide which departments they want to come before them. In the past she has sent out a listing of all of the departments and their 2008 budget and their proposed 2009 budget and if more than three Freeholders checked off a specific department, they were asked to come and represent their budget.

Director Mennen stated he would like to hold the budget meetings during regular County hours so department managers come in on their County time and not have to report after their regular work schedule.

Mrs. Yard advised she will talk to the Finance Department tomorrow to see how long they need to have these hearing days and will then bring it back to the Board for discussion.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Director Mennen opened the meeting to the public. There were no comments or questions from the press or public.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders recessed at 7:05 p.m. and reconvened in Executive Session at 7:10 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Denise B. Doolan
Clerk of the Board