

# HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

Main Street County Complex, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 71 Main Street  
Flemington, New Jersey 08822

**July 6, 2010**

The regular meeting of the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders convened at 4:15 p.m. in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

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

## **OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT**

Freeholder 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 21, 2010, 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."

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTS**

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Melick seconded these:

**See Page 07/06/10-1A**

### **RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Executive Session to discuss a request for payment by a vendor; it is anticipated the Board will take formal action.

**See Page 07/06/10-1B**

### **RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Executive Session to discuss a letter from PAIC, the County's insurance consortium, in which they are requesting an additional contribution for an insurance company settlement; it is not anticipated the results of this discussion will be made available unless/until there is a decision to either make the payment or there is a claims arbitration proceeding in which the carrier insists on payment.

**See Page 07/06/10-1C**

### **RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Executive Session to discuss negotiations with the bargaining units for the detectives the sergeants and the lieutenants; it is not anticipated the results of this discussion will be made available until negotiations are complete or until an arbitration award is rendered.

**See Page 07/06/10-1D**

### **RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Executive Session to discuss the portion of a request from the Sheriff to purchase two copy machines; the portion of that request is involved in the mediation, which Judge Ciccone ordered as a result of a claim filed by the Sheriff several months ago with regard to her request to modify her Trust Fund Plan; as directed by the mediator, any discussions that occur as a result of what he has raised, not be public until the mediation is complete, however results of that discussion will be made available if the Board settles the claim of the Sheriff or if the claim of the Sheriff proceeds further than the mediation.

**See Page 07/06/10-1E**

### **RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Executive Session to review 2010 Executive Session minutes from May 4, May 11, May 18, June 1, June 10 and June 15; it is anticipated the results of this review will be made available at the next meeting on July 20, 2010.

**See Page 07/06/10-1F**

### **RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Executive Session to consider an appointment to the Human Services Advisory Council; it is anticipated the results of that discussion will be made available when the Board acts on it in Open Session.

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

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders went into Executive Session at 4:15 p.m. and reconvened in Open Session at 6:02 p.m.

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

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Freeholder Director Mennen opened the meeting to the public; hearing none, Mr. Mennen announced that several public hearings have been scheduled and duly noticed for 6:00 p.m.

## **FINANCE**

Prior to the public hearings for two Bond Ordinances, Freeholder Director Mennen distributed a resolution for consideration by the Board, which he developed with the assistance/approval from Bond Counsel (Mr. Rogut) and is a result of Freeholder Director Mennen's long-standing concern of the County's requirement to adopt Bond ordinances with no intention to bond. The resolution clarifies that the County's purpose to adopt the Bond Ordinances fulfills a requirement but has no intention to issue any bonds. This resolution only affects Bond Ordinances #5-10 and #6-10 listed on today's agenda.

Freeholder Director Mennen reiterated his reason to request the Freeholders' consideration of this resolution in being supportive of Governor Christie's statement to, protect and guard against "irresponsible behavior"; Mr. Mennen view bond ordinances that state intention to incur debt in this environment is "irresponsible behavior" and further stated that this resolution is a pledge/clarification to state the County adopts ordinances only as required by law; that the County does not intend to bond.

Mr. Holt stated for the record of not being a strong proponent to bind future Boards; in this case, though he is not opposed to the resolution unless Finance provides an adverse reason for these ordinances. Ms. Browne confirmed it would not and further stated the County will receive about \$3 million dollars.

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

**See page 07/06/10-2A**

### **RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, resolution clarifying the reason the County is adopting resolutions for Bond Ordinances is strictly for the purpose of complying with the contract law; and to further clarify that the Board of Chosen Freeholders has no intention of issuing a bond.

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

Director Mennen opened the public hearing on Bond Ordinance No. 05-10; motion passed.

Freeholder Director Mennen directed Ms. Browne to include the just adopted resolution as an addendum to the Bond Ordinances #5-10 and #6-10 and stated that Mr. Rogut provided assurance that this addendum resolution would not require re-introduction/re-publication of the ordinances.

Mr. Mennen opened the floor for public comment on Bond Ordinance #5-10.

In response to Lois Stewart's question, Mr. Mennen provided that, since the Board does not bond, the source of funding for the County's \$3.3 million dollar plan for bridge and culvert projects is largely provided through grants and any remaining differences are obtained from the on-going Capital Plan.

Ms. Stewart also asked if the community would have a guarantee of being made aware of any plans for bridges/culverts prior to any design/engineering expenditures. Freeholder Mennen indicated the County is discussing changes for the time frame of public input/involvement.

Freeholder Mennen also confirmed to Ms. Stewart the County's intent to maintain historic integrity with regard to her inquiry of retention/preserving 'old style' bridges. Mr. Holt commented that a clear plan was developed for bridge restorations/replacements five or six years ago.

There being no further comments or questions from the press or public, Mr. Walton moved Mr. Holt seconded a motion to close the Public Hearing on Bond Ordinance #5-10.

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

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

**See page 07/06/10-2B**

### **BOND ORDINANCE No. 5-10**

**ADOPTED**, as amended in the discussion, Bond Ordinance #5-10 the adoption of Bond Ordinance No. #5-10, authorizing the improvement of various bridges and culverts in, by and for the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, in the amount of \$3,300,000.00.

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

Director Mennen opened the public hearing on Bond Ordinance #6-10.

Freeholder Mennen confirmed Ms. Stewart's inquiry of the same questions/answers posed to Bond Ordinance #5-10 would hold true for Bond Ordinance #6-10.

There being no further comments or questions from the press or public, Mr. Holt moved Mr. Melick seconded a motion to close the Public Hearing on Bond Ordinance #6-10.

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

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

**See page 07/06/10-3a**

**BOND ORDINANCE NO. 6-10**

**ADOPTED**, as amended, authorizing Bond Ordinance #6-10 for the improvement of various public highways, roads and streets in, by and for the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, in the amount of \$3,150,000.00.

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

Director Mennen opened the public hearing on Capital Ordinance No. 7-10, in the amount of \$1,750,000.00.

Ms. Stewart asked how the County determined the amount needed for a Capital Ordinance and questioned if there would not be any other opportunity for land acquisitions until the 2011 Budget. Freeholder Mennen explained that the number is the total number of approved projects for participation through previous Board action and derived, in part, by the apportionment formula; the number itself is the amount of the County contributes to those projects. Upon further discussion it was determined the number/amount falls short about \$50,000.00.

Additionally Freeholder Mennen and Mrs. Yard confirmed that the County is currently in its second "window" for the year to accept applications in terms of the Cooperative Acquisition Program, and that no other land acquisitions will occur in 2010.

There being no further comments or questions from the press or public, Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Melick seconded a motion to close the Public Hearing on Capital Ordinance #7-10.

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

For the record, Mr. Melick stated he made a mistake and conveyed he regrets a statement he made in the past in connection with cooperatives in Tewksbury Township.

Further discussion occurred regarding the language in Capital Ordinance #7-10 as it references the Parks Commission, which is not appropriate and is not a part to this.

The Board tabled Capital Ordinance No. 07-10, until further reviewed by County Counsel.

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

**See page 07/06/10-3B**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, approval for the cancellation of a grant receivable for the 2009 Municipal Alliance Program, in the amount of \$8,826.72.

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

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

**See page 07/06/10-3C**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, approve request to Division of Local Government Services approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the 2010 Budget for the Buffer Zone Protection Program, in the amount of \$71,350.00.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

**See page 07/06/10-3D**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, approve request to Division of Local Government Services approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the 2010 Budget for the Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Program, in the amount of \$1,200.00.

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

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

**See page 07/06/10-3E**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, approve request to Division of Local Government Services approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the 2010 Budget for the State Health Services Grant, in the amount of \$376,239.00.

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

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

**See page 07/06/10-4A**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, authorization to rescind Petty Cash fund for the Hunterdon County Youth Facility.

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

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

**See page 07/06/10-4B**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, authorization to Change the Custodian of the Petty Cash Fund for the Hunterdon County Prosecutor's Office; change from J. Patrick Barnes to Dermot P. O'Grady.

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

Mr. Sworen questioned if an audit was turned in by the Prosecutor, which Ms. Browne indicated it had not been requested, that this is a change in custodian; the Prosecutor's Office will be required to submit an audit by December 31, 2010.

Ms. Browne briefed the Freeholders' on the spending levels of the first six months. She reported there did not seem to be any spending issues; that some departments, such as Information Technology, pay maintenance agreements at the beginning of the year and have a higher percentage; additionally some of the grant monies have not yet been applied to some of the departments' salaries and wages.

Overtime in the Communications Division is approximately 60 percent contractual reported Mr. Wagner.

The Board returned to the discussion on Capital Ordinance No. 07-10.

Ms. Browne informed the Board that this was the first time a split occurred between the County initiatives, and the language did not follow this split.

Mr. DeSapio determined that the substantive changes to the wording of this ordinance would require re-numbering as Capital Ordinance #8-10, be introduced on July 20, 2010 with a public hearing held at 6:00 p.m. on August 3, 2010.

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

**See Page 07/06/10-4C**

**CAPITAL ORDINANCE NO. 08-10**

**INTRODUCTION**, ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE COOPERATIVE ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY FOR OPEN SPACE, PARK AND RECREATION PURPOSES BY THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND APPROPRIATING \$1,750,000.00 THEREFORE

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Melick seconded a motion to not adopt Capital Ordinance #7-10 for technical reasons and that it be reintroduced at the August 03, 2010 meeting.

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

**PURCHASING**

John Davenport, County Purchasing Agent explained the two-year contract, rather than five, for telephone service will allow the County to add future enhancements by not being locked in at the five years. At the next meeting, Mr. Davenport will provide the total number of County cell phones.

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

**See page 07/06/10-4D**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, authorization to award contract, for Bid #2009-25, to provide long-distance telephone service, with Embarq Communications, Inc., DBA CenturyLink Communications, in the amount not-to-exceed \$57,528.00.

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

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

**See page 07/06/10-4E**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, authorization to award contract, for Bid #2010-14, to reconstruct curb, sidewalk and drainage improvements at the Hunterdon County Community Services Annex, with Topline Construction Corporation, in the amount not-to-exceed \$159,010.06

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

There was much discussion with regard to the number of trucks needed and to move on this purchase this year in the current economic climate. Mr. Glynn confirmed the trucks are necessary and was bid at a fair and good price. The four trucks being taken off the road rated a low trade-in value and are therefore being retained by the County, waiting to be sold. Mr. Glynn advised that in the event of a heavy snow storm, without the additional trucks, a decrease in the level of service would occur in various communities.

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

**See page 07/06/10-5A**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, authorization to award contract, for Bid #2010-12, to furnish and deliver (4) 7500 International dump trucks with central hydraulics, plow hitches and spreaders, with Brown's Hunterdon International LLC, in the amount not-to-exceed \$576,772.00.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Walton seconded this:

**See page 07/06/10-5B**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, authorization to award contract, for Bid #2010-07, for drainage improvements to County Routes 513 and 617 in High Bridge Borough and Raritan Township, with Z Brothers Concrete Contractors, Inc., in the amount not-to-exceed \$159,854.86.

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

**INTRODUCTION OF HUMAN SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR**

Freeholder Mennen recognized Pam Pontrelli, who was present in the audience, and thanked her on behalf of the Board for her six-plus years as the Human Services Administrator, who retired as of July 1, 2010.

Ms. Shana Taylor was introduced by Freeholder Mennen, who noted she was hired by County Counsel in September 2004, around the same time period Ms. Pontrelli had joined the County as the Human Services Administrator. Ms. Taylor holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing as well as a Juris Doctorate and is a practicing attorney. As an employee of Counsel's Office, Ms. Taylor was assigned to the County's Human Services to provide legal assistance to the Department with regard to federal and state regulatory matters, contract interpretation and procurement, confidentially matters, due process protocols and litigation matters and general legal compliance which included the revision and development of policies and practices. Freeholder Mennen explained that this creative solution to fill the role of Human Services Administrator will potentially save up to \$150,000.00 in legal services. Freeholder Mennen recognized County Administrator Cynthia Yard as deserving a great deal of credit for 'thinking outside the box' with her creative idea.

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Walton seconded this:

**See page 7/06/10-5C**

**RESOLUTION**

**Resolved**, Approving the appointment of Shana Taylor to the position of Administrator of Human Services Department.

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

**ROADS, BRIDGES & ENGINEERING**

John P. Glynn, Director, Roads, Bridges and Engineering provided the Board with an update on the following various projects:

**County Route 523, Raritan and Readington Township:** Top soil, seeding and mulching completed and punchlist items are under construction including guiderails and stop bars.

**County Route 619, Seventh Street to Alexandria Township Limit:** Plans and specs should be complete by August.

**2010 Resurfacing and Surface Treatment of County Routes 523, 579, 601, 602A, 602B, 607, 620 and 639, in Various Townships:** Preconstruct meeting June 18.

**Bridge B-26-W, Valley Station Road, Bethlehem Township:** bridge opened June 30, 2010 and is substantially complete; punchlist items need to be completed.

**Bridge Q-168 Pennsylvania Ave, Raritan Township:** preliminary plan is complete and property owners accepted the County's offer. Final acquisition and engineering documents will be handled by County Counsel in preparation for a closing.

**Bridge R-123 Holland Brook Rd, Readington Township:** Keller & Kirkpatrick is the design consultant. Construction proposals are due on July 15, 2010; N.J.D.E.P. permits were approved on July 13, 2009.

**Multi-Purpose Trail/Bridge Project, Echo Hill Park:** N.J.D.E.P. approved the permit application; The Board authorized Mr. Glynn to proceed with the construction grant application. He will provide the grant application.

**Culvert E-163 (County Route 579), East Amwell Township:** N.J.D.E.P. permit received and construction is anticipated to begin August 2010.

**Culvert K-96, Horseshoe Bend Road, Kingwood Township:** Closed July 14, 2010 for approximately three (3) days as the Bridge crews repair the culvert.

**Culvert L-12, East Hill Road, Lebanon Township:** Closed July 12, 2010 for approximately three (3) weeks while County crews repair this stone arch culvert.

**County Route 612 / Bridge "Q-86 Old Clinton Road, Raritan Township (if gas line is relocated)"** Week of July 19-23, 2010 the stream bank will be restored

**Bridge T-116, Boulder Hill Road, Tewksbury Township:** Superstructure replacement scheduled to begin July 2010; scheduled to be closed beginning July 26, 2010 for approximately 12-14 weeks; plans will be forwarded to Tewksbury Township (for information).

The following drainage projects are under way: Routes 513 and 617, in High Bridge & Raritan respectively; The H.P.O. project at County Route 601, Mt. Airy. Projects at County Route 635, north of Mine Road, County Route 519, Alexandria Township and County Route 519, Delaware Township.

Sidewalk and Drainage Project, Gauntt Place, Community/Extension Services Building: A Preconstruction meeting will be held July 12, 2010.

**County Route 519 (Warren Glen Hill) Safety Improvement:** Public information meeting held December 9, 2009; a meeting held with Holland Township and N.J.D.O.T. discussed a revised scope; the Environmental re-evaluation form was forwarded to N.J.D.O.T. for approval.

**County Route 579 over the Lehigh Valley Railroad:** A stop work order issued by Federal Highway Administration and was re-instated into the Federal Aid System; Local Aid needs to authorize the project and provide funding.

**Bridge E-174:** DEP approved permit application; as well as Wetlands and Stream Encroachment Permits. NJ DOT authorized R.O.W. acquisition; Freeholders authorized release of offers. A meeting with technical staff held on June 18, 2010.

**Bridge E-166:** Federal Authorization received for project; utility work commenced; Route 602-Wertsville Road will be closed June 28, 2010.

**Bridge C-88:** Wetlands and Stream Encroachment and S.C.S. permit/certificate has been received. Federal Authorization received for project. The bridge is under construction.

**Bridge RQ-164 Rockafellows Mill Construction:** Local Aid received; a temporary bridge is in place; the structure has been dismantled and the trusses are at fabricators; bearing caps should be complete by week's end.

**Bridge D-300, Raven Rock-Rosemont Road:** N.J.D.O.T. authorized design, which was reviewed with design team and Township Stakeholders on June 17, 2010.

**County Route 513, Exit 15-Interstate 78:** Wetlands Study in field; extension of time for project was granted. A.P.E. Report received approval. Anticipated approval of the C.E.D.

**Bridge RQ-179:** Historic Preservation and Rehabilitation Application approved; NJDOT approved Cultural Resources report. Approval of final C.E.D. is anticipated and final design proposal is due this week.

The following are intersection projects: Routes 517/523 commenced with surface course to be complete June 16, 2010; traffic signal to be activated June 17, 2010. Discussion occurred on a citizen complaint regarding the signal light shining into the home. The Board agreed to have Mr. Glynn offer the citizen (Mr. Hildebrandt) relief by installing a louver on the light.

The following Federal Aid Stimulus projects are underway: County Route 512 - C.E.D. approved and project commenced June 30, 2010; County Route 517 - Project commenced June 30, 2010; County Route 623 - C.E.D. approved, project commencing mid-August 2010; County Route 625 - C.E.D. approved, project commenced July 6, 2010.

Demolitions are as follows: Gruhin Site, Lebanon Township (completed); Former Communications Center, Raritan Township (completed); Deer Path Park Building, Readington Township (commence July 7, 2010); Charlestown Reserve, Bethlehem Township; Howerly Site, Delaware Township (completed); Musconetcong Mt. Preserve Structure, Holland Township; Jacob Neighbor Mill, Shed Structure, Borough of Califon (needs N.J.D.E.P. authorization).

Mr. Sworen conveyed comments from some of the citizens in Delaware Township who are pleased with Mr. Glynn and his staff in their interactions with the bridge and road work being done.

Mr. Melick re-visited the truck purchase request discussion and asked if the County will be having a sale. Mr. Glynn stated the County will have a sale but commented that recent sales have not been very successful; in an effort to realize a more profitable outcome, the County will try to sell to the municipalities. The Board authorized Mr. Glynn to accept municipal bids for the sale of the trucks.

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Walton seconded the motion authorizing Mr. Glynn to sell the County truck by bid from the municipalities.

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

**PLANNING BOARD/OPEN SPACE**

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Walton seconded these:

**See page 7/06/10-7A**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Authorizing final approval to provide a cost share of a proposed acquisition of a development easement on the Frick/Levick Farm, known as Block 15, Lot 13, in Alexandria Township, consisting of approximately 43 acres, (Township - \$60,200.00; County - \$60,000.00; SADC - \$197,800.00) for a total amount of 318,200.00.

**See page 7/06/10-7B**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Authorizing final approval to provide a cost share of a proposed acquisition of a development easement on the Runge Farm #1, known as Block 23, Lot 1, in Alexandria Township, consisting of approximately 35 acres, (Township - \$68,600.00; County - \$68,600.00; SADC - \$205,800.00) for a total amount of \$343,000.00.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

**See page 7/06/10-7C**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Authorizing final approval to provide a cost share of a proposed acquisition of a development easement on the Runge #2 Farm, known as Block 19, Lot 13, in Alexandria Township, consisting of approximately 76 acres, (Township - \$117,800.00; County - \$117,800.00; SADC - \$372,400.00) for a total amount of \$608,000.00.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Walton seconded these:

**See page 7/06/10-7D**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Authorizing final approval to provide a cost share of a proposed acquisition of a development easement on the Emmons Farm, known as Block 38, Lot 8, in Delaware Township, consisting of approximately 45 acres, (Township - \$108,000.00; County - \$108,000.00; SADC - \$324,000.00) for a total amount of \$540,000.00.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

**See page 7/06/10-7E**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED,-** Authorizing final approval to provide a cost share of a proposed acquisition of a development easement on the Smith Farm, known as Block 21, Lots 3, 3.03 and 12.03, in Delaware Township, consisting of approximately 72 acres, (Township - \$144,000.00; County - \$144,000.00; SADC - \$432,000.00) for a total amount of \$720,000.00.

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

**See page 7/06/10-7D**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, - Authorizing final approval to provide a cost share of a proposed acquisition of a development easement on the Gardner Farm, known as Block 6, Lot 48, in Holland Township, consisting of approximately 52 acres, (Township - \$65,650.00; County - \$65,650.00; SADC - \$224,900.00) for a total amount of \$356,200.00.

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

**See page 7/06/10-7E**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, - Authorizing final approval to provide a cost share of a proposed acquisition of a development easement on the Gulick III Farm, known as Block 14, Lot 33.05, in West Amwell Township, consisting of approximately 17 acres, (Township - \$24,650.00; County - \$24,650.00; SADC - \$79,900.00) for a total amount of \$129,200.00.

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

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE**

**Membership Renewal**

Mrs. Yard briefed the Board on a request from the Buildings and Maintenance Director, Pete Maddalena for membership renewal to the International Association of Electrical Inspectors at a cost of \$102.00. Under the 2009 revised membership policy, international memberships are not

eligible expenses. This expense was included in the Buildings and Maintenance budget; Mr. Maddalena indicated this membership is not imperative to perform his job duties but is highly beneficial. Discussion occurred that the name "international" is misleading that the membership is actually local around New Jersey and provides for the trade journals.

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Walton seconded the motion approving Mr. Maddalena's membership renewal to the International Association of Electrical Inspectors.

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

Reallocation of Staff

Mrs. Yard publically thanked Cheryl Wieder, Director, Human Resources who did a great job at successfully placing those staff members from the Youth Facility who were interested in continuing employment with the County, into other County Departments. These people will retain their salaries until December 31, 2010 when their positions will be realigned.

Mrs. Yard will report back to the Board in two weeks regarding a staff realignment plan Ms. Wieder is working on with regard to the Board of Elections, who was to have in place by July 1, 2010; this plan may be met with some resistance and has not yet taken place.

Mandated/Discretionary

As the County continues to pursue its efforts adopted for Mandated v. Discretionary, Mrs. Yard provided an update (not listed on the agenda) with regard to funded positions and the salary and wage budget and operating budget for 2009 and 2010. She reported that the number of staff employed by the County has decreased from 657 in 2007 (largest County staff ever) to 607 staff members as of today, July 6, 2010; this number demonstrates the County's diligence to maintain the integrity of the County's full hiring freeze; with the few special exceptions which require the Board's approval. Mrs. Yard commented that utilizing the mandatory/discretionary exercise, it is plausible for department managers to re-allocate/re-prioritize their employees to provide services; additionally she commended the department managers for stepping up to the plate.

Comments were provided by Mr. Sworen on that in December 2009, the Board approved a conceptual idea to consolidate Information Services/Central Printing and Mail. Robert Thurgarland has since been moved to the position of Department Manager for the consolidated Information Services. Mr. Sworen stated that the Board had never taken formal action to put Mr. Thurgarland in that position and further stated formal action should take place on this move.

Mrs. Yard apologized; however she was with the understanding the resolution passed at the June 15, 2010 meeting which established the Department of Information Services. Mrs. Yard will work with Mr. Sworen to determine if in fact, that adopted resolution appoints Mr. Thurgarland as the Department Manager.

**FOR DISCUSSION**

Military Discount Rates – Heron Glen:

At the June 15, 2010 Freeholder meeting, the Board approved a military discount rates at Heron Glen for non-county active duty military personnel; subsequently it was suggested by the Director of Parks, Mr. Trontis that a similar discount be established for in-County active duty military personnel.

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

**See Page 07/06/10-8A**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving a discount rate for Hunterdon County, active duty military personnel at Heron Glen golf course.

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

County Facilities and Meeting Rooms Policy: Discussion occurred regarding this policy, during which time Lois Stewart questioned reference to use as a Town Hall. After further discussion, an amendment was made with regard to elected officials and public forum Town Hall use not being permitted in the County's facilities. However, the Board did not clarify in the policy, use of the facilities in the event of inclement weather; although it is preferred it does not happen.

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

**See Page 07/06/10-8B**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving the revised County Facilities and Meeting Rooms Policy with one amendment.

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

Governor Christie's Letter – 'Cap 2.5' and 'Toolkit of Reforms':

The question was posed if the County wants to take an official support position regarding the Governor's proposed 'Cap 2.5' and a 'Toolkit of Reforms' initiatives. Since the letter was published things have become unclear with regard to negotiations and the Cap 2.5 percent now at 2 percent, which becomes a legislative enactment as opposed to a constitutional amendment. The Board voted to adopt the following supportive resolution: Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders now, hereby strongly supports the Governor's proposed compromise of a two percent cap with the limited cap exceptions, as agreed

to by the State Senator/Freeholder Sweeny and Governor Christie as well as supporting the legislative initiatives labeled as the 'Toolkit' by Governor Christie.

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

**See Page 07/06/10-9A**

## **RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, to strongly support Governor Christie's initiative concerning the "toolkit".

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

### Status – "Friends of" Project:

In a memo dated July 2, 2010 addressed to the Freeholder Board, Mr. DeSapio provided the basis of his reasoning behind the original set of documents on this project; with the operative sentence being, ". . . with the intent to essentially vest total power and authority in the parent Friend's Organization with the Board of Chosen Freeholders and to permit that organization using Hunterdon County's name to raise money."

Mr. Walton conveyed various document changes offered by Mr. Sworen as follows: 1) the initial three members should be Freeholder appointments and not prescribed in the document; 2) membership should be limited to five members (three appointed, two from charter organizations); 3) the Treasurer should be from the County Finance Department; 4) charter groups should provide the appointment recommendation of two members; 5) start-up costs to be paid for by the County, after one year be chartered and pay for an annual assessment.

Mr. Sworen commented this should not be a County-employee organization and that three County employees should not be able to vote down something the groups want to do; he wants to keep this from being run by County employees. Mr. DeSapio stated he took into consideration that there are good groups and groups lacking the right mix; but, conceptually, each organization runs independently but annually reports their plans for the coming year and provide an accounting of their fund raising to the overall umbrella group. The intent of the umbrella group was to monitor so the Freeholder Board did not need to monitor. The good groups should not be affected by changes or hindered in their workings; shaky groups will be advised of what to do and if they do not comply, will be unchartered.

Lengthy discussion occurred with regard to membership of three County employees appointed to the umbrella group, their control and concerns of the 501c groups raising money for a specific purpose only to have the umbrella group utilize the funds for purposes other than the original intent proposed by the 501c groups.

Clarification must be made with regard to any capital projects being proposed must have prior approval from the Board of Chosen Freeholders

Freeholder Mennen does not want anyone using the name, County of Hunterdon, to influence contributions, whether it be dollars, sweat equity or anything else, without the Board of Chosen Freeholders knowledge and approval.

It was previously recommended by the County's Risk Management and Pete Tarricone, of Herder Tarricone, and head of the Friends of the Library, advised the County establish a highly structured control mechanism with regard the County's liability due to the use of the County's name.

Mr. Holt would like to see the recommended changes to this point be implemented, the language changes.

Mr. Melick, Mr. Walton and Freeholder Mennen stated they want a five-member oversight board. Mr. Sworen's opinion is that having the five-member board would have a harder limit/control of what the group can and cannot do and raise money for and he does not feel that should be the case; the Freeholder-appointed members should be the control the Freeholders have versus having hard control by having County employees running it and wasting taxpayer money in doing so. In response, Mr. DeSapio read from the documents the intent of the umbrella group.

Freeholder Mennen questioned whether this initiative should continue any further due to getting out-of-control and overcomplicated, and; use of the County's name is a right and that serious consideration needs to given on this.

In conclusion of this discussion, Mr. DeSapio will incorporate the changes discussed and agreed upon; the Board tabled the discussion for the next meeting.

### **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. Walton moved and Mr. Sworen seconded a motion to approve Claims in accordance with the Claims Register dated July 06, 2010, with exception of the removal of check #128986, for the New Jersey Fire Equipment.

**See Page 07/06/10-10A**

**CLAIMS REGISTER**

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

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Sworen seconded a motion to approve CHECK #128986 as listed on the Claims Register dated July 06, 2010.

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

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Sworen seconded a motion to approve the Social Services Funds Report for June, 2010.

**See Page 07/06/10-10B**

**SOCIAL SERVICES FUNDS REPORT**

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

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Sworen seconded these:

**See Page 07/06/10-10C**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Ed Davis, appointed unclassified, full time, Chief Warrant Officer, for a one-year term, commencing June 25, 2010 through June 24, 2011.

**See Page 07/06/10-10D**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Elise Ennis, appointed, provisional, full-time, Public Safety Telecommunicator, in Emergency Services Division, Public Safety Department.

**See Page 07/06/10-10E**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving Timothy Gompf, Stephen Betancourt and Patrick LaFevre, as temporary appointments, for seasonal Laborer, when and as needed, in the Roads and Bridges Department.

**See Page 07/06/10-10F**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving Melissa Peterson, Samantha Capezzuto and Matthew Fisher, as temporary appointments, for seasonal Recreation Leaders, when and as needed, in the Parks and Recreation Department.

**See Page 07/06/10-10G**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving Brielle Cooper, Emily Miglis and Betsy Chao, as temporary Student Assistants, when and as needed, in the Library Department.

**See Page 07/06/10-10H**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Shane Fryer, County Park Ranger, request for a leave of absence without pay, effective June 14, 2010 through August 1, 2010.

**See Page 07/06/10-10I**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Susan DePatto, Senior Clerk Typist, request for a leave of absence without pay, effective July 12, 2010 through August 1, 2010.

**See Page 07/06/10-10J**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Authorizing the employee transfers from the Hunterdon County Youth Facility to various County Departments: Susan Pena – Health Department; Cynthia Gould – Health Department; Patrick Eckard – Parks and Recreation; James Doolan – Division of Social Services; Francia Reyes – Prosecutor's Office; Jeremiah Harris – Library; Victoria Hockenbury – Division of Social Services.

**See Page 07/06/10-10K**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, adjusting the salary of RoseAnn Freund for performing supervisory duties (contractual).

**See Page 07/06/10-10L**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving a contract modification, for consultant fees regarding the Black Fly Surveillance Program agreement, with Millersville University of Pennsylvania, in the amount of \$5,500.00, for a revised not-to-exceed figure of \$9,000.00.

**See Page 07/06/10-11A**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Authorizing final payment, for reconstruction of Bridge D-345, to Underground Utilities Corporation, in the amount of \$34,444.15.

**See Page 07/06/10-11B**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Authorizing an agreement, for temporary shelter placement of displaced Hunterdon County children, with Brahma House, in the amount of \$17,000.00.

**See Page 07/06/10-11C**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Authorizing a joint agreement, between Hunterdon and Somerset Counties, for a bi-county workforce investment system, as defined in the State's Strategic Five-Year Unified State Plan.

**See Page 07/06/10-11D**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Authorizing a contract modification for a professional services agreement, for engineering design consulting services, for Brinkerhoff Environmental Services, in the amount of \$1,161.25 for a total contract not-to-exceed amount of \$16,011.25.

**See Page 07/06/10-11E**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving the administration of the Special Projects Grant Awards, as recommended by the Cultural & Heritage Commission, for a total amount of \$52,192.00.

**See Page 07/06/10-11F**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving Change Order #1, Final, for as built quantities, for a decrease of \$15,442.71, in connection with the reconstruction of Bridge D-345, Delaware Township, for Underground Utilities Corporation, for total adjusted contract amount of \$577,512.77.

**See Page 07/06/10-11G**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving advertising to solicit the following competitive bids: #2010-16 for fine paper/envelopes; #2010-18 to furnish/deliver (2) Ford E350 commercial cargo vans; #2010-20 for medical services for Corrections Department.

**See Page 07/06/10-11H**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Authorizing payment to New Jersey Fire Equipment Company in the amount of \$158,544.00 for Purchase Order #1083856 provided that all paperwork provided by County Counsel is in order.

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

**GRANTS**

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

**See Page 07/06/10-11I**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVE**, Approving a grant agreement for the 2009 Business Stimulus Fund, with NJ Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Parks and Forestry, in the amount of \$7,000.00.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Walton seconded this:

**See Page 07/06/10-11J**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving a grant application, for HIV counseling/test services, with the Division of AIDS, NJ Department of Health and Human Services, in the amount of \$59,800.00.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Walton seconded this:

**See Page 07/06/10-11K**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving a supplemental grant application, to refurbish a County vehicle, for the purpose of providing mobile HIV counseling/testing, in the amount of \$24,898.00.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Walton seconded this:

**See Page 07/06/10-12A**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving a grant application, for Local Core Capacity for Public Health Emergency Preparedness, to develop emergency-ready health departments, with the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, with a County match of \$23,978.00, for a total grant amount of \$376,239.00.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Walton seconded this:

**See Page 07/06/10-12B**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving a grant application, to provide monthly rent subsidies to individuals under the age of 62, with a disability, with the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development, in the amount of \$37,416.00.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Walton seconded this:

**See Page 07/06/10-12C**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving a grant agreement, for the Buffer Zone Protection Program from the Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness, in the amount of \$174,500.00.

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

**SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

Undersheriff John Maloney stated his first point of business in coming before the Board tonight is to discuss the Sheriff's concerns about a multitude of things which she wants to action; Mr. DeSapio asked the Sheriff to come discuss her concerns with the Board rather than take action against the Board. Specifically, the concerns are in regard to the routine denial by Ms. Yard to approve payments from the O & E Budget over the years such as badges, magazine subscriptions, lunch reimbursements, etc.

For the record, Freeholder Mennen inquired whether Undersheriff Maloney is authorized to speak on behalf of/in the absence of Sheriff Trout.

The Sheriff contends Ms. Yard is not authorized to be the gatekeeper at the Board's direction; the Sheriff challenges that, based on case law, the Board has the power to set the Sheriff's budget, not to determine what does/does not get paid.

Freeholder Director Mennen stated that for such purposes, departments can seek administrative remedy by coming to the Board with specific expenditure funding requests; Undersheriff Maloney continued to speak in generalities and ask the Board to make legal interpretations. Director Mennen invited Mr. Maloney to provide specifics for the Board to react to. However, Mr. Maloney stated his point is that the Board's administrative remedy exceeds the authority of the Freeholder Board of Chosen Freeholders. Director Mennen verified that this is a long-standing disagreement between the Freeholders and the Sheriff, and that one can almost guess the outcome of that discussion. He again invited Mr. Maloney to provide specifics for the Board to react, which Mr. Maloney stated that being the case, then there is no further discussion on this, that the purpose to come to the Board tonight was that Mr. DeSapio suggested they come discuss with the Board in an effort to come up with a solution for this over-arching problem not just the specifics on each specifics. He continued that if they cannot come to an agreement that the Board does not recognize the limitations of its power, then "we're loggerheads on that one".

Mr. Walton referenced the lunch reimbursements for transports as being contractual and that these reimbursement requests were not denied. Mr. Walton responded to Mr. Maloney's statement, "that's a lie", by asking Mr. Maloney to substantiate in memorandum a detail of the specific officer and specific date and specific lunch that was denied. As this is a contractual obligation, Freeholder Walton stated that, if Mr. Maloney is correct and lunch reimbursements for transports were denied, even if back to 2008 when Sheriff Trout took office, then it needs to be corrected, if in fact they were denied. Freeholder Walton conveyed his opinion that lunches for transports are different than for trainings. Undersheriff Maloney indicated he would provide copies of denied lunch reimbursements for both transports and trainings.

Mr. Maloney's second point for coming before the Board today is to have the Sheriff's salary requests approved, as stated in her June 8, 2010 letter.

Various comments were verbalized between Board members and Undersheriff Maloney. The Undersheriff quoted salary statistics; he stated the salary requests meet statutory criteria in being within the guidelines of the budget provided and within the County's salary ranges and, would still afford a surplus in the budget after the amount of the raises. Freeholder Melick questioned the Sheriff requesting more money from the Board in addition to the civil suit expenses the County must pay created by the Sheriff's Department; he noted the County's difficulty in obtaining coverage.

Freeholder Melick questioned any restrictions for the Sheriff in carrying a gun with regard to the indictment; Mr. Maloney stated the indictment is a formal charge, not a conviction and that as far as he is aware, she can carry a gun; he further stated that there is a difference in that a Sheriff is an elected official and that elected officials are treated differently by the law.

Having heard various comments on this topic, Mr. Mennen stated that a response is deserved with regard to the Sheriff's salary requests and asked for a motion.

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Melick seconded a motion to deny the salary increases as outlined in the Sheriff's request.

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

Undersheriff Maloney stated they will see them in court, which is where they are headed next. Undersheriff Maloney proceeded to exit the meeting.

Francis Gavigan (citizen) stated she finds it obscene that a non-elected person would threaten the Freeholder Board with legal action.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

A request from East Whitehouse Fire Company to hold a coin toss.

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Sworen seconded a motion granting approval for the requested coin toss on July 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Mr. Sworen stated there are federal regulations which require persons wear a certain type of safety vest for the coin toss and, further stated that either in the County's approval for Mr. Glynn's approval that the folks holding the coin toss are aware the County is approving the request with their knowledge of the federal regulations.

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

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Sworen seconded a motion to approve a request from the High Bridge Business Association for a Run/Bike/Walk fund raiser on August 22, 2010, with the amendment regarding the safety vests.

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

#### **FREEHOLDERS COMMENTS/REPORTS**

##### Park Avenue

Freeholder Holt provided comment that Flemington Borough was awarded \$1,008,000.00 in stimulus funds, (which only covers construction costs) and that along with County's agreed amount of \$600,000.00, the Park Avenue Project is now fully funded. Mrs. Yard reminded the Board the County is still due requested information with regard to the breakdown of construction/design costs that have been/will be spent.

##### Library Event

Freeholder Sworen provided that a jazz concert would be held at the Library tomorrow night.

##### Heron Glen Golf Lessons

Freeholder Walton stated that golf lessons are being provided at Heron Glen.

##### Legal Services Efficiency Analysis

Freeholder Director Mennen followed up on his presentation of May 18, 2010, with regard to the Legal Services Efficiency Analysis. He had hoped the analysis results would have generated Board action. Sometime on June 11, 2010, Freeholder Mennen emailed the Board members seeking any questions and inviting requests for additional information. One Freeholder responded indicating he was in favor of moving forward; and, on June 25, 2010 and second email was sent seeking a reaction, which prompted one response that the Board member had not been able to review the information yet. Two Freeholders did not provide a response. Director Mennen encouraged his colleagues to advocate the restructuring of legal services.

#### **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Frances Gavigan, resident from East Amwell Township provided a written request, which she read for those present, to obtain permission to provide - at no taxpayer cost - by state law, for equestrian signage on County roads that advises motorists that, 1) horses have the right-of-way and, 2) motorists are to yield to hand signals. As past requests have been refused, this request is to approve East Amwell residents obtaining signage, at no cost to the County, not setting a precedent, and to provide the signage to Roads, Bridges and Engineering for placement.

Ms. Gavigan thanked the Freeholder Board for coming out to East Amwell last March with support for modifications to Bridge E-174 and to minimize the impact to residents on Wertsville Road and the unique resource, Amwell Valley. Residents are encouraged by the progress to date and thanked the Board for cooperation/collaboration of Mr. Glynn and the County engineers with Dr. Shanona and the residents.

As a private citizen, Ms. Gavigan spoke that it was unfortunate that Mr. Maloney (Undersheriff) did not stay to hear anything against him. She is offended by the gall of the Sheriff and that Department, to come to the meeting and from the first words out of his mouth to threaten with litigation, not only to the Freeholders but to the taxpayers of Hunterdon County if you did not cave or give in to what they wanted, contractual obligations, though must be filled. Contractual issues

such as budgets is an issue but this particular lame duck Sheriff's office, it takes "big brass ones"; it's obscene and offensive and they should be ashamed of themselves.

Citizen Lois Stewart also expressed concern about the Sheriff's Office. She would like to see the Freeholders place a written request to the Governor to change legislature with regard to how the Constitutional Officers can be reigned in.

Ms. Stewart also conveyed that she is pleased to hear there is serious questioning of the 'Friends of Hunterdon' group. She does not understand what the benefit will be to the general citizen will be from this group and given the fact that we are all Republicans – less government, not more government, that this would be something the taxpayers would have to pay for.

Freeholder Walton indicated the benefit comes into being because there will be many discretionary programs the Freeholders cannot fund that are not mandatory; this group will provide a donation opportunity for causes, such as the concert series. Private citizens and corporations can donate, get a tax deduction because the 'Friends of Hunterdon' would be a non-profit and continues programs. Ms. Stewart's stated her opinion that there are other ways to realize the same possible benefits; she does not understand why we need another layer of government.

Ms. Stewart addressed another concern with regard to housing subsidies for the disabled. She is not against helping the disabled but would like to know who establishes the criteria and more important, what the criteria is, which she feels is not strictly adhered to, as there are people who have specifically stated, 'why should I work when I can get a subsidy to pay the rent and not have to work'. She indicated

this person is able to work as well as anybody else. Ms. Stewart is asking someone to look at the criteria and make sure it is strictly applied, so that people are not taking advantage of the opportunities for assistance. She is more than willing to help anyone who truly needs assistance.

Administrator Cynthia Yard indicated she is a Fair Housing Hearing Officer and that the criteria is very prescribed, that Hunterdon is one of the more strict and if someone has violated eligibility, those persons have been displaced. She agreed, though with Ms. Stewart that persons do try to take advantage and things do certainly need to be changed.

Warren Cooper, Hunterdon Democrat news reporter, questioned the 'Friends of Hunterdon' group with regard to not applying to the 'Friends of the Library' as it does not include the 'Friends of the Library'. Mr. DeSapio confirmed that the present document does not exclude the 'Friends of the Library'; if the Freeholders want to exempt pre-existing organizations, it needs to be done separately.

Mr. Cooper asked what would prevent the Freeholders down the road to say, for the rest of the taxpayers, the Board is shutting down the 'Friend' group and the document states the Board can use any money in the groups coffers anyway they want. The answer was – nothing. Ms. Stewart questioned who would want to do all this.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Director Mennen adjourned the meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Rhonda Kelly  
Deputy Clerk of the Board