

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

The regular meeting of the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders convened at 1:32 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 February 24, 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."

Budget Discussion continued

805/810/815 line items

Mrs. Yard reported to the Board that the 805/810/815 line item requests for departments started out at \$103,000 and it has been reduced down to \$59,210. There is still one major department to be reduced that has four divisions under it, which is Roads, Bridges and Engineering and vehicle services. Mrs. Yard stated while there will be additional cuts to the \$59,000 the Finance Team has agreed this is close.

Mrs. Yard advised most of the County managers have an association which comes with hefty dues. She would like to write a letter to those associations and inform them that Hunterdon has not put money in its budget for this purpose. She doesn't believe the associations will tell Hunterdon County not to attend their meetings. Mrs. Yard discussed this matter with the County's Planning Board Director because she is the president of her County Planning Association, and she feels they would be allowed to keep attending the meetings even if dues aren't paid.

Mr. Melick feels the information that these associations generate can be found online.

It was the feeling by Mr. Sworen that some of these associations are going to say don't attend.

Mr. Mennen recommended Mrs. Yard avail the Department Managers of the opportunity to have Mrs. Yard contact their association.

Retirement

Mrs. Yard reported to the Board that individuals took advantage of the County's Retirement incentive program. Meetings were held with some of the Managers and out of the five people that Roads, Bridges and Engineering lost, John Glynn, Director, of Roads, Bridges and Engineering is requesting to replace two: one Roads and Bridges person and an Engineer who was taken out of the budget two or three years ago. Senior Services has a fiscal person, who is the only fiscal person for that area; in addition the whole Human Services fiscal area is also down a couple of fiscal people and they have made due but the Senior Services person is needed for the Area Plan Grant, which is the biggest grant the County receives, which is close to \$800,000. Mrs. Brown added that the grant requires a fiscal person and a portion of the salary comes from the grant.

Mrs. Yard advised the Tax Board Administrator is requesting his clerical vacancy be filled. The manager of Information Services has decided not to fill his vacancy. There are two vacancies in the Library and while there isn't a request at this time Mrs. Yard feels a request will be received to fill the two vacancies. When the Board considers the two library vacancies and if they are approved, they should work the Sunday hours which will reduce overtime to run the Sunday program. Rutgers now has two clerical which leaves them with two clerical behind. Rutgers is a discretionary service. One of those two clericals was slated for a layoff but the retirements were offered and that negated the layoff. Rutgers' has not made a formal request for a replacement at this time. Mr. Glynn has decided not to fill the one position in Roads and Bridges. The Budget team is recommending not filling the vacancy in the Superintendent of Schools Office because they have a clerical force of four and when the Office Manager retired she delineated her duties out to those four people so they should be able to operational work adequately. Cultural and Heritage has one retiree and those duties have been integrated in the Planning Board. Mrs. Yard reported an employee in the Planning Department has been identified that could pick up the duties in Cultural and Heritage. Mrs. Yard has spoken with the Planning Board Director on how this will work and they feel comfortable those duties can be absorbed into the current Planning Board staffing.

Mr. Mennen questioned the three positions that are being recommended to be backfilled. He asked if these vacancies were caused by employees taking advantage of the retirement incentive or is it a general condition of a department post. He questioned the salary differentials.

Mrs. Yard advised that has not been looked at yet by the Budget team but when it is complete she will furnish a copy to the Board. Mrs. Yard confirmed the Board would like those departments

requesting to fill positions to answer the four questions that are normally required by Human Resources for justification.

After a brief discussion, the Board agreed Mrs. Yard should inform the Cultural and Heritage Commission Chairperson that the County understands there is a need for certain services, including a grant writer, and the County has such a person within the County's Planning Department who will take these duties over.

Mrs. Yard reported the Tax Administrator has already filled out the four Human Resources questions to fill the vacancy. That office is very busy around March and April with Tax Appeals. Currently there office has three positions, a Tax Administrator, a Field Representative, and a clerical who is retiring. Cheryl Wieder, Human Resources Director, informed the Board that the Tax Administrator's concern is if he and the Field Representative are in tax appeals then who will man the office. In addition, the Tax Administrator will be going out on family leave shortly.

Mrs. Yard stated if the County was to place temporary people/per diems in the office that could be paid through the Tax Board Trust Fund. Mrs. Yard added that the County could also offset the Tax Administrator's salary through that trust fund. To be considered is how much temporary help that office needs.

Mr. Sworen confirmed the Tax Board has access to voice mail and they have the ability to update their email status if they are going to be out of the office for any period of time.

Mr. Melick suggested leaning on another department for help instead of hiring someone. It could be a shared service.

Mrs. Yard confirmed for the Board that the County no longer has people who can be placed in other departments. In the past, one of Human Resources employees had been sent to the Tax Board to answer phones in that office.

Mrs. Yard would like to say to the Tax Administrator that once all the appeals have been received and the number is known, then it can be decided if there is resource allocation.

Director Holt suggested that if outside people have to be used I the Tax Board that the salary be offset by the trust fund with the understanding that any request that comes in for assistance, the County would try to fill in-house first.

Mrs. Yard confirmed the Tax Board can place a sign on their door when they are closed, and they can turn their phones over to the Administrative area.

Mr. Mennen asked if there is a group of departments that have this similar need, of telephone answering and general office clerical work needs. He feels if this is a common needs, then the Board should have income under the Administrator's budget and she should have the ability to have someone who can be sent to multiple departments. He is concerned about the ability to use trust funds.

Mrs. Yard explained that floater pool was done away with two years ago by the Freeholder Board.

Mr. Mennen said he doesn't want a person who is in the office 52 weeks out of the year but he would like to have someone that the Administrator would know to go to, if it is assessed there is a genuine need that can't be filled internally, that person would be contacted to go to a specific office for a specific amount of time.

Mr. Melick and Mr. Mennen would like to see a list of departments who are willing to cooperate to share their clerical people. They asked Mrs. Yard to contact the various departments to see who is willing to participate.

Mr. Mennen asked Mrs. Browne, Finance Director and Mrs. Yard to think about how this might be implemented and confirmed with the Board that there will be no line item for departments for temporary help but if the Board does go that route, the line item would be placed under the Administrator or Human Resources.

The Board confirmed for Mrs. Yard that it will not fill the position in the Superintendent of School's Office.

Offsetting Trusts

Mrs. Yard advised that different trusts have been identified as the Board requested at the February 23, 2011 budget session, to offset budgets. Statutes have been reviewed for each trust. The Tax Administrator's salary can be offset by his trust, the same as is being done with the trust in Weights and Measurers and Senior Services.

Mr. Sworen would like to see a formal motion by this Board when this is done, so that it is on the record. If a department or the state questions this action then the County will have a reference to show when the decision was made and the reasons why.

Mrs. Yard said the Budget Team will compile a list for the Board to take action that includes the resource and the reason.

Mr. Mennen confirmed the Finance Director and Planning Director are looking at the Cultural and Heritage Commission Trust fund to determine what currently comes out of it and what it could possibly be used for.

Outstanding Capital Items

Mrs. Browne would like to have a reserve of \$75,000 for furniture and fixtures in the Capital plan for 2011; with \$100,000 in reserve for vehicles. The thought is that while this is in the plan if it isn't needed the County won't introduce or adopt a capital ordinance.

The Board discussed using a GPS system on trucks and vehicles. Mr. Sworen stated new vehicles have a GPS so they can be tracked. Also, the cell phones the County uses can also be tracked. After further discussion, the Board agreed that GPS can be incorporated in the purchase of any new vehicles for the County.

Mrs. Browne confirmed the Board is agreeable with the Information Technology consolidations and the upgrades to the amount of \$65,000.

Mrs. Browne explained to the Board if the ordinance isn't in the plan, they the County can't take action.

Open Space Cooperative Program

Mrs. Yard reported she contacted Mrs. Dziamara this morning in order to confirm the numbers for the capital plan for the Open Space Cooperative program. The 25% coop piece which is \$1,750,000 was tentatively placed in the capital plan. There is only one application that have been received for this program so it is recommended the County only put in what is needed for that application which is \$750,000, if the Board approves this application. Mrs. Yard stated this was a coop application which was carried over from last year. No other entity put in an application so the need in that particular capital plan would be not to exceed \$750,000 instead of the \$1,750,000 which was generated by the tax.

Mrs. Browne advised the funding would stay in the Open Space Trust but for 2011 the County would only choose to use \$750,000.

Mr. Sworen questioned if those funds could be used in case of an emergency.

Mrs. Yard said her understanding is that any money placed in the 2012 capital plan would be used for those applications filed in 2011 during the application window.

Margaret Pasqua, County Treasurer informed the Board that last year an ordinance was adopted for \$1.5 million for the cooperative program and \$1.3 million was raised by the tax; so there is \$250,000 still in the 2010 account. In 2011, during the course of the years a similar amount of money will be brought in through the tax.

Director Holt confirmed the application received for the cooperative program for \$750,000 is a 2010 application but 2011 funding will be spent for it.

The Board agreed to discuss at a future time the changing of percentages or allocations on a budget agenda.

Mr. Walton would like to also discuss at a future meeting the allocations to municipalities for conservation.

The Finance Department was asked to prepare a simple spread sheet showing what is left over in each category, what was allocated for 2010, what is to be allocated for 2011 and so on.

Mr. Mennen stated the County is entitled to reallocate those percentages on an annual basis.

Director Holt confirmed the Board is agreeable for the request of the Cooperative Open Space Coop being allocated as a maximum not to exceed \$750,000.

Mr. Mennen confirmed the Board's objective is still to maintain a flat tax rate. He asked where the County is at currently. The County has done layoffs, there was a retirement incentive and the County found other savings. He is interested in what the number is today that the County needs to reduce by.

Mrs. Pasqua said \$450,000.

Mrs. Browne advised that number does not include any positions that are going to be backfilled; it does not include any increases from Social Services budget which is being worked on this week; and it does not include the \$100,000 plus in revenue that is on today's agenda from the sale of the Bush property.

Mrs. Browne feels she will have a firmer number for the Board by Friday, after working with Social Services on their budget this week.

Mr. Melick asked about the funding of utilities because of the dramatic increase in oil prices. He noted last year oil prices were down. He feels the County should put more funds in the utilities budget because fuel oil and electric prices are on the rise.

Mrs. Yard advised the Finance Department has already compensated for that in the Budget and placed adequate funds in the budget.

Director Holt confirmed the next budget session will be on Tuesday, March 08, 2011 at 10:30 a.m., to be held in the Freeholders' Meeting Room.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Sworen seconded these:

See Page 03/01/11-4A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss legal services.

See Page 03/01/11-4B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss contractual open space issues.

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

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders went into Executive Session at 2:35 p.m. and reconvened in Open Session at 3:45 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS continued

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Mennen seconded these:

See Page 03/01/11-4C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss the Superior Corrections Officers negotiations.

See Page 03/01/11-4D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss an appeal regarding the Sheriff's arbitration award.

See Page 03/01/11-4E

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss an updated on an arbitration settlement involving the Prosecutor's Office.

See Page 03/01/11-4F

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss the Superior Corrections Officers negotiations.

See Page 03/01/11-4G

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss personnel issues involving a claim of a hostile work environment.

See Page 03/01/11-4H

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue involving a vacancy on the Polytech Board.

See Page 03/01/11-4I

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss a potential land acquisition in the Readington Township as a Cooperative Open Space purchase, from Toll Brothers.

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

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders returned to Executive Session at 3:47 p.m., recessed at 5:15 p.m. and reconvened in Open Session at 5:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENT

Director Holt opened the meeting to the public.

Lois Stewart, Flemington Borough resident, asked the County's plans for Arbor Day.

John P. Glynn, Director, Roads, Bridges and Engineering informed all present that the County is again giving trees to the schools. The County is also talking about planting a tree at a local school. The County will be planting 30 Hackberry trees on Arbor Day at various locations, including the County Library Headquarters.

Ms. Stewart asked the Board how the new janitorial service is working out.

Director Holt stated the services officially started today and as he walked the hall, they looked very clean. Those with the cleaning service have been through background checks, issued ID cards, and currently the County is providing supervisory assistance to help train them for each specific building.

HUNTERDON COUNTY POLYTECH

Present: Kim Metz, Polytech Superintendent came before the Board introducing Shanna Clifford and Stephaney LaRowe, students in the Pre-Veterinarian Large Animal Polytech program.

Ms. Clifford is a student at Hunterdon Central Regional High School, in Flemington, New Jersey. She likes the class because it provides hands on activities and students work as a class. Ms. Clifford will be attending Kansas State University next year to pursue becoming a veterinarian. This class has helped her decide her future. She enjoys her Polytech course.

Ms. LaRowe is also a senior at Hunterdon Central Regional High School. She explained the class is very hands on and the class helped her decide that she will attend Delaware Valley College to major in animal science.

The Board thanked Ms. Metz and students, Ms. Clifford and Ms. LaRowe for attending tonight's meeting and sharing with the Board.

Mr. Sworen informed Ms. Metz that this past Sunday, he and Mr. Walton attended an Eagle Court of Honor for a student from Hunterdon County Polytech, who attends the law enforcement course.

FOR DISCUSSION

Solid Waste/Recycling – amendment

Director Holt stated on the agenda from the County's Solid Waste/Recycling Office is the request to establish a date for a public hearing on an amendment to the Hunterdon County Solid Waste Management Plan, to include GreenCycle, LLC facility.

Mr. Mennen asked the Solid Waste/Recycling Director, Alan Johnson if this is a currently up and running facility with its permits or is this a facility that will be built.

Mr. Johnson confirmed this is a proposed, to be built facility just off of Route 78, in Union Township.

Mr. Mennen asked the stated position of the host municipality.

Mr. Johnson reported a public comment period was held and that was a 60 day comment period before the Solid Waste Advisory Council (SWAC) took action. No public comments were received. The application was sent by certified mail to the host municipality so they would be aware. No action was taken by any official entity of Union Township. Mr. Johnson stated since there were no public comments and no action by Union Township, SWAC did vote unanimously to move this forward for consideration by the Freeholder Board. As part of this process, each municipality in the County will receive notice of this by certified mail and a public comment period will again take place.

Mr. Johnson confirmed for Mr. Sworen that no municipal Planning Board approval is required for Solid Waste Facilities. Only the County's Solid Waste Management Plan inclusion is required by the State.

Mr. Johnson confirmed for Mr. Sworen that this facility would not be located on a County road, but is on a state road, Frontage Road.

Mr. Mennen asked if the County has in the past taken any additional steps with regard to the host municipality. He doesn't want to repeat what the Hunterdon County Utilities Authority (HCUA) has been going through with regard to an already existing facility which wants to expand. That discussion has been ongoing for a year and half with the municipality and the applicant and the HCUA is in the middle. He recognizes there is state preemptive authority with regard to the placement of the facilities and he wants to make sure the County has done all it is supposed to do.

Mr. Johnson advised public notices have been placed in the newspaper, the notification by certified mail that this was sent to Union Township has been provided. He asked if the Board would like him to take any further actions.

Mr. Mennen questions if the SWAC representative from Union Township has been an active participant.

Mr. Johnson advised they have not at this time.

Mr. Mennen asked Mr. Johnson to take the extra step of contacting Union Township to keep them informed.

Mr. Johnson will meet with the County Administrator to draft a letter to inform Union Township of the action of the Freeholder Board this evening setting up a public hearing for the facility in Union Township as a courtesy.

The Board agreed that Mr. Johnson will draft a letter with Mrs. Yard and that minutes and documentation from the SWAC meetings on this matter be included.

Mr. Johnson reported he has been working with Michelle Nodes, County Assistant Counsel to provide the necessary notifications to the municipalities. Mrs. Nodes will be handling this matter.

Mr. Mennen moved and Mr. Walton seconded a motion authorizing the establishment of a public hearing for May 17, 2011, at 5:30 p.m., to be held in the Freeholders' Meeting Room.

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

Changes to OPRA's Copy Fees.

Director Holt reported that yesterday he met with Mrs. Yard and Bob Thurgarland, Director of Central Printing, Mail and Information Services concerning changes to the OPRA (Open Public Records Act) Copy fee.

Mr. Thurgarland explained this is a continuation from the Government Records Council from the paper copies which was adjusted down to the cost of the paper where the state changed the fee from \$0.75 to \$0.25. The state is now looking at the electronic fees which the counties are eligible to charge for the cost of a CD (compact disc). If someone files an OPRA request and asks for the information via email there is no charge for the information.

Mr. Thurgarland reported that Mrs. Nodes has worked on this matter with him and the state is adopting the same stipulation for CD's, where the custodian must charge the actual cost to provide access to all electronic materials such as CD roms, video tapes and such. The actual cost the specific agency was charged to purchase the material. Mr. Thurgarland has reviewed the costs of the materials for the County and the cost for a CD would be \$0.25. In the past the Freeholder Board in the 1990's adopted a resolution setting a fee for CD's at \$10.

Mr. Mennen moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

See Page 03/01/11-6A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving an amendment to the established fee schedules for all government records to reflect the change in N.J.S.A> 47:1A-5.b to actual costs, and that the 2011 costs for a standard CD-R 700MB/80Min. write-once format computer discs shall be reduced to .25 cents with an additional charge for shipping at the requestors request.

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

Director Holt said he does support that the true costs should be charged for government records that exist it is inherit to recognize that the public as a whole pays for 100% of the retention of these documents. The public as a whole is not paying for overhead costs for anyone who is requesting documents. Any commercial entity can now request 100 to 200 documents per year and charge their customers/clients for the information and they are making the public bear the costs for every ounce of overhead in not only retaining those documents but reproducing them also. He feels the legislature needs to relook at this issue again and he intends to raise this issue with his legislators and as he does, he will keep the Board updated. Director Holt feels the requesters should be being some of the cost for reproduction of information, not the County's taxpayers.

PURCHASING

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

See Page 03/01/11-6B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving Req. #IT.3280, with ESRI, for software maintenance for the Information Services Department, in the amount of \$25,150.00.

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

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

See Page 03/01/11-6C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving Req. #40026415, using County Quote #0016-2011, with Samson Metal Service, to furnish and deliver structural steel for the Department of Roads, Bridges and Engineering, in the amount of \$12,411.79.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 03/01/11-6D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2010-32, to furnish and deliver Custom Fitted Uniforms for the Division of Corrections, Emergency Services and the Sheriff's Department, to Universal Uniform Sales Co., Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$99,501.50.

John Davenport, County Purchasing Agent confirmed for the Board that the County will only pay for uniforms where an order is placed; most items are replacement uniforms.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Mennen seconded this:

See Page 03/01/11-7A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2010-35, for the Sealed Bid Sale of Surplus Real Property, known as Block 4, Lot 94, in Readington Township, to Dennis Fleck, in the amount to be received of \$101,500.

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

FARMLAND PRESERVATION/PLANNING

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Mennen seconded this:

See Page 03/01/11-7B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Granting final approval on the acquisition of a development easement from Tewksbury Township, on the Hill and Dale 2 Farm, on Block 38, Lot 1.05, (SADC - \$385,200; County - \$128,400; Township - \$0.00), total amount of \$513,600.

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

ROADS, BRIDGES AND ENGINEERING Update

John P. Glynn, Director, brought the Board up to date on various County road and bridge projects.

- County Routes 519/650 project in Holland Township will start up again in early April.
- The local transportation trust fund projects are around 60% complete; that is the 523 section and 517 section in Tewksbury.
- East Amwell has notified the County that they have received the grant for some sidewalk improvements so the County will be meeting with them to make sure the funds are sufficient to complete the sidewalk which was proposed four or five years ago, when they opened their park.
- Bridge L-25-W is on the consent agenda today, Warren County has signed the agreement with Hunterdon on the design of the bridge.
- Bids will be received for the Stephensburg Bridge in early March, 2011.
- Bridge W-71 is now 30% complete.
- Bids will be taken for Bridge W-124 on Alexauken Creek Road, in West Amwell Township.
- There are punch list items on last year's drainage projects to be completed.
- Mr. Glynn will be following up on 617 and 635 in Bethlehem Township for this year's drainage projects.
- Local Lead Projects: Scoping. Mr. Glynn has not heard back on the offers made to the property owner on White Bridge Road. It is instrumental for the project. The details have been worked out with Green Acres and DEP.
- A letter of support has been received from Bethlehem Township regarding Lehigh Valley Rail Road. A meeting will be held on March 16, 2011 in Bloomsbury and all the parties of interest for the project are being invited. The County met with Bloomsbury on Friday, and Mr. Glynn feels everyone is on the same page with the project. This project started in 1967. Mr. Glynn provided the history.
- The plans for Bridge E-174 have been forwarded to the one property owner who had concerns about the driveway and the detention facility. The right of way plans are being finalized based on the new vertical and horizontal alignment.
- The historic sign for E-166 was installed today.
- Bridge RQ-179 will be closed for one day for inspection.
- The Hunterdon Medical Center project, County Routes 612/600, permits have been received and the project will be fine tuned. There is one property needed and the owner understands the need for the project.
- Inspection was done on the damage to the Higginsville Bridge reported to the County by Readington Township. A second truss has some additional damage and the County is looking into who caused that damage.
- The Shade Tree Commission Tour will be held on March 16, 2011 at 8:00 a.m., from the Route 12 County Complex.

COUNTY Update

Cynthia J. Yard, County Administrator informed the Board there is a new Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Rosalie S. Lamonte. Hunterdon will be sharing Dr. Lamonte with Sussex County. Mrs. Yard will extend an invitation to the new Superintendent so the Board may meet her.

Mr. Mennen informed the Board that at the Polytech meeting last year, they were informed that the Superintendent will not be participating with the Boards of any vocational schools. He doesn't understand that since the vocational board is a five seated board and by statute one seat is the County Superintendent.

Mr. Melick questioned if the Superintendent will be interacting with Raritan Valley Community College.

Mrs. Yard report Finance has taken all discretionary items out of the Superintendent of School's budget.

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITION

Mr. Mennen moved and Mr. Sworen seconded these:

See Page 03/01/11-9A

PROCLAMATION

RESOLVED, Recognizing Rhonda Paradis for having served on the Hunterdon County Vocational School District Board of Education, known as Polytech.

See Page 03/01/11-9B

PROCLAMATION

RESOLVED, Recognizing Christopher William Vanacore for attaining the designation of Eagle Scout.

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

GRANTS

Mr. Mennen moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

See Page 03/01/11-9C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a grant agreement modification with Legal Services of Northwest Jersey, Inc., for 2011, in the amount of \$12,433.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

A request was received from Somerset Wheelmen, asking permission to conduct their annual Readington Time Trial on Saturday, April 16, 2011, beginning at 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m., taking place on Pleasant Run Road between Routes 202 and 523. Mr. Mennen moved and Mr. Melick seconded a motion granting permission provided this event is coordinated through the County's Department of Roads, Bridges and Engineering.

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

A letter was received from Lucy Bush, requesting permission to use the historic Court House steps on Thursday, May 05, 2011, for the 60th Annual National Day of Prayer, from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Also, again requesting use of an electric outlet. Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Sworen seconded a motion granting permission provided this event is coordinated through the County's Buildings and Maintenance Department.

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

Correspondence was received from the High Bridge Fire Department, requesting permission to hold a Coin Toss on Saturday, April 09, 2011 and Saturday, November 26, 2011, from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., on County Route 513 between Grayrock Road and Arch Street. Mr. Mennen moved and Mr. Melick seconded a motion granting permission provided this event is coordinated through the County's Department of Roads, Bridges and Engineering.

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

FREEHOLDERS COMMENTS/REPORTS

Director Holt recognized the County Prosecutor, Anthony Kearns and Sheriff Brown who are in the audience.

HCRHS Cheerleaders

Mr. Sworen said it is important that this Board congratulates and recognizes important things that happen in Hunterdon County for inclusion in the minutes.

Mr. Sworen advised Hunterdon Central Regional High School's Varsity Cheerleaders took second place nationally at the recent UCA National High School Finals. Hunterdon Central's Junior Varsity finished 5th in the country and Delaware Valley High School's medium varsity finished in 8th place in the country and in a different division North Hunterdon's girls finished 13th in the country.

Young Farmer recognized

Mr. Sworen recognized John Melick who has been named the National, Outstanding Young Farmer. He is one of four in the country. Mr. Sworen congratulated Mr. Melick and his father, Freeholder George Melick. This is a large and special honor.

Freeholder Melick thanked Mr. Sworen.

The Board congratulated Mr. Melick and his family.

Arlington Cemetery

Mr. Walton stated he was at Arlington Cemetery last Friday, in Alexandria, Virginia and he wanted to note that people are giving up their lives for our freedom and we should all stop and think about that.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Frances Gavigan of East Amwell Township thanked the Board for their support for the Prall House. The property was acquired in fee simple without any indication towards the house. It is said that the original owner's vision of preserving the land and the house did not get captured into the easement. The hearing on the Prall House at the state was courteous and East Amwell has two years to find some way of saving this house either by moving it or repurposing it for agricultural purposes subdividing 20/25 acres of the property and appending it to either an adjacent property or farmer which will be a challenge for legislative reasons.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Director Holt adjourned the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise B. Doolan
Clerk of the Board