

**HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS**

Main Street County Complex, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Flemington, New Jersey 08822

**November 4, 2009**

The regular meeting of the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders convened at 3:06 p.m. in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

**PRESENT: MR. MENNEN, MR. MELICK, MR. SWOREN.**  
**ABSENT: MR. HOLT, 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 September 24, 2009, 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 a copy with the Hunterdon County Clerk."

Aaron Culton listed the agenda items for Executive Session discussion, and also noted that if an additional Board member arrives, the Board will reconvene in Open to announce an additional discussion item for the Executive Session; upon the action of a motion, the Board of Chosen Freeholders convened in Executive Session at 3:15 p.m.

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

At 3:35 reconvened in Open Session to announce another Executive Session discussion regarding the Melick LLC property.

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

Freeholder Director Mennen and Freeholder Deputy Director recused themselves from this discussion.

**4:30 P.M. – RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**FOR DISCUSSION**

**EXECUTIVE SESSIONS**

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Sworen seconded these:

**See Page 11/04/09-1A RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Executive Session to review Executive Session minutes dated July 21, August 4, August 18, September 1 and September 15.

**See Page 11/04/09-1B RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Executive Session to discuss negotiations with AECOM Environmental regarding compensation amount to be paid to use County right-of-ways to install fiber optic lines.

**See Page 11/04/09-1C RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Executive Session to discuss appointments to the Parks Advisory Board

**See Page 11/04/09-1D RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Executive Session to discuss a proposed property acquisition on Horseshoe Bend Road.

**See Page 11/04/09-1E RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Executive Session to discuss the Melick LLC property.

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

**PURCHASING**

**See Page 11/04/09-1F RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED** - Approving Requisition #1177, with Progress Printing Company, for ballots, for the County Clerk's Office, in the amount of \$12,500.00.

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

**FINANCE**

See Page 11/04/09-2A

**RESOLUTION**

**INTRODUCED** - Bond Ordinance No. 11-09, authorizes the acquisition of development easements on agricultural land for the Farmland Preservation Program, in by and for the County of Hunterdon, to appropriate the amount of \$3,600,000.00.

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

See Page 11/04/09-2B

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED** - Request Division of Local Government Services approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the 2009 Budget for the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, for the period January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009, in the amount of \$11,120.00.

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

See Page 11/04/09-2C

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED** - Request Division of Local Government Services approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the 2009 Budget for the New Jersey Historical Commission, for the period July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010, in the amount of \$11,952.00.

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

See Page 11/04/09-2D

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED** - Request Division of Local Government Services approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the 2009 Budget for the Multi-Jurisdictional Narcotics Task Force, for the period July 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009, in the amount of \$40,272.00.

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

**FREEHOLDER REPORTS**

Freeholder Director Mennen, stated for the record that a continuation of dialogue regarding the interpretive language of the Open Space bond will be placed on the December 1, 2009 agenda.

Freeholder Sworen wished to publicly congratulate participants in the New Jersey Senior Art Show who were present to receive awards at Meadow Lake in East Windsor, New Jersey on October 30, 2009. They are as follows: Carolyn Weger – 1<sup>st</sup> place in non-pro category; Jonetta Williams – 1<sup>st</sup> place in pastels category; Katherine Hannagan – honorable mention in photographer category.

Freeholder Peterson questioned the issue raised by West Amwell regarding Farmland Preservation and their desire to get approvals before the appraisals. Administrator Yard has had conversation with the Planning Director, Ms. Dziamara and will reach out to her again. Administrator Yard was directed to ensure that all municipalities participating in farmland programs are aware of the new policies, procedures and process.

Freeholder Peterson also inquired about correspondence from East Amwell regarding recreation facilities at the South County Park, which will most likely be part of the December discussion of the interpretive language in the ballot question. Mrs. Yard will pull the pertinent correspondence and will draft a letter to the Township of East Amwell indicating that there are unresolved Department of Environmental Protection issues on that site and rest assured, the County remains committed to the furtherment of Open Space and recreation opportunities in Hunterdon County.

Freeholder Director Mennen extended his congratulations to Mr. Sworen and Mr. Holt, in absentia and Mr. Peterson on their victories.

**ROADS, BRIDGES AND ENGINEERING**

Mr. Glynn provided a status update on the following projects: **Road Projects as follows:** CR 523 in Raritan and Readington Townships; Retaining Walls on CR 579 in Pittstown; CR 523 in Whitehouse; CR 619, Seventh Street to Alexandria Township Limit. **Bridge Projects as follows:** D-345 on CR 523 in Delaware Township; Bridge E-140-M and E-142-M on CR 518; Bridge M-110 on CR 519 in Milford Borough; Bridge T-88 on Guinea Hollow Road, Tewksbury Township; Bridge T-102 on Water Street in Tewksbury Township; Culvert D-329 on Pine Hill Road in Delaware Township; Bridge P-169 on Kingwood Avenue in Frenchtown Borough. Local Lead Project, Bridge E-174. **Intersection Projects** as follows: County Routes 517/523; CR 512 and 513; CR 600 and 612; **Federal Aid Stimulus Projects** as follows: CR 512; CR 623; and CR 625

See Page 11/04/09-3A

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED** - Approving Plans and Specs for drainage project, Route 519, Kingwood Township.

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

See Page 11/04/09-3B

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED** - Approving Plans and Specs for rehabilitation of Bridge RQ-164, Rockafellow's Mill Road Bridge, over the South Branch of the Raritan River, Raritan and Readington Townships, County of Hunterdon.

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

See Page 11/04/09-3C

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED** - Authorizing a Public Hearing to be scheduled on December 1, 2009 for the purpose of acquiring fee simple interests and easement interests with regard to the replacement of Bridge E-174, in the Township of East Amwell, County of Hunterdon.

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

Mr. Glynn reported resolution to an issue of the passing zone in a school cross walk on CR 519 in Milford Borough. The passing zone in the southbound lane will be closed off; striping will occur today or tomorrow and the speed limit will be posted at a reduced speed of 30 mph all the way up the hill. Mr. Glynn will provide a written response of same to Milford Borough.

**ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE**

Mrs. Yard congratulated the victors from the election yesterday.

**6:00 P.M. HEALTH DEPARTMENT, Rose Puelle**

Ms. Puelle provided an update on the H1N1. The 6,000 vaccines (number allowed for Hunterdon County) ordered have not been filled, mainly due to a manufacturing issue; to date, the County has only received 3,000 injectable vaccines. All flu clinics have been rescheduled and back up clinics are going to be scheduled. She also reported that Hunterdon County is now in pandemic stage for influenza.

Ms. Puelle publically complimented her staff for their efforts in rescheduling the clinics.

**FARMLAND**

See Page 11/04/09-3D

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED** – Authorizing County Counsel to prepare a Municipal/ County Cost Sharing Agreement for a development easement owned by Herbert Rosenfield, Block 18, Lots 14 and 14.09, Alexandria Township.

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

**CONSENT AGENDA**

"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."

Freeholder Sworen moved and Freeholder Peterson seconded a motion approving the following:

Approval to release Open Session minutes of September 15, 2009.

See Page 11/04/09-3E

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED** - Paul Kaszas, passed Civil Service exam and appointed permanent, full time, Assistant Supervisor Building Service, for Buildings & Maintenance Dept.

See Page 11/04/09-3F

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED** - Lisa Long, Senior Receptionist Typing, voluntary transfer, from Sheriff's Office to Finance Department.

See Page 11/04/09-4A

**RESOLUTION**

RESOLVED- Authorizing a grid fare increase, to be applied to agencies utilizing the LINK Transportation System, for the Hunterdon County Transportation System, from the rate of \$.70 to \$1.00 per grid (a grid equates to one square mile).

See Page 11/04/09-4B

**RESOLUTION**

RESOLVED – Appointing Lisa Hall as a member on the Parks Advisory Board with a term expiration of December 31, 2011.

See Page 11/04/09-4C

**RESOLUTION**

RESOLVED – Appointing Jordan Guenther as a member on the Parks Advisory Board of Chosen Freeholders with a term expiration of December 31, 2011.

Approving release of 2009 Executive Session minutes dated July 21, August 4, August 18, September 1 and September 15.

Authorizing the Purchasing Agent to go out for bid and advertise for the following projects: #2009-14, Refuse Disposal Services for the Various County Facilities; #2009-23, Hyster Fork Lift for Garage Services; #2009-25, Long Distance Telephone Services; #2009-26, Liquid Propane Gas.

Authorizing the Freeholder Director to enter into a Caretaking and Occupancy Agreement for a dwelling on Westcott Preserve Property in Delaware Township.

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

See Page 11/04/09-4D

**CLAIMS REGISTER**

Approve the claims in accordance with the Claims Register dated November 4, 2009 by removing Check No. 125861.

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

Approve the Check No. 125861 on the Claims Register dated November 4, 2009.

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

**PROCLAMATION**

**PROCLAMATION** – proclaiming November as Caregiver month.

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

**5:30 P.M. – PUBLIC HEARING**

Freeholder Director Mennen announced the public hearing for the adoption of two Capital Ordinances.

Freeholder Sworen motioned with a second from Freeholder Peterson to open the public hearing for Capital Ordinance 09-09.

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

Freeholder Sworen motioned with a second from Freeholder Peterson to close the public hearing for Capital Ordinance 09-09.

See Page 11/04/09-4E

**RESOLUTION**

**ADOPTION** - Capital Ordinance #09-09, authorizing repairs and improvements at Heron Glen Golf Course, in the amount of \$170,000.

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

Freeholder Sworen motioned with a second from Freeholder Peterson to open the public hearing for Capital Ordinance 10-09.

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

Freeholder Sworen motioned with a second from Freeholder Peterson to close the public hearing for Capital Ordinance 10-09.

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

**See Page 11/04/09-5B RESOLUTION**

**ADOPTION** - Capital Ordinance #10-09, authorizing improvements and renovations at various County facilities, in the amount of \$150,000.

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

**GRANTS**

**See Page 11/04/09-5A RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED** - Approving the 2010 Universal Service Fund Grant application, with the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, for the Division of Social Services, Department of Human Services, in the amount of \$1,110.00.

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

**See Page 11/04/09-5B RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED** - Approving a subgrant application for the SANE/SART Project, with the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of Criminal Justice, for the Prosecutor's Office, in the amount of (\$52,746.00 – Federal; and \$13,187.00 – County match) \$65,933.00.

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

**See Page 11/04/09-5C RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED** - Approving Area Plan Grant 2010-2012 application, with the New Jersey Department of Health and Human Services, for the Division of Senior, Disabilities and Veterans Services, Department of Human Services, in the amount of (\$352,150.00 – State; \$395,646.00 – Federal; \$701,548.00 – County; \$678,394 – Local; \$250,462.00 – Donations) \$2,378,230.00.

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

**See Page 11/04/09-5D RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED** - Authorizing the FFY09 Homeland Security Grant agreement, with the NJ Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness, for the Department of Public Safety, in the amount of \$548,702.46.

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

**See Page 11/04/09-5E RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED** - Approving the Merck's Neighbor of Choice Grant application, with Merck & Co., for the Division of Senior, Disabilities & Veterans Services, Department of Human Services, in the amount of \$10,000.00.

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

A C.E.H.A. grant application before the Board, prompted Freeholder Peterson to ask if the Health Department has submitted a cost analysis as previously requested last year; this analysis would help the Board determine if the cost to the County to administer the grant (as an enforcement agent) is more than the \$146,000.00 in grant funds. Administrator Yard pointed out that in the grant review process, as a condition of accepting this grant, that the Health Department would be the enforcement agent for the Solid Waste Recycling component of the County's Recycling Plan (mandated by the State). She also indicated that Ms. Hobbs (Health) and Ms. Wieder (Human Resources) reduced the staff involved in the grant work to two staff members.

Freeholder Sworen suggested adding the element of the grant deadline to the Grant Fact Sheet.

The Board of Chosen Freeholders directed Administrator Yard to send a written request to the Health Department to submit the following information: what it costs the County to perform the obligated services of the grant as a condition to receiving the funding. This information is to be submitted to Administrator Yard by Health December 1, 2009; if the information is not received by this date, the Board of Chosen Freeholders will not approve the grant award; and, additionally the information will be used by the Board to determine if in fact it actually wants to accept the grant award or not.

**See Page 11/04/09-6A**

#### **RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED** - Approving the 2010 C.E.H.A. grant application, with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, to support environmental inspections, enforcement and education, through the County Health Department, as delegated agents for the Environmental Protection Agency, in the amount of (\$146,488.00 from the state; \$146,488.00 from County in-kind) \$292,976.00.

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

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Board approved a request from the Hunterdon Walking and Social Club for a tree memorial to honor a deceased club member. Administrator Yard will forward a letter of approval, with the memorial policy enclosed and instructions to contact the Parks Department to initiate their request.

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

#### **ADDITIONAL FREEHOLDER COMMENT**

Freeholder Sworen conveyed that he had received a phone call in which the suggestion was made to install AED's on the LINK buses. Administrator Yard will look into this via Ms. Pontrelli, Human Services Administrator.

Freeholder Sworen also reported that Polytech had provided an email indicating the expansion of enrollments 467 high school students and 65 post-graduates, an increase of 38 students since last year, which is a 25 percent increase over the last two years. Additionally there are 415 students enrolled in the IOAS courses for a total of 945 students.

#### **5:50 P.M. - RECESS**

A motion was made and seconded for the Board to recess for ten minutes so the Library vacancy discussion would begin, as scheduled, at 6:00 p.m.

#### **6:00 P.M. - LIBRARY VACANCY**

Mr. Thomas Valasek, Chair of the Hunterdon County Library Commission and Mark Titus, Director of the Hunterdon County Library addressed the members of the Board members with input about their concern of unfilled vacancies within the library system, in particular the North County Branch Manager and are seeking Board consideration to fill the vacancies. They voiced concern about the impact on the services and programs that are provided to the Library patrons, as well as security with regard to theft.

Mr. Valasek noted that in the current economic climate, Library use has increased and indicated there are currently 75,000 active library cards, which is 67 percent of the Hunterdon County residents.

It was the consensus of the Board that the library should make do with currently existing staff.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being nothing further to discuss, Freeholder Melick motioned with a second from Freeholder Peterson to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda Kelly, Deputy Clerk  
Board of Chosen Freeholders