

# HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

71 Main Street, Freeholder's Meeting Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Flemington, New Jersey 08822

**October 04, 2011**

The regular meeting of the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders convened at 4:04 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**

Director Holt 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 April 29, 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 SESSION**

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Walton seconded this:

**See Page 10/04/11-1A RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Executive Session to discuss legal issues regarding the risk managers' fees.

**See Page 10/04/11-1B RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Executive Session to discuss personnel issues in connection the Board of Taxation.

**See Page 10/04/11-1C RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Executive Session to discuss the resignation of the Deputy County Clerk and the reorganization of the County Clerk's Office.

**See Page 10/04/11-1D RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Executive Session to discuss a rice notice in the Health Department.

**See Page 10/04/11-1E RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Executive Session to discuss an appointment to the Hunterdon County Polytech Board.

**See Page 10/04/11-1A RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Executive Session to discuss the executive session minutes of August 16, 2011, September 06, 2011 and September 13, 2011.

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

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders went into Executive Session at 4:07 p.m., recessed at 5:37 p.m. and reconvened in Open Session at 5:40 p.m.

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

**ABSENT: MR. MELICK.**

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Open a County Road/Bloomsbury Twp.

James Weske, resident of Bloomsbury Township, came before the Board requesting permission to open a County Road (County Route 579), to install a gas line, at the property (residence), he and his wife own, as his oil burner needs to be replaced.

John P. Glynn, Director, Roads, Bridges and Engineering explained it is his opinion that this should be deemed an emergency situation. The road was paved around a year ago and while the County's ordinance says three year moratorium, the County has made exceptions in the past for special repairs. It is his recommendation that the Board approve this request.

Mr. Walton moved Mr. Sworen seconded a motion to approve a request by James Weske to open a County Road in order to replace a oil burner and hook up to the gas line, at the recommendation of the Director of Roads, Bridges and Engineering.

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

**FINANCE**

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Sworen seconded a motion acknowledging receipt of the 2010 County Audit.

Mr. Sworen confirmed the County Treasurer and Finance Director that they has gone through the audit and its recommendations.

Kim Browne, Finance Director, reported to the Board that her department has worked with George Wagner, Director of Public Safety and Aramark, the vendor at the Corrections Division of Public Safety, on the comments from the auditor. There has been a change in personnel and those issues are being addressed.

Mr. Sworen asked about the payroll audit comment.

Mrs. Browne stated that the Human Resources Director, Cheryl Wieder, has been notified of the audit comments and that issue is also being corrected.

Cynthia Yard, County Administrator, stated that quarterly Mrs. Browne, Margaret Pasqua, County Treasurer, and Ms. Wieder will be meeting to discuss employees who have left, unemployment, in addition to removing people from medical benefits. The County will not be paying benefits it isn't supposed to pay.

Mrs. Yard reported that an issue the Board was concerned about has been regarding unemployment has been cleared up and a reimbursement will be filed for from that individual.

Mrs. Browne informed the Board that the County's Auditor will be present at the next meeting to answer any questions for the Board.

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

Mr. Melick came into the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Walton seconded this:

**See Page 10/04/11-2A RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving the cancellation of a grant receivable in the amount of \$3,042 for the 2010 CEHA grant, and the grant reserve in the amount of \$3,041.69.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Walton seconded this:

**See Page 10/04/11-2B RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Requesting the Division of Local Government Services insert an item of revenue in the 2011 Budget for the State Health Services Grant, in the amount of \$306,814.

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

**PURCHASING**

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Walton seconded this:

**See Page 10/04/11-2C RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving Requisition #CountyClerk.1350, using State Contract #A-70256, with Dell Marketing, for services, for the County Clerk's Office, in the amount of \$23,732.50. (Trust Fund monies).

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

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

**See Page 10/04/11-2D RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2011-19, for twenty (20) IAS Voting Receivers or their approved equivalent, to ICOM America, Inc., in an amount no to exceed \$31,877.20.

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

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Mennen seconded this:

**See Page 10/04/11-2E RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2011-20, for snow and ice control materials (Rock Salt), to International Salt Co., Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$490,950.

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

Mr. Mennen moved and Mr. Walton seconded this:

**See Page 10/04/11-3A**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2011-20, for snow and ice control materials (Calcium Chloride Solution), to Peckham Materials Corporation, in an amount not to exceed \$31,080.

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

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

**See Page 10/04/11-3B**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2011-25, for NIJ Level 4 Ballistic Shield, for the Prosecutor's Office, to Patriot3, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$28,395.54.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Walton seconded this:

**See Page 10/04/11-3C**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving contract modification #2, to the professional services agreement with Bohren and Bohren Associates, Inc., to provide surveying services with the Farmland Preservation Program, in the additional amount of \$980.

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

**ROADS and BRIDGES Update**

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

- County Route 519 starting from Route 12 up to 513 will start with tree trimming on October 10, 2011.
- A schedule has been received for guiderail from the bonding company for County Routes 519/650 and it will also begin on October 10, 2011.
- Storm Drainage for County Route 517 in Tewksbury Township and County Route 523, in Readington Township, will start on October 07, 2011.
- County Bridge E-142-M is an emergency repair project due to Hurricane Irene. Sparwick Construction will be commencing work on Thursday, October 06, 2011. There are utilities to contend with.
- A progress meeting was held with HC Contractors for County Bridge L-97-W, on Stephensburg Road, in Lebanon Township, Hunterdon County and Mansfield Township, in Warren County. The work will be done as weather permits.
- The DEP permit will be handled for County Bridge W-71, on County Route 579, in West Amwell Township, easier than the original application stated. Comments are being addressed which were raised by the reviewer.
- The paving for County Bridge W-124, on Alexauken Creek Road, in West Amwell Township should be completed by the end of this week and should be opened by the end of next week.
- The contractor for Bridge Painting is currently on the Clinton Bridge on Main Street, in Clinton Town and it is expected to be done before the Haunted Museum takes place toward October 14, 2011.
- The contractor is finishing the top soil and seeding for the drainage project on County Route 519 and he will then start on County Route 513 in Franklin Township.
- Punch list items remain on the surface treatment projects.
- Notification has been received from DEP on County Bridge E-174, that it will be a modified permit. Action items are being worked on to get the permit reapproved.
- Funding has been received for the County Route 512/513 intersection stimulus project, in Califon Borough, a category exclusion document is being prepared/developed.
- The contractor on both the County Route 512 project and County Route 517 project has finally filed for final payment. The County will now be able to apply for federal aid. Payment has been received for the Route 623 and 625 projects.
- Storm recovery: the contractor is working on E-142-M, on County Route 518, in East Amwell Township, located in Hunterdon County and Hopewell Township in Mercer County; the contractor completed Bridge F-87, on County Route 617, in Franklin Township on October 03, 2011; the design for Bridge HA-14, on Sweet Hollow Road, in Holland and Alexandria Townships, is almost complete, then quotes will be received; repairs have started on Bridge Q-86, on Old Clinton Road, in Raritan Township, to repair the wingwall and side slope restoration; abutment walls are being construction for Bridge U-14, on Main Street, in Union Township and this bridge maybe closed for another six weeks.
- Three other structures have come to light: C-81 on Allerton Road; X6 on Mine Road in High Bridge and a small issue on Bowlby Street in Hampton.
- Shot rock has commenced on County Route 519, in Holland Township, which is required for side slope stabilization.
- Stockton has flooded three times – Hurricane Irene, Tropical Storm Lee and an event on Saturday, which topped 4 more inches. The County is working with Stockton Borough. The County has received phone calls from various interested parties. The Mayor of Stockton has been asked to put together a group where tasks can be assigned.

- The New Jersey Structural Evaluation Bureau will be out looking at around 30 County bridges for scour protection.
- An FHWA meeting is scheduled for the on systems roads and structures is scheduled for October 27, 2011.

Mr. Sworen recognized the Department of Roads, Bridges and Engineering crews which have gone out and fixed the many small problems throughout Hunterdon County which occurred because of Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee.

Mr. Glynn informed the Board that he has kept a -log of damage done in Hunterdon County by the storms. The County roads are in pretty good shape but the off-system bridges on municipal streets that problems are still being found to have problems. The County has 1,800 drainage structures and most have been looked at but the events occurred in such a fashion that were back to back, with Hurricane Irene then Tropical Storm Lee, then another storm. There was four or five inches in the Califon – High Bridge area; then Saturday, Stockton has five inches.

Mr. Glynn reported that Mr. Osburn of the Haunted Museum wants to attach snow fence to the County bridge. This is done every year but Mr. Glynn said he will require an insurance certificate. This is for traffic and pedestrian control of the visitors of the Haunted Mill in Clinton.

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Walton seconded a motion granting the use of County snow fence during the Haunted Mill event in the Town of Clinton at the recommendation of the Director of Roads, Bridges and Engineering.

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

**SOLID WASTE/RECYCLING**

Alan Johnson, Director of Solid Waste/Recycling came before the Board to establish a date and time for a public hearing to amend the Solid Waste Management Plan to include a proposed Solid Waste Facility in Raritan Township, to be operated by Flemington Concrete Products, LLC.

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Sworen seconded motion authorizing the public hearing to amend the Solid Waste Management Plan to include a proposed Solid Waste Facility in Raritan Township, to be operated by Flemington Concrete Products, LLC, be set for 6:00 p.m., on Tuesday, December 06, 2011.

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

Alan Johnson, Director of Solid Waste/Recycling came before the Board to establish a date and time for a public hearing to dissolve the Hunterdon County Utilities Authority.

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Sworen seconded motion authorizing the public hearing to dissolve the Hunterdon County Utilities Authority be set for 6:00 p.m., on Tuesday, December 06, 2011.

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

**Battery Recycling**

Mr. Sworen asked Mr. Johnson about recycling batteries.

Mr. Johnson informed the Board that the battery industry over the past dozen years have changed how batteries are made and there are no longer as many hazardous materials in the battery manufacturing process. Household batteries, formerly known as alkaline, are now inert and can be disposed of as regular household waste.

Mr. Johnson explained to the Board that he will be approaching the Hunterdon County Utilities Authority to have Household Batteries removed as a designated recycling material from the Hunterdon County Solid Waste Management Plan.

Mr. Sworen directed Mr. Johnson to have this information placed on the County's webpage for the public.

**FARMLAND PRESERVATION/PLANNING**

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

**See Page 10/04/11-4A**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving, upon the recommendation of the Open Space Advisory Council, a Nonprofit Grant Program application with Raritan Headwaters Association, (formerly South Branch Watershed Association), in an amount not to exceed \$300,000, towards the purchase of Block 7, Lot 13 (Urbach), located in Raritan Township.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Walton seconded this:

**See Page 10/04/11-5A**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving a grant agreement with the Estate of Henry D. Boss by R. Howard Boss, a/k/a Robert H. Boss, Executor, on Block 15, Lot 7, in Holland Township, consisting of 130.971 acres, (SADC-\$576,272.40; County-\$170,262.30; Township-\$170,262.30), in the total amount of \$916,797.

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

Mr. Melick recused himself at 6:06 p.m.

**TRANSCONTINENTAL GAS PIPE LINE – PRESENTATION by THE WILLIAMS COMPANY**

Present: Christine Rowe, Esquire, from Watsons, Stevens and Rowe (represents Transcontinental Pipeline Company (a/k/a Transco)); Jerry McCloughlin, Senior Engineering for Transco; Michael Heenehan, Environmental Consultant and Patrick McClusky, Senior Land Representative for Transco.

Ms. Rowe informed the Board that tonight they are present to review the project and answer questions for the Board. They understand a resolution was adopted by the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders in August 2011, mirroring the concerns of Clinton Township. They are here to provide more information on the project. In addition, they want to explain the environmental impacts as a result of the proposed project, to Green Acres tracts which are held in fee by Hunterdon County.

Mr. McCloughlin explained who Transco is and the project currently engage in by them. Transco is a subsidiary of the William Companies. It is comprised of over 10,500 miles of gas pipeline which starts in Texas and ends in New York City. Transco supplies roughly 8% of the gas to the United States which is reflected in the 8.6 billions of cubic feet of gas on a per day basis capacity. Transco's business is the transportation of gas. They do not own the gas, they simply bring it from point A to point B. The end users are the owners of the gas. Transco has been operating gas pipelines within New Jersey for over 60 years and has supplied New Jersey with roughly 60% of the natural gas it consumes. Some of the gas users are Elizabethtown Gas, PSE&G, South Jersey Gas and New Jersey Natural Gas.

Mr. McCloughlin advised the Williams Company is currently engaged in an expansion process called the Northeast Supply Link project. The design of the project is to increase capacity by 250 million cubic feet of gas on a per day basis. Customers have approached Transco for this additional capacity. The William Company will have to add three additional pipeline loops in order to increase capacity consisting of 2 pipeline loops in Pennsylvania; 1 in Hunterdon County; 2 upgrades of existing pipelines to increase the operating pressures to achieve the additional delivery capacity needed; an electric driver motor compressor station will be added in Essex County; additional horsepower will be added in Luzerne County in Pennsylvania and there will be miscellaneous facility modifications throughout the 3 states to be affected.

Mr. McCloughlin reported the Stanton Loop consists of 6.8 miles of 42" pipe which will go through Union, Franklin and Clinton Townships in Hunterdon County. This Loop follows the existing pipeline easement. Currently there is a 30" and 36" gas pipeline which goes through these townships in Hunterdon.

Mr. Walton confirmed with Mr. McCloughlin that 42" pipe will be added to those townships in the Stanton Loop. He asked what happens at the terminus of this section.

Mr. McCloughlin advised with the 42" pipe, two things will happen, (1) they will put a "pig" receiver at the end of the line and (2) they will also tie that into the 36" gas pipeline. It will be a free flowing gas pipeline so the "pig" receiver is a tool used as an inside inspection tool used to assess the structural integrity of the pipelines. It uses high resolution magnetic flux technology. The pressure of the natural gas is used to move this tool through the pipeline and the signal received back on the tool allows them to measure the wall thickness of the pipe, providing an inside view on any corrosion, dents or any sort of anomalies on the pipeline. The inline inspection tools are an industry practice and are mandated by the Department of Transportation. Transco is a federally regulated entity. DOT must conduct audits and they have to lay out rules for the operation of the gas pipeline.

Mr. Walton questioned if there are plans to in the future to expand the pipeline, west and east.

Mr. McCloughlin said it would be east. In order for Transco to expand its pipeline system a customer must approach them and ask for additional capacity. Transco cannot expand the system based on their own future speculation of gas usage. That is a law stipulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

Mr. Sworen asked various questions on pipe size, length through the County, where the gas is coming from, and where the "pig" receiver will be placed.

Mr. McCloughlin explained the new line is for the purpose of communicating additional capacity. The gas will be delivered to customers throughout the Pennsylvania region, New Jersey and New York. The additional pipeline is needed to make room for additional gas because currently they are fully subscribed/the system is at 100% capacity so more room is needed. That will be comprised of the 12.3 miles additional 42" pipe, the compressor station and upgrades.

Mr. Walton confirmed with Mr. McCloughlin at the beginning of this Stanton Loop is an existing 42" line, so the additional 42" pipe is being added on at the request of customers.

Mr. Sworen questioned if the 2 Loops in Pennsylvania have been approved.

Mr. McCloughlin stated the project is in the pre-filing stage with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Transco hopes to file with FERC next month.

Director Holt confirmed that Transco cannot expand without a customer requesting addition gas and it must be shown that Transco is at capacity and needs more capacity to serve a customer base.

Director Holt confirmed Hunterdon's 6.8 miles is not the end of the loop.

Mr. McCloughlin stated if Transco has another project on the horizon, they would connect at the end of this line and continue eastward to add additional capacity to the system.

Director Holt confirmed there is not a customer in Hunterdon County asking for the gas but Transco is coming through Hunterdon County because at sometime in the future, Transco will have to connect somewhere where the demand exists.

Mr. McCloughlin stated at this time, the customer is in Pennsylvania but the gas will be made available to New Jersey, Pennsylvania and New York.

Mr. Sworen confirmed the lines will only be used for natural gas and there is no intention to convert them to anything other than natural gas.

Mr. Mennen questioned which way the gas flows?

Mr. McCloughlin stated traditionally the gas flows from Texas up the eastern seaboard and terminates in New York City. There are compressor stations around every 80 miles to motivate that by adding pressure. The line that goes out to Pennsylvania is very unique as it is one of the first sights where natural gas was mined for. At the end of the line are old salt domes that decades ago after the gas was exhausted Transco built a line that went out to Pennsylvania and used the salt domes as storage fields. This system is unique that it flows both ways but traditionally the bulk of the system flows in one direction.

Mr. Mennen confirmed the Stanton Loop starts in Pennsylvania, goes partially in Hunterdon County and stops and this is to extend the pipeline an additional 6.8 miles into Hunterdon County and then remerge with the other lines that are already there to provide additional capacity which is currently at maximum capacity.

Mr. McCloughlin explained there is a bottleneck so when the engineers prepare the hydraulic modeling they look where to optimize the system.

Mr. Mennen said by increasing the flow through that area, how much of that increased flow will find its way into a residence within the County of Hunterdon or it is all meant to just flow through.

Mr. McCloughlin responded by saying there is a portion slated for New Jersey. Out of the 250 million approximately 50 million is for New Jersey.

Mr. Mennen confirmed a customer has brought about the need for the additional demand or maxed out.

Mr. McCloughlin explained the customer does not establish that Transco is maxed out, that is established by Transco.

Mr. Mennen confirmed the fact that Transco is maxed out is creating this issue to react to the demand, which is why Transco is asking for additional easements.

Mr. McCloughlin again explained the customer has asked for additional capacity and Transco has to ask FERC for approval of the expansion project.

Mr. Mennen confirmed in Hunterdon County the pipeline is contemplated to go through three municipalities. If a portion of the increased capacity or demand is for New Jersey, why does it stop at a particular municipal/County boundary? What is the defining "line"?

Mr. McCloughlin explained the hydraulic modeling tells them how many miles are needed. Transco has been working on this expansion project for over a year. They have to select the best route and it was known they could end at the township line. Originally the project was to go into Readington Township but one of the customers dropped off. Originally the project was for 445 million cubic feet project and a customer dropped out and the project was scaled back.

Mr. McCloughlin advised Transco has been working on this project since March, 2010; Transco has pre-filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in March 2011; during this time open houses have been held and FERC has held their FERC Scoping Meetings with the affected townships; the final application will be filed next month, November 2011, and upon which time FERC will then conduct their environmental audit which takes approximately 9 months; a FERC response is anticipated by Fall 2012.

Mr. McCloughlin advised once approval has been received from FERC the anticipated start of construction will be Fall 2012 with an in-service date of 2013. Everything is to be done by 2013.

Mr. Heenehan informed the Board that he was hired by Transco as an environmental consultant to check out the entire pipeline quarter, the 6.8 acres, to determine what Green Acres restrictions exist along that pipeline quarter; as well as conservation restrictions.

Mr. Heenehan advised he had worked for the Department of Environmental Protection for 37 years before retiring 2 years ago and the last 22 years he worked with Green Acres on diversion issues, stewardship issues and such.

Mr. Heenehan was hired to look at each parcel along Transco's proposed corridor to see what environmental constraints would have to be dealt with the proposed pipeline is approved. The proposed project crosses 7 properties; 5 are owned in fee by the County; and 2 the County has conservation restrictions on.

Mr. Heenehan advised the first 2 properties are a part of the County's Arboretum Extension, in Clinton Township, near Pleasant View Road and Stanton Mountain Road. These pieces are adjacent to each other. In some instances Transco has an existing 60' wide permanent right of way and an additional 30' is needed to put in the 42" line. In some instances Transco already has the 90' right of way. On Hunterdon's first piece, Block 19, Lot 20.01, in Clinton Township, Transco will need an additional permanent easement of 30' (0.103 acres) and temporary work space of 0.068 acres and on the second piece, Block 19, Lot 21.09, in Clinton Township, Transco already has the 90' easement but will need temporary work space of 0.258 acres.

Mr. Heenehan reported the County also owns Block 82.13, Lot 57.01, in Clinton Township, (1.551 acres) which is part of the South Branch Reservation, and it has federal funds in it. Transco has a 60' right of way easement and will need an additional 30' right of way, in addition to temporary work space of 1.141 acres. Transco engineered to avoid Green Acres restrictions and/or Conservation restrictions. This parcel is one of four in the area.

Mr. Heenehan stated Transco has worked to determine where the environmental constraints and Green Acres restrictions are located and they then looked at either how to avoid them or minimize those impacts. Hunterdon County has been an excellent client of Green Acres and has acquired a lot of properties with Green Acres assistance and Hunterdon has acquired a lot of properties on its own behalf. When funding is received from Green Acres a Recreation and Open Space Inventory must be submitted. If \$1 is taken for development funds or acquisition funds for one park in the County, then all the parks have that Green Acres restriction on them. The reason is because Green Acres said back in the 1960's if anyone comes to them asking for more parkland, they don't want anyone selling off, miss using or changing the use parkland in another part of the county or municipality. Green Acres always wants to see a net gain in parkland. What used to be a contractual condition, in 1975 statutory authority was given to Green Acres and that is reflected on the Recreational and Open Space Inventory.

Mr. Heenehand explained to the Board a diversion process, which is a non-conservation recreation use of parkland. The Green Acres Rules, the comprehensive rules on diversions have been around since 1998 and another set was adopted in 2006. The rules on diversions came out of the National Park Service rules on conversions; they just use a different word. The Green Acres requirements are much more stringent than the federal requirements and that may enter into their decision making on whether they call this a diversion or conversation.

Mr. Mennen confirmed with Mr. Heenehand that in his experience, if an underground mine (whether it is water or gas) has that been considered by Green Acres to be a diversion.

Mr. Heenehand stated any interest that Transco would be seeking from the County in this case it would be a permanent easement. What Transco is requiring from the County constitutes a diversion if it is for a non-conservation recreation purpose. In this case, Transco is asking for a permanent easement for the right of way and the temporary workspace. It will all be factored into the Green Acres application for diversion. The diversion process can take a year to 18 months to complete.

Mr. Mennen questioned who the applicant is for the diversion.

Mr. Heenehand advised the County would be the applicant; but Transco would do 95% of the work. The application would be submitted to the County for review to make sure everything is accurate before it is sent on to FERC.

Mr. Mennen questioned what Transco's recourse would be if the County chooses not to make such an application. He asked if there is some federal preemptive authority.

Ms. Rowe stated Transco does have condemnation powers. Transco is working with Green Acres and they are aware that Kevin Richardson, the County's Open Space Trust Fund Coordinator, has reached out to Green Acres staff. The preference is to work with the County.

Mr. Mennen asked if the invoking of condemnation power relieve Transco of the need to make up on the stepped up basis when there is a diversion. The substitution of 4 to 1 ratio.

Ms. Rowe advised there is a land replacement compliance to the compensation. Green Acres rules require land replacement so the County would loose its ability to negotiate with Transco for the compensation for the diversion but legally, they would do a condemnation which Transco

does not want to do, Transco wants to cooperate with the County but what would happen, and this is according to Green Acres and it has happened before, there is history where Green Acres will step in and negotiate for the County and Transco will condemn, Green Acres will step aside so long as Transco acts in good faith and know that efforts have been made with the County and that the diversion process is honored as much as can be. Ms. Rowe feels that could be difficult with the FERC law coming out in the Fall of 2012. A normal diversion process under the 2006 rules are very onerous and there would be one public meeting, where now there would be two public hearing and there would be two resolutions to argue, so there would be four public forums for questions and scrutiny by the public and the Board for the project.

Mr. Mennen asked if Transco has to pass a legal test with regard to the condemnation process.

Ms. Rowe agreed saying it would be good faith negotiations with all the normal condemnation laws.

Ms. Rowe noted for Freeholder Mennen that Transco would choose to honor the process following Green Acres rules with regard to replacement but legally they would not have to do that.

Mr. Mennen asked if the Green Acres rules on replacement would be relaxed if this takes a condemnation route.

Ms. Rowe stated there is no time to do a full diversion if Transco has to condemn because there would not be a FERC order until September 2012 and a normal diversion process would take a year. Construction is supposed to start in 2012. Transco would honor the process as much as possible; they would work with Green Acres on the condemnation and Transco would keep Green Acres in the dialog at all times, which Transco has been doing, to honor the process to keep Transco's relationship with Green Acres sound. Transco would work something out with Green Acres on a process to follow and still honor the rules if they have to condemn.

Mr. Mennen confirmed if the County is a willing cooperative partner in the process, it fast tracks whatever has to be done in terms of the conversion process.

Ms. Rowe stated Transco prefers that the County be a willing participant. Transco is willing to do all the work for the County, with the County approving of everything each step of the way. The next step is a scoping hearing which is part of the public process. Transco would go through the protracted, onerous process for a diversion, and it is meant to be that way to discourage companies and projects going through parkland, unfortunately the pipelines were probably in place before these were parks.

Mr. Mennen asked Mr. Richardson his opinion regarding the statement that has been made with regarding if this were a condemnation that the diversion process could be cut out.

Mr. Richardson stated that is correct, in so far as under the federal FERC requirements, the company would have the right of eminent domain and would condemn and alleviate the County of any of its responsibilities with Green Acres.

Mr. Richardson said one of the statements attributable to the Bureau of Legal Services at Green Acres is that by staying in the process the County can arguably negotiate the best deal for the County as opposed to condemnation where the County would lose its bargaining position with respect to extracting the best deal for the County based on Green Acres guidelines.

Director Holt said in terms of negotiating for the County, being discussed is 3 acres. So the discussion is whether the County trades 3 acres for 6 acres or 3 acres for 12 acres.

Ms. Rowe explained there is temporary work space which would be one to one, so there would be more acres than 6 or 12.

Mr. Heenehan advised under Green Acres rules there has to be a compensation for the loss of trees. The minimum is 2 to 1; Transco would go 4 to 1 to show good faith and 1 to 1 would be one the temporary work space. It would be 3.2 times 4 plus 1 times the 3.2 which is around 15.

Director Holt confirmed the impact to County lands would be minimal and Transco already has an existing easement on these properties. A majority of the people who use the parklands probably don't know the easements exist. Director Holt again stated his feeling is the impact would be minimal and feels the County should be in the negotiating process. He feels the greater challenge lies within the existing townships and the individual homeowners. He advised local homeowners have filled this meeting room, several times. That is a tough position for this Board to be in because those townships are part of the County family. Director Holt stated this Board has the least amount of overall residential impact.

Ms. Rowe understands the dilemma the County is in, in that regard. She is aware the residents are unhappy about the project. Transco has been to Clinton Township several times to talk with the residents. Transco did a FERC walk through. Transco is doing all it can to alleviate any residents' concerns. The original pipeline went through in the 1950's and the second line went through in the 1980's.

Director Holt confirmed tonight's meeting did provide education for the Board. He understands that scoping hearings have to be done and requested that the County's hearings be done after all the residential scoping hearings have taken place. The public needs to have its input.

Mr. Heenehan informed the Board that Transco has been looking at this project and there are two places where the impact can be reduced. They are called HDD's or Horizontal Directional Drills. Transco is certain at the Brokaw property at the South Branch, where the County owns a conservation restriction on a portion of the property, which means it has a Green Acres restriction, they are planning to drill close to the conservation easement. Also, they will be doing work in their right of way which will minimize the work to be done on the surface. He further explained the HDD technique and the minimum impact. Transco understands people are not happy and is trying to minimize any impact.

Mr. McClusky informed the Board that Transco will be meeting with each landowner, individually and privately, after the New Year to negotiate and address any issues the landowner maybe concerned with. There will be side letter agreements entered into which will memorialize these issues. He feels once this is done a lot of the landowners concerns will be minimized.

Ms. Rowe stated Transco has offered the County a reimbursement agreement in the amount of \$5,000. This has never been done on any other project but Transco felt because of the timing and the strain on the County, that this would be fair. Transco will do all the work for the diversion with the County's review and approval.

Ms. Rowe explained by allowing Transco to hold the scoping hearing, it doesn't include the diversion, it just allows the public process to take place and the County will receive a transcript of the public meeting to review the comments. The scoping hearing is not an approval of the project or the diversion it is the first step in a public vetting across the parkland. It has to be done under the pre-application requirements of Green Acres.

Ms. Rowe reported the scoping hearings for the three townships have not been done yet. Currently Clinton Township is taking the position not to cooperate. The diversion process will be started with Franklin Township. Union Township did attempt to sight this with Transco's appraiser over the past few days.

Ms. Rowe reported Transco did offer everyone reimbursement agreements and a presentation was done for Union Township. She feels everyone is being treated fairly. With Union Township, they would only have temporary workspace, there is no diversion required and it would only require NJDEP Commissioner approval; it is an administrative process.

Ms. Rowe is asking for the County's cooperation and Transco does not want to go through the condemnation process. That would be a last resort only.

Mr. Mennen confirmed with Ms. Rowe that at this time Transco is only asking for a green light to move forward with the scoping meetings. He asked where the hearings would take place.

Mr. Heenehan stated the scoping hearing would be held in the location the County wants it to be. The County dictates where the public hearing would be held and the County would run the hearing. It would not be part of a Freeholder Meeting, it would only be for information purposes.

Ms. Rowe advised there would be 30 days notice for the hearing, in a newspaper generally circulated in the County, as well as a local paper for the township.

Mr. Mennen confirmed this Board is on record that it feels the concerns generally related to the project are better suited to be addressed by and filtered through at the local municipal level. This group has the least amount of jurisdiction.

Mr. Richardson confirmed this is the same process for Clinton, Franklin and Union Townships. This process has to be done four times because of the 4 local governments affected.

Mr. Mennen stated he would like the County to be the last government entity to go through the hearing process. Hunterdon County is on record as saying the local municipal governing officials are the ones who are closest to this project.

Mr. Sworen agreed but feels meetings should be held in each municipality.

Director Holt recommended the meeting be held in a central location where all the property owners, of all the County pieces, be notified directly so they have an opportunity to attend the meeting. This would make sure that anyone impacted by the project is notified of the meeting and can attend.

Director Holt agreed with Mr. Mennen that Hunterdon County should be the last in line to hold the scoping meetings especially since the County is the least affected.

Mr. Heenehan stated Transco has been talking with Franklin Township and it is thought they are willing to go scoping hearing. In Union Township all that is needed is temporary work space. If Clinton Township won't talk with Transco, and they will keep reaching out with forums to address their concerning but if they ultimately if they won't go into the diversion process or if they won't talk about replacement land that creates an issue.

Mr. Mennen asked if any of the properties in question are subject to multiple ownership or interest between the County and one of the municipalities.

Mr. Richardson stated the Mulligan Farm tract as the Township owns the fee and the County has a conservation restriction or restricted covenant which states they will comply with Green Acres rules and regulations.

Ms. Rowe suggested having a joint scoping hearing with Franklin Township since Franklin will be scheduling a scoping hearing. That can be discussed with Franklin and it would be an efficient way to do this. This has to go through a schedule to get done, and it also has to go through Green Acres for approval, and it needs to have State House Commissioner of New Jersey approval. All the local units should be on the same schedule to meet with the State House Commission. The diversion process is huge public process, needs 2 public scoping hearings and a final hearing. Transco wants to honor the process.

After further discussion, Mr. Sworen agreed with Mr. Mennen that the scoping hearings be done with the municipalities first.

Director Holt advised any meeting the County held would be six to seven weeks about because 30 days is needed to notice.

Director Holt stated the municipalities need to have the opportunity to meet in public with Transco to express their opinions as the County is doing this evening to make it part of the records. The scoping hearing does need to take place and the residents do need to be properly notified of the hearing in order to put their concerns on record, in order to have them rectified.

Director Holt asked Ms. Rowe to document to Mr. Richardson the requests of the two townships which are still outstanding on this project.

Ms. Rowe agreed and stated she greatly appreciates the Board's time this evening and the dialog.

Mr. Melick returned to the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

### **COUNTY Update**

Cynthia J. Yard, County Administrator, informed the Board that a request has been received from the Township of Raritan concerning the Raritan Township Fire Company would like to know if there is space on the County's tower at the Route 12 County Complex to house a UHF repeater.

Mrs. Yard reminded the Board how vocal Raritan Township was when the County tried to erect the Wireless Towers at the Route 12 Complex.

Mr. Sworen stated one Raritan Township Committee individual and one local township resident were quite vocal. The County built the towers so they could be utilized emergency services in the future. The County encourages the Hunterdon County Repeaters to utilize the towers.

George F. Wagner, Director, Public Safety, reported Raritan Township has had no conversations with him regarding the scope of the request.

Mr. Mennen said the County has an ongoing dialog on providing services and it is raised in a number of scenarios and that is the ability for the County to give away something for nothing. This was recently discussed with the Lechner House at the Echo Hill property. The organization leasing the house had to demonstrate they are providing a public service to the County.

Mr. Wagner asked the Board to authorize him to reach out to Raritan Township and find out about their equipment and what impact it may or may not cause to the County's equipment and report back to the Board.

Mr. Mennen stated if there is an overall public benefit then the County should approval this. In addition, the County should broach discussions about putting other antennas on the tower that the County could get paid for.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Director Holt stated: "All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders 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."

Item #12 was held at this time.

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Melick seconded a motion to approve the Claims Register dated October 04, 2011.

**See Page 01/04/11-10A**

**CLAIMS REGISTER**

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

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Melick seconded a motion to approve the regular session minutes of August 16, 2011.

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

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Melick seconded these:

**See Page 10/04/11-10B**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Leslie Klesat appointed temporary, as needed Instructor, Division of Senior Services, in the Human Services Department.

**See Page 10/04/11-11A**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Amy Hicks appointed temporary, as needed Student Assistant, Library.

**See Page 10/04/11-11B**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Authorizing the cancellation of a mortgage with Dolores Smith.

**See Page 10/04/11-11C**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Authorizing the cancellation of a mortgage with Alva Painter.

**See Page 10/04/11-11D**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Authorizing final payment on County Bid #2011-06, for Resurfacing and Drainage Improvements to County Route 619, in Frenchtown Borough, to Reivax Contracting Corp., in the amount of \$17,666.08.

**See Page 10/04/11-11E**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving modification #2, to the professional engineering services agreement with Dewberry-Goodkind, Inc., in connection with the Readington-Tewksbury TID Route 523 Improvement and the Reconstruction of County Bridge RT-16, in the amount of \$69,562.48.

**See Page 10/04/11-11F**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving a modification to Annex A of County Contract 11-532-ADA-0, between the County and the Division of Addiction Services, to modify language pertaining to the structure of the Local Advisory Committee on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse.

**See Page 10/04/11-11G**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving an agreement with the Hunterdon Medical Center for Public Health Preparedness, in the amount of \$149,993 (\$144,993 from the Local Core Preparedness grant and \$5,000 from the Homeland Security Grant).

**See Page 10/04/11-11H**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving an agreement with Sparwick Contracting, for the Emergency Reconstruction of InterCounty Bridge E-142-M, on County Route 518, in East Amwell Township and Hopewell Township, in Mercer County, in an amount not to exceed \$522,334.

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

Director Holt explained the next resolution is approving the appointment of Shana L. Taylor as County Counsel. The background to this, is that a number of years ago as the County entered this economic malaise, the County delved into efficiencies of the County departments and services and County Legal Services was reviewed as well. In 2010, the County looked into the County Transportation System and the net result from several years of work by a subcommittee was a savings of \$2 million in transportation. Hunterdon County Legal Services was the Board's most recent endeavor which began in 2010 under the Directorship of Freeholder Mennen with full approval of this Board and it was completed this year. This was a complete review of how legal services are delivered and handled in Hunterdon County. Part of the review was a Blue Ribbon Committee of outside professionals and at the same time the Freeholder Board agreed to do further changes with how business is done within the delivery of legal services. Today, County Counsel is present for most executive session but he has not been to most of the County's meetings. The agenda is reviewed for each meeting to determine where services are needed and if it felt that counsel is not needed, the County doesn't pay for legal services. As part of the review, it was determined and recommended the Freeholders consider an In-House Legal Service Department and that department will also use supplemental special counsel as required. This year, Hunterdon County hired a Labor Attorney for labor negotiations.

Director Holt stated the Freeholders sought for the ideal candidate to fit this In-House Legal Services model and who would also meet the County's objectives. A number of individuals responded and interviews were carried out by a subcommittee and then by the full Board and a decision was made. Shana Taylor was the candidate that met and exceeded the County's expectations. Ms. Taylor was named as the County's Human Services Administrator in July 2010 and she came to the County with a Bachelor's degree in nursing as well as a Jurist Doctorate. While Ms. Taylor's contribution the Human Services Department is outstanding the Freeholder Board has determined Ms. Taylor can best serve the citizens of Hunterdon County as the Director of Legal Services in this in-house model.

Director Hold stated it is important the County also discuss the exceptional legal guidance which the County has been so fortunate to have received in this County for over two and a half decades from Gaetano DeSapio. Mr. DeSapio has served Hunterdon County with expertise, knowledge, guidance, patience and a understanding of the myriad of issues and complexities that come when dealing with a government agency of Hunterdon's size that also comes with a revolving number of bosses over the years. Hunterdon County is better for having Mr. DeSapio and his excellent legal guidance he has provided over the years. Director Holt stated each member of this Board thanks Mr. DeSapio for his role as County Counsel.

Director Holt noted that Mr. DeSapio will be filling a role moving forward, as his institutional knowledge is important as the County moves forward. The goal is to establish a County Legal Department that will utilize additional counsel as needed on job specific topics.

Director Holt introduced Ms. Shana Taylor as the new County Counsel, to be effective January 01, 2012.

Mr. Mennen thanked his colleagues for tolerating him in this endeavor which started a few years ago. He feels the Board has made an excellent choice and the savings will be dramatic. This is further recognition of what the Freeholders are doing to squeeze efficiency everywhere possible out of this government. Things have changed; the type and amount of legal services which Hunterdon requires and the legal industry has changed and with that this Board needs to be reactive and change with the times. This Board has done that.

After further discussion, Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

**See Page 10/04/11-12A**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving the appointment of Shana L. Taylor as County Counsel.

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

Ms. Taylor thanked the Board for its confidence. She advised that she started her legal career with Mr. DeSapio, in his office learning a great deal about almost all of the facets of the County's legal services delivery system. She was lucky to become a member of the County's family through the Department of Human Services where she gained a new perspective on what it is to be a public servant and serve the County. In this new role she will have the opportunity to use both skills and background. Ms. Taylor is looking forward to her new role and will develop a legal department that is responsive and efficient and meets the needs of the Board, as well as the needs of the County, just as the Board desires. Ms. Taylor thanked the Board for the opportunity to move forward in this new role.

Questions answered for the press.

**PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITION**

Mr. Mennen moved and Mr. Sworen seconded these:

**See Page 10/04/11-12B**

**PROCLAMATION**

**RESOLVED**, Declaring November as Pancreatic Cancer Awareness month in the County.

**See Page 10/04/11-12C**

**PROCLAMATION**

**RESOLVED**, Declaring October as Community Planning month in the County.

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

**GRANTS**

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

**See Page 10/04/11-12D**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving a Subgrant Award and Special Conditions for the County Gang, Gun and Narcotics Task Force Grant, in the amount of \$49,434 (federal funds).

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

Mr. Walton left the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Mennen seconded this:

**See Page 10/04/11-12E**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving Contract #TS12010, with the State Department of Human Services, for \$33,768 in Transportation Block Grant funds, to provide services to recipients of Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF).

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

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Mennen seconded this:

**See Page 10/04/11-12F**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving a Section 5310 Transfer of Title Agreement for three (3) vehicles currently leased from New Jersey Transit, to the ownership of Hunterdon County.

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

Mr. Walton returned to the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

**See Page 10/04/11-13A**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving an amendment to Area Plan Grant #10-025/026, for Congregate and Home Delivered Meals, decrease in home delivered meals of \$4,581 and an increase of \$5,107 for Congregate Meals.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Walton seconded this:

**See Page 10/04/11-13B**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving an application for a Hunterdon County Local Arts Program Block Grant, through the Cultural and Heritage Commission, for the County Library, to assist in facilitating programs of an educational, cultural and musical nature, at the Route 12 Library and Clinton Libraries, in the amount of \$20,000 (\$10,000-local arts and \$10,000-County Match).

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

**CORRESPONDENCE**

A request was received from A. Steven Jordan, asking permission to use the Route 12 County Complex between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and midnight, Monday through Friday, to set up a telescope, as he is a member of the New Jersey Astronomical Association.

Mrs. Yard reported the Hunterdon County Facilities Committee did discuss this request from Mr. Jordan. They want to make sure he is not where there are luminaries. There is no way for Mr. Jordan to go anywhere else at night because County Parks are closed from dusk to dawn. Mrs. Yard feels Mr. Jordan may know of a corner he can place his telescope.

Mr. Mennen confirmed Mr. Jordan is not looking to be in a County facility at night but that he just wants to be on the property.

Mr. Mennen moved and Mr. Melick seconded a motion granting permission for A. Steven Jordan to use a section of the Route 12 County Complex, from 8 pm until midnight, Monday through Friday provided the Director of Roads, Bridges and Engineering is made aware of this approval.

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

A letter was received from the Milford Merchants' Association, requesting permission to close a portion of Route 519 on October 30, 2011, at 1:00 p.m., during their annual Halloween Parade. Mr. Mennen moved and Mr. Sworen 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. SWOREN, MR. MELICK, MR. WALTON, MR. HOLT.**

A request was received from the Milford New Jersey Fire Company, Inc., asking for permission to hold a Coin Toss, on Saturday, October 08, 2011, at Bridge Street in Milford; at the intersection of County Route 519 and 619; and in front of the Fire House. Mr. Mennen moved and Mr. Walton 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. WALTON, MR. MELICK, MR. SWOREN, MR. HOLT.**

**FREEHOLDERS COMMENTS/REPORTS**

South County Park/permit

Mr. Sworen reported to the Board that the County was success at its appearance before the East Amwell Township Board of Health on Tuesday, September 20, 2011, to allow the County to move forward with a rest room facility at the South County Park. This is now in the final stages and can be worked on.

Closing of County Libraries during storms

Mr. Sworen reported the comments have been received on why the County's Libraries close during storms and hurricanes. He advised there was a planned shutdown which occurred by Bob Thurgarland and his staff at the Division of Information Technology. The decision regarding power spikes and the affects to County server equipment and computers was carried out have everyone power down by a certain time and have the servers and other equipment shut down so the County would not have to deal with power spikes either during the storm or after the storm. In addition there was a controlled process to bring everyone back on line, on Monday morning. This was planned in advance to save the County grief should there be a problem. This planned shut down resulted in no charges to the County in failed equipment or damages.

DEP meeting

Mr. Sworen reported after the County's Road Tour on structures after the recent storms, he is going to have a meeting with the State DEP on doing multiple diversions where someone could use the property. He has talked with Pam Their at Green Acres on this matter and it has been done in the past.

Budget

Mr. Melick stated the County is 3/4<sup>th</sup> through the fiscal year and this Board needs to start thinking about the budget. The Freeholders have been doing a good job in keeping expenditures down. The County has been able to save in some areas but in other areas there have been unanticipated expenses such as with the roads and bridges.

Mr. Melick suggested the County shoot for a 6% to 8% reduction in the County expenditures for 2012. This Board must start to give ideas to the Finance Department and the County Administrator on what can be achieved and goals.

The Board agreed.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Director Holt opened the meeting to the public.

There was no one from the press or public who wished to address the Board at this time.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION continued**

Mr. Mennen moved and Mr. Walton seconded this:

**See Page 10/04/11-14A**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

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

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders returned to Executive Session at 7:51 p.m. and reconvened in Open Session at 8:15 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Director Holt adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Denise B. Doolan  
Clerk of the Board