

**HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS**  
71 Main Street, Flemington, New Jersey 08822  
**February 01, 2011**

The regular meeting of the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders convened at 4:46 p.m. in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

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

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT**

Deputy Freeholder Director Walton 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 27, 2011, 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 SESSIONS**

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Walton seconded these:

**See Page 02/01/11-1A RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Executive Session to discuss the status of meetings with the Department Managers' Association. (7) (8)

**See Page 02/01/11-1B RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Executive Session to the legal liability in connection with the Hunterdon County Jail operation. (7)

**See Page 02/01/11-1C RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Executive Session to discuss negotiations with the Hunterdon Medical Center for a new or extended Public Health Nursing and Education agreement. (7)

**See Page 02/01/11-1D RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Executive Session to review the executive session minutes of January 13, 2011 and January 18, 2011.

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

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders went into Executive Session at 4:50 p.m. and reconvened in Open Session at 5:34 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**PURCHASING**

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

**See Page 02/01/11-1E RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving County Requisition #IT.3270, using State Contract #A-77003, with Dell, for software licenses for Information Services, in the amount of \$65,475.10.

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

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

**See Page 02/01/11-1F RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2010-31, to furnish and install NJDEX software interface between the County collection hub and three local police departments, to Enforsys Information Exchange Systems, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$134,500.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Walton seconded this:

**See Page 02/01/11-1G RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2010-36, for a 48 month lease of Golf Carts for use at Heron Glen Golf Course, to E-Z-Go Textron, in an amount not to exceed \$265,752.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

**See Page 02/01/11-2A**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2010-37, for the replacement of golf course maintenance equipment to be used at Heron Glen Golf Course, to Storr Tractor Company, in an amount not to exceed \$139,202.

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

**FARMLAND PRESERVATION/PLANNING**

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Walton seconded this:

**See Page 02/01/11-2B**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving the Release of Option Agreement, on Block 6, Lots 25, 26, 16 and 13, in East Amwell Township, from Kathryn Perehinys, Joseph Perehinys, Robert Perehinys and Mary Perehinys.

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

**ROADS and BRIDGES Update**

**Bridge R-183-S/Readington Township**

John P. Glynn, Director, Roads, Bridges and Engineering brought to the Board's attention County Bridge R-183-S, on Higginsville Road in Readington Township which was damaged by a snowplow truck on January 26, 2011. Mr. Glynn reported that Readington Township has filed an accident report with the Hillsborough Township Police because the bridge is located in Hillsborough, Somerset County, across the South Branch. Mr. Glynn advised Hunterdon County met with Somerset County this past Friday, January 28, 2011 and Somerset is requesting Hunterdon take the lead in this project and deal with the Township (Readington).

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Sworen seconded a motion declaring an emergency in order for the County to advance this project, County Bridge R-183-S. The County has received issues about a farmer (Van Doren Farm) on County Route 514, with a large track on the other side in Readington, and this is adversely affecting this farmer's ability to feed his animals.

Mr. Glynn assured the Board that the County will go after Readington Township for the cost of the repairs to Bridge R-183-S.

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

**Salt**

Mr. Glynn asked the Board for authorization to extend the County's Bid contract for salt by 20% with the International Salt Company. The County has ordered 8,050 of a 9,000 ton contract. International Salt probably owes the County around 2,900 tons delivered but he would like to have authorization, within the confines of the contract, to go the extra 20% to get the salt ordered because the County has been having a difficult time receiving salt deliveries.

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Sworen seconded a motion authorizing the Director of Roads, Bridges and Engineering to extend the County's current bid for salt with International Salt Company by 20%.

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

**Signs**

Mr. Glynn informed the Board of the plans for the Triple Arch Bridge at Stevensburg which will be strengthened with no change in width. He explained there is a wall which failed on the Warren County side and the wall has to be relayed.

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Sworen seconded a motion authorizing the Director of Roads, Bridges and Engineering to proceed with the work for the Triple Arch Bridge at Stevensburg.

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

**COUNTY Update**

Cynthia J. Yard, County Administrator, informed the Board that the Parks and Recreation Department has arranged to have concerts in the Park at no cost to the County, as the Board did not allocate for concerts this year. Mrs. Yard advised that as of today, there are 19 acts for the concert series so it will run a full 9 weeks. In order to have every act play, shorter times are being done in order for everyone to be able to participate. Mrs. Yard confirmed this is for zero dollars.

**FOR DISCUSSION**

Freeholder Walton informed the Board he is aware that the subject of video taping Freeholder meetings has come up before but he has been asked if the Board would consider video taping meetings and make them available online. The Director of Information Services, Bob Thurgarland has done some research into using the County's current ISP with the cost being approximately \$2,000 upfront plus roughly \$70 a month as a fee for the internet supplier to maintain this online. Mr. Walton said the question is whether the meetings should be video taped or not; should they look for other online vendors that are cheaper?

Mr. Sworen stated the County looked at this three or four years ago, the County does not have a valid sound system. The first priority would be to have a valid sound system for this room that feeds into a current capture device such as a pc which would record the meetings and would also allow software to be put in to produce the written part of the minutes.

Mr. Walton stated the \$2,000 cost would include the microphone and recording equipment for this dais and for the audience to be able to pick up sound in an acceptable manner.

Mr. Sworen feels the costs would be more around \$4,000 for equipment.

Mr. Mennen agrees with increasing the public access to hear, see, observe and watch what the Freeholders do at their behest and hopefully for their benefit but he is not interested in spending any money on that in this environment where the County has just sent out 18 pink slips. Mr. Mennen said if there is another way in going about doing this such as grant funding that would contemplate this initiative to be an outreach to the public, he would be agree to that. Mr. Mennen told his colleagues he has been voting no on spending money this year and he will continue to do that because when the County is laying people off; it is no time to be spending money. Mr. Mennen said he would agree to this but there has to be another source found to pay for it.

Mr. Melick agreed with Mr. Mennen saying he does not want to spend the capital money. Mr. Melick feels this venture is going to cause an additional expense in the future and he isn't for spending money, stating that the equipment is going to have to be maintained, stored and such.

Mr. Walton said there is a point where he would also say no to this, such as \$100,000 but \$2,000 he might say yes. He questioned the Board how much the Board would agree to spend on this and if it is zero, then he knows not to bring this back before the Board unless he can get it for free.

Director Holt confirmed for Mr. Walton that the amount is zero dollars.

Mr. Sworen agreed it is a difficult time to spend extra money.

The Board directed Mr. Walton to look for an alternate funding source for video taping meetings.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Director Holt 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."

At this time checks #131630, 131599, 131566 and 131604 were held.

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Sworen seconded a motion to approve the reorganization minutes of January 04, 2011 and the special session minutes of January 13, 2011.

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

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Sworen seconded these:

**See Page 02/01/11-3A**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving the appointment of Thomas Borkowski to the Workforce Investment Board.

**See Page 02/01/11-3B**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving the appointment of Hany Mawla, JSC, to the Hunterdon County Youth/Juvenile Justice Commission.

**See Page 02/01/11-3C**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving a modification to the provider service agreement with the Hunterdon Medical Center – Special Child Health Services, for 2011, in the amount of 33,286.

**See Page 02/01/11-3D**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving a modification to the provider service agreement with SAFE in Hunterdon, for 2011, in the amount of \$42,296.

**See Page 02/01/11-3E**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving a modification to the provider service agreement with United Cerebral Palsy of Northern, Central and Southern New Jersey, for 2011, in the amount of \$9,720.

**See Page 02/01/11-3F**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving a modification to the provider service agreement with Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, for 2011, in the amount of \$64,464.



**RESOLVED**, Approving Change Order #1, Final, for County Bid #2010-07, for Drainage Improvements to County Route 513 and County Route 617, in High Bridge Borough and Raritan Township, with Z Brothers Concrete Contractors, Inc., increase of \$41,438.80.

**RESOLVED**, Authorizing the release of executive session minutes for July 06, 2010, July 20, 2010, August 03, 2010, August 17, 2010, September 07, 2010, October 05, 2010, October 19, 2010, November 03, 2010, November 16, 2010 and December 01, 2010.

**RESOLVED**, Approving an extension agreement with the Hunterdon Medical Center for public health nursing and health education services, upon the receipt of an executed agreement from the Hunterdon Medical Center for same.

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

Mr. Mennen confirmed with the Board that Check #131630 with the Hunterdon Medical Center will be held until receipt of an executed extension agreement is received.

Mr. Mennen questioned County Administrator Yard if check #131604 for the 2011 membership in the NJEHA is in compliance with the County's policy on memberships and conferences.

Mrs. Yard reported this is in compliance with the County's policy and this particular instance involves the County Health Department and according to their contract, they are to belong to the New Jersey Environmental Health Association.

Mr. Mennen stated that check #131566 appears to be membership to the IACREOT.

Mrs. Yard reported that is concerning the County Clerk's Office and it did appear in the Clerk's budget last year. It is a discretionary service and County Counsel was asked to provide a ruling on that membership, as far as whether it could come out of a trust fund or be paid through operating funds. Mrs. Yard stated there was discussion on this matter last year at budget time and it was approved by the Board last year. Mrs. Yard stated in any other situation she would not approve that membership but she recalls there were some concessions made and it was processed.

Mr. Mennen confirmed this membership does not comply with the County's policy.

Mrs. Yard informed the Board that this membership will lead to attending a conference. She advised County Counsel DeSapio explained that if someone is going to a conference to observe or learn about things that could modernize their office such as voting machines. The IACREOT association is for treasurers, election officials, county clerk and such, so many people could belong to the association but Hunterdon's County Clerk is the only individual who belongs to this association.

Mrs. Yard stated that in 2010, there was a lengthy discussion on what should be included in the budget and those dues were approved by the Board.

Mr. Walton stated he spoke with the County Clerk regarding that conference and she assured him that this year it would meet the criteria making it acceptable for her to use her trust. He confirmed this is the membership.

Mrs. Yard stated this conference does not come out of the Clerk's trust, her COANG dues comes out of the Clerk's trust.

Mr. Melick confirmed the Board is denying memberships and conferences to other County people and this Board has to be consistent with how it treats its people. The County is in the process of laying people off and the real estate market is down, revenues are down. The County has to face what is going on.

Mr. Mennen said in addition, it is adherence to a policy which was unanimously adopted by this Board. If someone wants to disagree than three members of this Board can do away with the policy; it isn't about personality but its about being compliant with the policy.

Mrs. Yard informed the Board that the memorandums were sent out today to departments as the Freeholders did agree to reduce County Accounts 805/810/815. These are line items in the budget for conferences, memberships, trips, meetings and training. The Board unanimously agreed to take that amount from \$100,000 which was budgeted in 2010 to \$50,000 for 2011. Mrs. Yard advised requests came in on the departments' operating budgets and there are \$99,000 worth of trips, conferences and meetings requested. Mrs. Yard explained another memorandum was sent to the department managers explaining the definition of discretionary and mandated for reconsideration of those trips, conferences and meetings. Also, at the direction of the Freeholder Board, Mrs. Yard advised the managers that if they could not cut these items that it will be cut for them.

Mrs. Yard advised the IACREOT was approved because of the direction given last year by the Board.

Director Holt confirmed this check for the IACREOT is out of the 2010 budget for the 2011 membership.

Mrs. Yard said the IACREOT membership also appears in the 2011 operating budget received on January 19, 2011. She would need to confirm with the Finance Department whether the funds were coming from the 2010 budget or the 2011 budget.

Director Holt confirmed that Mrs. Yard will be producing a list of all requests for conferences, trips, meetings, memberships and training for the Board for consideration. He asked that this check be held to determine whether it is 2010 or 2011 funding since the Board has not considered the 2011 budget process yet.

Mr. Mennen noted that the County's policy on trips, memberships, conferences, meetings and training predates the 2010 budget. The Board discussed last year that just because something is in the budget doesn't mean that it gets spent.

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Mennen seconded a motion to approve the claims in accordance with the Claims Register dated February 01, 2011 minus checks #131599 and #131630. It was noted that check #131566 has been pulled at this time.

**See Page 02/01/11-5A**

#### **CLAIMS REGISTER**

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Melick seconded a motion to approve check #131599 in accordance with the Claims Register dated February 01, 2011.

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

Mr. Mennen moved and Mr. Melick seconded a motion to approve check #131630 in accordance with the Claims Register dated February 01, 2011 on the condition it be held until an executed extension to the agreement with the Hunterdon Medical Center is received with regard to public health nursing and health education.

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

#### **GRANTS**

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

**See Page 02/01/11-5B**

#### **RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving the 2010 and 2011 Job Access/Reverse Commute application with New Jersey Transit, for \$80,000 in federal funding for 2010 (Round 12) and \$80,000 in funding for 2011 (Round 13), with a County Match of \$80,000 for each year, total grant funding of \$320,000.

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

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Walton seconded this:

**See Page 02/01/11-5C**

#### **RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving a Subgrant agreement from the State Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of Criminal Justice, for the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner/Sexual Assault Response Team (SANE/ SART), in the amount of \$51,418 – federal funds and a County Match of \$12,855), total amount of \$64,273.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Walton seconded this:

**See Page 02/01/11-5D**

#### **RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving an agreement with the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), for support of the MRC Capacity Building units, in the amount of \$5,000.

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

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

##### **Bad Weather**

Mr. Sworen asked about a County Policy concerning weather because today the County is having severe icing. There are basically four County groups: regular employees, road crews, emergency services/911 and the Library system. Most people leave work at 4:30 p.m. but if the weather turns to ice the Library is scheduled to remain open until 9:00 p.m. Hunterdon's weather today has been rain in the south part of the County, some rain and icing here in the Flemington area and really bad icing in the northern section of the County. He asked the Library Director, Mark Titus, how he handles this because the Library isn't essential, it is not a 24/7 operation. Mr. Sworen questioned who determines if the Library stays open and is there a policy in place with regard to this.

Mrs. Yard stated the policy in place with regard to the Library is that the Library Director calls the Director of Roads, Bridges and Engineering, John Glynn, to discuss road conditions. Director Holt has delegated that regarding weather conditions that she and Mr. Glynn discuss this and make the call. During the last storm it was decided to bring the afternoon people who work from 1:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. in the Library into the office until 5:00 p.m. The Library posts a notice on the door of the Library advising the Library will be closed that evening.

Mr. Sworen confirmed that information on Library closings can also be found on the County's webpage and on their voice mail.

Mr. Sworen explained he brings this up today because weather conditions are difference than with snow. Today, tonight and tomorrow there will be icing and it is dangerous.

Mrs. Yard is confident that Mr. Titus reached out to Mr. Glynn today regarding how late the Library should remain open. If in the middle of the night, Mr. Glynn calls and informs her that the commute will be bad and recommends a delayed opening, then she would reach out to Director Holt to make the call. During the past few storms, Director Holt has directed Mrs. Yard and Mr. Glynn to make the call.

Mrs. Yard advised that any County employee feels they cannot come to work in bad weather, they are able to use their vacation or personal time.

#### Office of Emergency Management

Mr. Walton introduced Brayden Fahey who is the acting OEM Coordinator for the County.

#### Shared Services Seminar.

Director Holt thanked Mr. Walton for a good shared services seminar which was held on January 31, 2011, at the Route 12 County Complex. Close to 100 people attended last night's seminar. A meeting with the municipalities will be held next.

#### Sheriff/Prosecutor

Director Holt recognized Sheriff Brown and Prosecutor Kearns who were in attendance.

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

Frances Gavigan, East Amwell Township resident came before the Board to thank those County employees who are working 24/7 and volunteering furlough days as these people are trying to save public money.

Ms. Gavigan asked if County Counsel DeSapio could provide some guidance for how the public or others could donate funds towards upgrading equipment so Freeholder meetings could video tape its meetings. This way the taxpayer would be paying to have access to the web for meetings.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Director Holt adjourned the meeting at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Denise B. Doolan  
Clerk of the Board