



Mr. Aboda has discussed this with the Human Services Director, Jennifer Shore and Mary Ann Rodenberger, Senior Services Director and provided them with his contact information.

Director Walton asked Mr. Aboda to provide him with a week or so, to look into the situation and get a complete understanding of what is happening and why. Then Director Walton will get back to Mr. Aboda with information.

#### **FINANCE**

Director Walton opened the public hearing on Capital Ordinance No. 1-12, for the acquisition of heavy public works machinery, equipment and trucks, for the Department of Roads, Bridges and Engineering, in the amount of \$421,000.

There being no comments or questions from the press or public, Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Sworen seconded a motion to close the public hearing.

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

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

**See Page 07/03/12-2A**

**CAPITAL ORDINANCE No. 1-12**

**ADOPTION**, ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF HEAVY PUBLIC WORKS MACHINERY, EQUIPMENT AND TRUCKS FOR THE COUNTY ROADS AND BRIDGES AND VEHICLE SERVICES DEPARTMENTS BY THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND APPROPRIATING \$421,000.00 THEREFORE.

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

Director Walton opened the public hearing on Bond Ordinance No. 2-12, for the improvement of various bridges and culverts in, by and for the County of Hunterdon, by appropriating funds in the amount of \$10,850,000.00.

There being no comments or questions from the press or public, Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Sworen seconded a motion to close the public hearing.

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

John P. Glynn, Director, Roads, Bridges and Engineering, informed the Board that in Bond Ordinance 2-12, there are several federal aid projects such as Bridge D-300, where the County will be reimbursed by the federal government. D-300 is a preservation and rehabilitation project and Bridge F-45, is a total reconstruction. The other bridge projects are basically maintenance projects.

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

**See Page 07/03/12-2B**

**BOND ORDINANCE No. 2-12**

**ADOPTION**, BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE IMPROVEMENT OF VARIOUS BRIDGES AND CULVERTS IN, BY AND FOR THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$10,850,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.

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

Director Walton opened the public hearing on Bond Ordinance No. 3-12, for the improvement of various public highways, roads, and streets in and for the County of Hunterdon, by appropriating funds in the amount of \$8,154,000.00.

There being no comments or questions from the press or public, Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded a motion to close the public hearing.

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

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

**See Page 07/03/12-2C**

**BOND ORDINANCE No. 3-12**

**ADOPTION**, BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE IMPROVEMENT OF VARIOUS PUBLIC HIGHWAYS, ROADS AND STREETS IN, BY AND FOR THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$8,154,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.

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

Director Walton opened the public hearing on Capital Ordinance No. 4-12, for the acquisition of deeds easements for development rights on agricultural land under the New Jersey Farmland Preservation Act and by appropriating funds in the amount of \$1,200,000.00.

There being no comments or questions from the press or public, Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Sworen seconded a motion to close the public hearing.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

**See Page 07/03/12-3A CAPITAL ORDINANCE No. 4-12**

**ADOPTION**, A CAPITAL ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION BY THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON OF DEEDS EASEMENTS FOR DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS ON AGRICULTURAL LAND UNDER THE NEW JERSEY FARMLAND PRESERVATION ACT AND APPROPRIATING \$1,200,000.00 FOR THAT PURPOSE.

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

Director Walton opened the public hearing on Capital Ordinance No. 5-12, for the acquisition of computer equipment for the County of Hunterdon, in the amount of \$100,000.00.

There being no comments or questions from the press or public, Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Sworen seconded a motion to close the public hearing.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

**See Page 07/03/12-3B CAPITAL ORDINANCE No. 5-12**

**ADOPTION**, ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF COMPUTER EQUIPMENT BY THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND APPROPRIATING \$100,000.00 THEREFORE.

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

Director Walton opened the public hearing on Capital Ordinance No. 6-12, for the acquisition of vehicles for the County of Hunterdon, by appropriating funds in the amount of \$200,000.00.

There being no comments or questions from the press or public, Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Sworen seconded a motion to close the public hearing.

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

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

**See Page 07/03/12-3C CAPITAL ORDINANCE No. 6-12**

**ADOPTION**, ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF VEHICLES BY THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND APPROPRIATING \$200,000.00 THEREFORE.

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

Director Walton opened the public hearing on Capital Ordinance No. 7-12, authorizing the acquisition of real property for Open Space, Park and Recreation purposes, in the amount of \$1,020,000.

There being no comments or questions from the press or public, Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded a motion to close the public hearing.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

**See Page 07/03/12-3D CAPITAL ORDINANCE No. 7-12**

**ADOPTION**, A CAPITAL ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION BY THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON OF REAL PROPERTY FOR OPEN SPACE, PARK AND RECREATION PURPOSES AND APPROPRIATING \$1,020,000.00 FOR THAT PURPOSE.

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

Director Walton opened the public hearing on Capital Ordinance No. 8-12, authorizing the acquisition of office furniture, fixtures and business equipment, in the amount of \$34,600.

There being no comments or questions from the press or public, Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Sworen seconded a motion to close the public hearing.

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

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

**See Page 07/03/12-4A**

**CAPITAL ORDINANCE No. 8-12**

**ADOPTION**, ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF OFFICE FURNITURE, FIXTURES AND BUSINESS EQUIPMENT BY THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND APPROPRIATING \$34,600.00 THEREFORE.

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

Director Walton opened the public hearing on Capital Ordinance No. 9-12, authorizing the demolition of various County Buildings and Structures, in the amount of \$130,000.

There being no comments or questions from the press or public, Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Sworen seconded a motion to close the public hearing.

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

Mr. Mennen moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

**See Page 07/03/12-4B**

**CAPITAL ORDINANCE No. 9-12**

**ADOPTION**, ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DEMOLITION OF VARIOUS COUNTY BUILDINGS, AND STRUCTURES, BY THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND APPROPRIATING \$130,000.00 THEREFORE.

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

Director Walton opened the public hearing on Capital Ordinance No. 10-12, authorizing the expansion of the Traffic Maintenance Garage Bay, in the amount of \$100,000.

There being no comments or questions from the press or public, Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Sworen seconded a motion to close the public hearing.

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

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Mennen seconded this:

**See Page 07/03/12-4C**

**CAPITAL ORDINANCE No. 10-12**

**ADOPTION**, ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING EXPANSION OF THE TRAFFIC MAINTENANCE GARAGE BAY, BY THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND APPROPRIATING \$100,000.00 THEREFORE.

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

Director Walton opened the public hearing on Capital Ordinance No. 11-12, authorizing improvements to County Parks Facilities, in the amount of \$265,000.

There being no comments or questions from the press or public, Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded a motion to close the public hearing.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

**See Page 07/03/12-4D**

**CAPITAL ORDINANCE No. 11-12**

**ADOPTION**, ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING IMPROVEMENTS TO COUNTY PARKS FACILITIES, BY THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND APPROPRIATING \$265,000.00 THEREFORE.

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

Director Walton opened the public hearing on Capital Ordinance No. 12-12, authorizing HVAC Improvements and Repairs at the Route 31 County Complex, in the amount of \$350,000.

There being no comments or questions from the press or public, Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded a motion to close the public hearing.

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

Mr. Mennen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

**See Page 07/03/12-4E**

**CAPITAL ORDINANCE No. 12-12**

**ADOPTION**, ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING HVAC IMPROVEMENTS AND REPAIRS AT THE ROUTE 31 COUNTY COMPLEX, BY THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND APPROPRIATING \$350,000.00 THEREFORE.

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

Director Walton opened the public hearing on Capital Ordinance No. 13-12, authorizing improvements and renovations at the Historic Court House, in the amount of \$400,000.

There being no comments or questions from the press or public, Mr. Mennen moved and Mr. Holt seconded a motion to close the public hearing.

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

Mr. Mennen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

**See Page 07/03/12-5A CAPITAL ORDINANCE No. 13-12**

**ADOPTION**, ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING IMPROVEMENTS AND RENOVATIONS AT THE HISTORIC COURT HOUSE, BY THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND APPROPRIATING \$400,000.00 THEREFORE.

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

Director Walton opened the public hearing on Capital Ordinance No. 14-12, authorizing improvements and renovations at the County Jail, in the amount of \$65,000.

There being no comments or questions from the press or public, Mr. Mennen moved and Mr. Sworen seconded a motion to close the public hearing.

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

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Mennen seconded this:

**See Page 07/03/12-5B CAPITAL ORDINANCE No. 14-12**

**ADOPTION**, ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING IMPROVEMENTS AND RENOVATIONS AT THE HISTORIC COURT HOUSE, BY THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND APPROPRIATING \$400,000.00 THEREFORE.

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

Director Walton opened the public hearing on Capital Ordinance No. 15-12, authorizing the acquisition of Generators for the Buildings and Maintenance Division, in the amount of \$190,000.

There being no comments or questions from the press or public, Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded a motion to close the public hearing.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

**See Page 07/03/12-5C CAPITAL ORDINANCE No. 15-12**

**ADOPTION**, ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING IMPROVEMENTS AND RENOVATIONS AT THE HISTORIC COURT HOUSE, BY THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND APPROPRIATING \$400,000.00 THEREFORE.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

**See Page 07/03/12-5D RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Requesting the Division of Local Government Services to include an item in the 2012 County Budget for Transportation and Tip, in the amount of \$33,768.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

**See Page 07/03/12-5D RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Requesting the Division of Local Government Services to include an item in the 2012 County Budget for Clean Communities Entitlement, in the amount of \$61,963.49.

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

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Director Walton that the County received a request from Raritan Township for the County to contribute towards the acquisition of the Ewing Property, Block 15, Lot 1. This item will be tabled until the next meeting scheduled for July 17, 2012 in order to obtain additional information.

#### **ROADS and BRIDGES Update**

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

- Final plans and specifications are nearly complete for County Route 523/517 project. This project will be batched with the County Route 609 utilizing transportation trust fund expenditures.
- A public comment period for Point Mountain ended June 25, 2012 and those comments will be addressed by the County and the plans will be finalized by the design consultant.
- The contractor is back at work on County Bridge L-97-W, on Stephensburg Road, in Lebanon Township and Mansfield Township, Warren County.

Mr. Glynn advised the Board of the need for a change order on this project which needs to be approved by Hunterdon County. Warren County has already approved the change order as they are the lead agency. The County's exposure would be half of \$42,168.26. This charge order is due to a stormwater clean up from Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee; plus additional money is being spent because of the time delay for the trailer demobilization, remobilization and resetting the construction signs; as well as the silk fence and extra block work and storm damage cleanup from Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee and for additional structural strengthening of what the arch is to be centered. Hunterdon County would work closely with Warren County in trying to come up with a reasonable fair price for the contractor and to the counties. Mr. Glynn recommended the Board approve this change order in order to continue with the project.

Mr. Mennen confirmed the change order is for additional work due to clean up; not that the job was more difficult than anticipated.

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. Holt seconded a motion to approve the change order in connection with County Bridge L-97, W, known as the Stephensburg Bridge on Stephensburg Road in Lebanon Township, in the amount of 50% of \$42,168.26.

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

- The closing of County Bridge W-71, on Route 579, in West Amwell Township has been put off until July 17, 2012. The County wants to get the beams started before closing the bridge.
- The bridge on Yard Road has been closed. The superstructure is being reconstructed. The stringers are in place and the end back walls are being put up. The project should be completed by the end of the month.
- Featherbed Lane will be closed on July 30, 2012 for three or four weeks.
- Craig Road will be closed on August 06, 2012 after the balloon festival.
- Bridge T-91 on Sutton Road will be closed next Monday. The County has been working with Tewksbury and the various groups keeping them informed.
- Comments have been received concerning Culvert U-18, on Race Street, in Union Township. Being requested is for stone veneer on that historic bridge. This is currently in the hands of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Since Union Township would like veneer and it is in the historic districts SHPO is mandating it be done. Mr. Glynn suggested it be placed in the project and that historical trust fund money be used to pay for it.
- A meeting is scheduled next week with utilities regarding County Bridge F-45, on Whitebridge Road, in Franklin Township.
- The County is waiting on permits from the state regarding modifications to Bridge E-174, in East Amwell Township. The County has submitted all paperwork needed to the DEP for stormwater management.
- A letter was received from Delaware Township last week, from the Township Historical Committee regarding Bridge D-300, on Raven Rock Road-Rosemont Road. The project can't be held up further because the County is in jeopardy of missing out on the funding for this year. A discussion started three months ago about the bridge railing. The County is addressing the comments. Mr. Glynn spoke to the Mayor about the lateness of this letter at this time. This project is already two weeks behind and can't be held up further.
- Final plans and specifications for County Bridge RQ-179, on Stanton Station Road over the South Branch Raritan River was forwarded to the County and the final plans and specifications were forwarded to NJDOT.

Mr. Glynn reported to the Board the need to approve a bid for resurfacing and surface treatment subject to receipt of the contracts and review by County Counsel because of the timing of the project.

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Sworen seconded this:

**See Page 07/03/12-6A**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2012-10, for the resurfacing and surface treatment of various County Roads, to Mannon Excavating and Paving, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$1,975,212.66, provided this contract is reviewed by County Counsel prior to signature by the Freeholder Director.

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

Mr. Glynn reported bids have been received for bridge painting. The County has \$200,000 in the operating budget for 2012 for this project. The bid came in at \$354,000. \$40,000 of this would be a joint project between Hunterdon and Warren County. Also, one of the bridges is the Califon Bridge and Mr. Glynn asked the Board to give consideration in using historical trust fund money to preserve this historic structure.

Mr. Holt asked Mrs. Yard to provide the Freeholders with a balance in the historical trust fund money so consideration can be made.

Mr. Glynn reported to the Board for a request for Directional Signaling (Transit Oriented Direction Signs) to be placed on County Roads. DOT has a program that permits various businesses/civic groups to apply for signs; each sign installation has a cost of \$800 on County roads.

Mr. Holt confirmed the County is not being asked to pay this cost and that the business would incur the costs.

Mr. Glynn advised it is the County who has to approve the installation of the sign on County roads. New Jersey Logo, LLC is doing the signs. There is no exposure except the sign is on a County road and his department has to mow around it. Mr. Glynn questioned the need for a sign with today's technology using GPS units. There is a business who wants 7 signs (\$5,600 a year) for a sign for a vineyard which is off of Sky Manor Road.

After a brief discussion, the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders directed Mr. Glynn to contact the municipality (Franklin Township) and get their comments on this issue and if they approve the request, they would need to sign off on this request. Mr. Glynn will report back in two weeks.

### **COUNTY UPDATE**

Cynthia J. Yard, County Administrator advised the Board that she discussed with Director Walton the new policy which the Board adopted for line items 805-810-815 (Conferences, Meetings, Training) because a request was received from the County Clerk's Office, for two people to attend the COANJ meeting (\$1,300). It appears in the policy that all the appointing authorities (4 or 5 in the County) follow the same protocol, meaning it starts at the division level then it goes to the department level and then it goes to the appointing authority for final recommendations, then requests finally come before the Board of Chosen Freeholders. Anyone at any level can appeal. In the past, requests used to come to the County Administrator but now only requests from departments under her responsibility as the appointing authority come to her attention. She is sending memorandums out to the other appointing authorities to let them know what this new policy means in that requests will make their way through the hierarchy and the Clerk of the Board will place it on the agenda for a Board decision.

After further discussion, the Board agreed to table this discussion for two weeks in order to review the approved budget sheets for all departments. Mrs. Yard was directed to forward a memorandum to the County's five Senior Staff (Department Heads) and to each Appointing Authority to submit a justification for each of their department's requests and they are due back to the Freeholders by July 13, 2012 in order for the Freeholders to approve/disapprove all 805-810-815 requests at the July 17, 2012 scheduled Freeholder meeting.

### **FOR DISCUSSION/OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Outside employment policy for the Sheriff's Office**

Sheriff Brown came before the Board to discuss a policy for outside employment for his Sheriff's Officers. The question has been should officers be working outside details, such as road projects. Sheriff Brown explained this is a public safety issue and he would rather have a uniform officer directing traffic than someone who has no authority. The officers have complete Title 39 authority, which is motor vehicle law and criminal authority should something occur in front of them. Sheriff stated he's been law enforcement for 33 years and he has never heard of one incident where there has been a liability for having a cop on a project versus a private citizen.

Sheriff Brown informed the Board that it makes sense to have an officer on a road project. The County in the past 3 years has made \$24,000 just by the fee which is charged for having an officer on duty. He feels this brings in a profit to the County to do this. It doesn't make a lot of sense not to allow this.

Sheriff Brown reported that two weeks ago, a cable company was working on Thatcher's Hill Road and there were two private individuals directing traffic for the cable company who had the signs wrong and he talked to the people to straighten out the situation because it was dangerous.

Mr. Mennen feels the question is whether there is enough inventory of law enforcement in the municipal police forces to do this work that can fill the void.

Sheriff Brown reported the only time his office is called on is when there isn't enough local or neighboring law enforcement.

Sheriff Brown reported that there will be four Sheriff's Officers working the Lebanon parade tomorrow. That is a state police area and they tried to get officers but had to call his office yesterday to assist in directing traffic for the parade.

Mr. Melick informed Sheriff Brown that Tewksbury Township police does not handle road traffic.

Mr. Glynn reported that small police departments have a hard time in filling these types of requests.

Sheriff Brown explained to the Board that the Sheriff's Officers have been called to fill in for road jobs since he has become Sheriff and well before his time.

Mrs. Yard confirmed for Freeholder Holt that a policy was in place but this policy is compliant with the law and with the State Department of Criminal Affairs. The former policy was not as outlined as this version.

Shana Taylor, County Counsel, mentioned to the Board that she would like to add another section to this Road Project policy covering emergency situations should it occur.

Mr. Mennen confirmed with Mrs. Yard that Warren County does not have a policy but Somerset, Monmouth and Sussex Counties have a similar policy.

Mrs. Yard informed the Board that in the policy it requires the Sheriff to give permission for an officer to take on a road project. People can't call in sick in order to do a road job. This allows for an internal control.

Mr. Mennen stated his concern is still risk by having the officers do this work versus reward. He questioned to County's potential liability and exposure if this policy is adopted and Sheriff's Office perform road jobs. He informed the Sheriff that his concern has nothing to do with the quality of the service his office can provide nor is it meant to be evidence of a disagreement that a law enforcement officer could do a better job. His question is, is there someone else that can do the work that would also provide the same public service/public safety function. Mr. Mennen stated he feels this is a risk versus reward issue and would like to have time to talk with the Sheriff further about this in the next two weeks.

The Board directed this policy be revamped to include the section regarding emergency situations and that it be brought back before the Board at the July 17, 2012 Freeholder meeting after Mr. Mennen has had time to discuss this further with Sheriff Brown.

#### Wescott Preserve Caretaking and Occupancy Agreement with Delaware Township

County Counsel Taylor stated the Board asked her to review previous contracts for the Wescott Preserve property and original the County had a 5 year contract with Delaware Township which was entered into in 2003; then at the request of Delaware Township because they are putting funds into the structure to fix it up they asked for the agreement to be for 20 years and in 2011 the Freeholder Board did approve that agreement (there is a resolution to that effect) but it was never returned executed by the Township. Delaware is now asking for the agreement to be moved up to 30 years in order for the Township to get their COAH credits. Ms. Taylor has reviewed the COAH regulations and if you weren't certified prior to 2003/2004 you would not receive a COAH certification and that a 30 year commitment was needed in order to use the property for low/moderate income families. At this time there is no one residing in the structure.

Mr. Mennen questioned how large the lot is that the residence is on. He questioned if the lot could be carved out from a larger parcel and further asked why the County would want to own this.

Ms. Taylor explained the County inherited this with the Wescott Preserve which is 65 acres and the house is on 3.29 acres. Mrs. Yard stated the property was purchased with the structure on it.

Mr. Mennen questioned if the County wants to tie its hands for 30 years for something that is supposed to be an asset. If it isn't an asset, then why does the County want this at all.

Director Walton recommended the County selling the parcel to Delaware Township, especially since this parcel is needed to fulfill their COAH obligation. The Board agreed and directed County Counsel Taylor to research this and report back to the Board.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Director Walton announced: "All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Hunterdon and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately."

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded a motion to approve the Claims Register dated July 03, 2012.

**See Page 07/03/12-8A**

#### **CLAIMS REGISTER**

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded a motion to approve the regular session minutes of February 21, 2012 and the budget/regular session minutes of March 06, 2012.

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

Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded these:

**See Page 07/03/12-8B**

#### **RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Jacqueline Perez appointed permanent, full time Senior Account Clerk, Human Services Department.

**See Page 07/03/12-8C**

#### **RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Lorraine Haley, Keyboarding Clerk 1, Division of Senior Services, transferred to the Division of Social Services, Human Services Department.



**See Page 07/03/12-9A**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Cynthia Rochman appointed provisional, full time Keyboarding Clerk 2, Division of Senior Services, Human Services Department.

**See Page 07/03/12-9B**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Brian Klekovic appointed provisional, full time Housing Assistance Technician, Division of Housing, Human Services Department.

**See Page 07/03/12-9C**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving a three month extension to the Medical Examiners professional agreement, with Dr. Steven Diamond, in an amount not to exceed \$62,500.

**See Page 07/03/12-9D**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving Change Order #1, Final, for County Bid #2010-21, for resurfacing and intersection improvements to County Routes 613, 650 and 519, in Holland and Raritan Townships, with Owl Contracting, decrease of \$389,138.56.

**See Page 07/03/12-9E**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving final payment for County Bid #2010-21, for resurfacing and intersection improvements to County Routes 613, 650 and 519, in Holland and Raritan Townships, with Owl Contracting, in the amount of \$639,365.54.

**See Page 07/03/12-9F**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving appointments to the Hunterdon County Youth Services/Juvenile Justice Commission for 2012.

**See Page 07/03/12-9G**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving appointments to the Solid Waste Advisory Council.

**See Page 07/03/12-9H**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving the reappointment of Charles Rebick to the Human Services Advisory Council.

**See Page 07/03/12-9I**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Authorizing the "FTA (Federal Transportation Administration) 2012 Lobbying Certification and 2012 Annual State of New Jersey Ethics Law" for Federal Transit Administration Assistance Programs.

**See Page 07/03/12-9J**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving a Transportation Services Agreement with The ARC of Hunterdon County, for the purchase of transportation services for 85 ARC consumers for 2012, in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.

**See Page 07/03/12-9K**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Approving a professional auditing services agreement with Suplee, Clooney and Company, for the Hunterdon County Division of Housing, for the period ending December 31, 2011, in an amount not to exceed \$7,600.

**See Page 07/03/12-9L**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Kaitlyn Lauber appointed provisional, full time Public Safety Telecommunicator, Emergency Services Division, Public Safety Department.

**See Page 07/03/12-9M**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Cody Kolb appointed provisional, full time Public Safety Telecommunicator, Emergency Services Division, Public Safety Department.

**See Page 07/03/12-9N**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Bonnie Garcia appointed provisional, full time Public Safety Telecommunicator, Emergency Services Division, Public Safety Department.

**See Page 07/03/12-9O**

**RESOLUTION**

**RESOLVED**, Jeffrey Fenton appointed provisional, full time Public Safety Telecommunicator, Emergency Services Division, Public Safety Department.

**RESOLVED**, Richard Allen appointed provisional, full time Public Safety Telecommunicator, Emergency Services Division, Public Safety Department.

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

**CORRESPONDENCE**

A request was received Dan Brannen, asking permission to use a portion of the North County Branch Parking and Lawn area, for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Gran Fondo NJ, as a "rest and refreshment" location for the 100 mile bike ride, which benefits numerous New Jersey based nonprofit organizations, primarily The Seeing Eye, on Sunday, September 09, 2012, from 7:00 a.m. until approximately 3:30 p.m. Mr. Sworen moved and Mr. Holt seconded a motion granting permission provided this event is coordinated with the County's Library Director and the Department of Public Works.

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

A letter was received from the Oldwick Fire Company, requesting permission to close Oldwick Road (County Route 523 and 517) from Rockaway Road, to and including the intersection of Homestead Road and Hill and Day Road, from 12:00 p.m. until 3:30 p.m., on Saturday, June 01, 2013, for a parade to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Oldwick Fire Company. Mr. Mennen moved and Director Walton seconded a motion granting permission provided this event is coordinated through the County's Department of Public Works.

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

**FREEHOLDERS COMMENTS/REPORTS**

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders had no reports this evening.

**3 Member Freeholder Board**

Mr. Mennen said his colleague, George Melick, brought something up at the last meeting which he has been thinking about for two weeks. The County talks a lot about efficiency and effectiveness. The Freeholders say they are running a leaner, meaner machine and that more is being done with less. Mr. Mennen has questioned if what has been done over the last five years that he has been here, could have been done with three members. It is a valid question that should be explored. If the Freeholders are asking those around them to do more with less or to consolidate, this Board should lead by example. Mr. Mennen asked this Board to consider holding a public hearing on whether or not the Freeholder Board should put this question to the voters. The statutory regime is very clear that this is allowable and it gives the actual language which would appear on the ballot. Mr. Mennen feels it is incumbent upon this Board, in this era, where we talk a lot about cutting back and reducing the size of government to take this step. At the very least, a public hearing should be held.

Mr. Mennen moved and Mr. Melick seconded a motion that the County of Hunterdon advertise and place on an agenda in two weeks, a public hearing to discuss whether or not the Freeholders should place a ballot questions to the voters as to whether or not the size of the Freeholder Board should be reduced from five to three. The statue says it can't be reduced to four; it says it is either 3, 5, 7 or 9 members.

Mr. Holt hesitates to think that the work which has been done in the last 5 years, which he feels is the most interesting timeframe the Freeholders' have gone through, whether there was agreement or disagreement, there is the fact there are 5 members of the Board plus staff to figure out what the County is going versus 3, is two more minds working on solutions. Mr. Holt disagrees with Mr. Mennen on reducing the Board.

Director Walton reported he has reviewed the historical budgetary information and the years where the greatest increases in the tax rate and tax levy were all years in which the County had a 3 member Board. For years where the budget passed unanimously and limited growth or reduced growth with a 5 member Board. It takes four votes to do bonding. It takes three people to agree to spend money as opposed to two with a three person Board.

Mr. Mennen isn't sure that is the measurement that should be used, because this is more personality driven. All he is saying is there should be a public hearing to discuss this.

Mr. Melick said the old, former three member Freeholder Board was in operation for almost 100 years and he was a part of it. He feels the 3 member Freeholder Board served the County well because when you are on a 3 member Board you can't stand behind someone else. The 3 member Board served the County well and he recommended it be considered again.

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

### Appraisals

Mr. Melick reported concern about the appraisals the County is relying on when acquiring open space. He is concerned about the criteria the state uses for the state appraisals. He pointed out that some of the appraisals are old and should be updated. Mr. Melick said the appraisals do not reflect the economic times of today. He suggested County Counsel look at this in order to determine if the process can be perfected to protect the County's taxpayers.

Mr. Holt suggested a letter should be drafted to the State but it should be hand delivered. He feels the way to present this, is that the County is very grateful for state funds to assist in the purchase of open space however, as a service to the taxpayer the current policies in place for when government purchase is being utilized is probably not in the best interest of obtaining a true appraisal for appraised values. Mr. Holt feels the letter should be presented to the state in person so the correct message is being delivered.

Ms. Taylor will have the letter drafted for Board review by the next meeting on July 17, 2012.

### Independence Day

Director Walton wished everyone a happy Independence Day tomorrow, July 04, 2012.

### **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Director Walton opened the meeting to the public.

Andrea Bonnett, East Amwell Township resident, questioned the name of the conference that the County Clerk wishes to attend.

Mrs. Yard explained it is COANJ, which is the Constitutional Officers Association of New Jersey.

Frances Gavigan, East Amwell Township resident, feels there is real value to the public in having a five member Freeholder Board, in that a couple of Freeholders are able to attend meetings without having to notice it as a meeting.

Questions answered for the press.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Director Walton adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Denise B. Doolan  
Clerk of the Board