

HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

71 Main Street, Freeholder's Meeting Room, 2nd Floor
Flemington, New Jersey 08822

March 19, 2013

The regular meeting of the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders convened at 4:00 p.m. in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

PRESENT: MR. WALTON, MR. KING, MR. MELICK, MR. MENNEN.

ABSENT: MR. HOLT, MR. MENNEN.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

Director Walton announced: "This meeting is being held in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Adequate notice has been given by posting throughout the year a copy of the notice on Bulletin Boards on the First and Second Floor of the Main Street County Complex, Building #1, Flemington, New Jersey, a public place reserved for such announcements. A copy was mailed on or before January 02, 2013, to the Hunterdon County Democrat, Star Ledger, Trenton Times, Courier News and the Express Times, newspapers designated to receive such notices and by filing a copy with the Hunterdon County Clerk."

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. King seconded these:

See Page 03/19/13-1A RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss the terms of a bid for the Transfer Station.

See Page 03/19/13-1B RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss an update on the Ewing property in Raritan Township.

See Page 03/19/13-1C RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss a Rice Notice for the Human Resources Department.

See Page 03/19/13-1D RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss an update on the AFSME negotiations.

See Page 03/19/13-1E RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss a strategy regarding a hostile work environment.

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

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders went into Executive Session at 4:02 p.m., recessed at 4:46 p.m. and reconvened in Open Session at 5:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENT

Director Walton opened the meeting to the public.

Lois Stewart, Flemington Borough resident, questioned the Board if the black boxes for lights in front of the historic Court House can be removed since those lights are no longer used.

Director Walton agreed to look into that matter.

Barbara Suchau, Raritan Township residents, asked the Board about an unclassified title under the Consent Agenda, as well as an Employment Reimbursement Agreement.

Director Walton and Cynthia J. Yard, County Administrator explained the use of the unclassified title and why Employment Reimbursement Agreements are used, specifically to protect the County.

Resolution/Via Phone

Mr. King moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

See Page 03/19/13-1F RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders authorized participation in today's meeting by Freeholder William Mennen, via telephone.

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

County Counsel, Shana L. Taylor, informed Freeholder Mennen he can now partake in today's meeting.

POLYTECH

Dr. Kim Metz, Polytech Superintendent, came before the Board and introduced Polytech's Early Childhood Education Teacher, Natalie Guarino who was named Teacher of the Year and with her are two of her students: Becky Clinebell and Samantha Bongiovanni.

Mrs. Guarino informed the Board that last week 15 students were taken to a State competition for FCCLA (Family Career and Community Leaders of America) and Polytech took home 13 gold and 1 silver medal. This year, starting in July, 2013, 13 students are eligible to compete at the National competition in Nashville, Tennessee.

Ms. Clinebell and Ms. Bongiovanni, Hunterdon Central Regional High School Students, reported that they had the opportunity to get involved in a service program because of Hurricane Sandy by adopting a family. They raised \$1,000 for this family through fundraisers. In addition, they were also able to participate in helping clean up some of New Jersey's shores at one beach.

Ms. Bongiovanni reported that a book drive was held through Hands Helping Humanity through Hunterdon County Polytech. They also presented a lesson at the Thomas B. Connelly Elementary School on Hurricane Sandy.

Mrs. Guarino stated these students won a gold medal at the competition with a perfect score of 100.

The Board congratulated Miss Clinebell and Ms. Bongiovanni on their recent medal and thanked them for coming this evening.

FRENCHTOWN'S ANGELS

Mr. King moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

See Page 03/19/13-2A

PROCLAMATION

RESOLVED, Recognizing the hard work and dedication of The Frenchtown's Angels.

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

Director Walton asked Freeholder King to present these volunteers with an original Certificate from the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Warren Cooper, Frenchtown Borough's Mayor advised he is present this evening to show his appreciation on behalf of Frenchtown to the volunteers who did all the work.

PURCHASING

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. King seconded these:

See Page 03/19/13-2B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving Requisition #40032437, using County Quote #0018-2013, with Garden State Highway Products, for glass safety marking spheres, for Roads & Bridges Division of the Public Works Department, in the amount of \$14,944.

See Page 03/19/13-2C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2013-03, to provide and erect one (1) Two Hundred Foot (200') Tower and associated Communication Equipment (or Equivalent) for the Department of Public Safety and Health Services, to JBL Electric Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$314,578.

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

RED CROSS

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. King seconded this:

See Page 03/19/13-2D

PROCLAMATION

RESOLVED, Recognizing March 2013 as Red Cross Month in Hunterdon County.

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

Matthieu Neelsen, Regional CEO for the Red Cross of New Jersey, thanked the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders, Hunterdon County's Office of Emergency Management, on the Red Cross' partnership with this local government. He realizes that Hurricane Sandy is on everyone's mind but the work that the Red Cross does on a daily basis in Hunterdon County includes sheltering during emergencies, blood donations, and training people for lifesaving skills).

Director Walton said it is the County who is to thank the Red Cross for all their hard work and services. The Red Cross makes the County government's job easier by being a resource.

Director Walton presented Mr. Neelsen with an original Proclamation from the Board.

ROADS AND BRIDGES UPDATE

John P. Glynn, Public Works Director provided the Board with an update of various County road and bridge projects.

- Design work for County Route 513, a Local Lead Project for NJDOT funding for this year, should be completed around mid-April.
- The County is waiting for authorization from NJDOT for a pre-construction meeting for the County Route 579/602 project (sidewalk) in Ringoes, East Amwell Township.
- County Route 651 (High Risk Rural Road) HRRR project, was put off until 2014 as requested by NJTPA (New Jersey Transportation Planning Authority).
- Transportation Trust Fund project for FY2012: the contractor for the (1) County Route 523-Lamington Road, from County Route 517 to Somerset County Line, Tewksbury Township, is 75% complete on 523 and on the (2) County Route 609-Manners Road, County Route 514 to County Route 602, repairs have been started. Shoulder repairs and paving should begin in three weeks if the weather cooperates.
- The S.A.G.E. application for Bridge C-26, on Cratetown Road, in Clinton Township.
- The Changewater Road Bridge L-93-W, is a joint project with Warren County. The test pits were done on the stone arch and it has been identified where the cross members are and the consultant is using that data to come up with the alternative plan for the bridge replacement.
- NJDOT (New Jersey Department of Transportation) has authorized that Bridge RQ-168, on Pennsylvania Avenue, in Raritan Township be included as part of the Transportation Trust Fund reimbursement.
- The County is waiting on NJDOT to authorize Bridge T-36-S, on Black River Road in Tewksbury Township and in Bedminster Township in Somerset County.
- Bids will be received March 20, 2013 for Culvert U-18, Race Street, in Union Township.
- Bids were received for the Columbia Trail and Landsdown Trail projects on March 14, 2013 and they are being reviewed. The Division of Parks and Recreation for the County does has sufficient funds to cover this project, there was \$200,000 in a previous capital ordinance and the difference will be taken from the Parks Trust Account.
- The County met with a redeveloper for the former Regal Paper Mill in Milford Borough and they have agreed to the location for the mitigation for the encroachment into the wetlands area for the safety improvement project at Route 519, (Warren Glen Hill).
- NJDOT needs to authorize a preconstruction meeting for Bridge F-45, on Whitebridge Road, in Franklin Township.
- There was an issue with Pay to Play legislation and the County has worked that out with the federal government and the state Attorney General's Office for the language to be removed from County's contracts in order to get four federal aid projects moving forward for projects: D-300, F-45, RQ-179 and the High Risk Rural Road project in Califon.
- The County is waiting on revised appraisals for Bridge E-174, in East Amwell Township.
- The Engineer's Office is working with County Counsel to get a release from a property owner on the County Route 600/612 project for the right of way.

SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING SERVICES

Alan Johnson, Solid Waste/Recycling Division, came before the Board reporting that the County has revised the Spending Plan on the Solid Waste Advisory Council's Recycling Education Initiative. It will be modified as the project becomes more evolved. A presentation will be made to the Freeholder Board at its April 16, 2013.

Mr. Johnson provided the Board with the Hunterdon County Municipal Recycling Program Monitoring Reports, for the 4th Quarter of 2012. There is a series of 5 questions asked of municipalities to keep them on task that recycling isn't something to worry about once a year when the state report is due but that it is a year round effort. An increase has been seen in the recycling rate and Mr. Johnson feels this is in part due by keeping an eye on the municipalities and what they are doing. Sixteen of the twenty-six municipalities supplied information requested for the 4th quarter of 2012. This information will be submitted to the State Department of Environmental Protection to show that the County is trying to keep the initiative going in trying to improve recycling rates.

Mr. JOhnsn reported to the Board about the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day, held on March 09, 2013. There were 518 residents, small businesses and farmers come to the collection day; plus two municipalities and one school deliver materials on the 9th also. The next scheduled Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day is July 13, 2013 and there is an Electronic Collection Day on April 13, 2013.

COUNTY Update

Cynthia J. Yard, County Administrator informed the Board that the County's Manual/Director is done. They will be delivered to each municipality. As in the past, anyone can come receive one (1) free manual and a certain number of directories will be given to each municipality.

Mrs. Yard reported at the last meeting the Board asked that the Prosecutor's Office be notified about the request to fill two vacancies and the Human Resources Director asked the Prosecutor to comply with the County's policy of answering the four personnel questions to fill a vacancy.

Director Walton directed the Clerk of the Board, Denise Doolan, to place this matter on the March 26, 2013 budget session meeting.

Shana Taylor, County Counsel informed the Board that the Township of Delaware is asking the County to give them an additional 90 days to decide if they want to take the County up on its offer for the Township to acquire the Wescott Preserve House, in Delaware Township. The Board agreed.

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. King moved and Mr. Melick seconded a motion to approve the claims in accordance with the Claims Register dated March 19, 2013.

Mr. King questioned the County about a check to Somerset County concerning the Workforce Investment Board and confirmed that Hunterdon receives benefits with this partnership.

See Page 03/19/13-4A

CLAIMS REGISTER

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

Mr. King moved and Mr. Melick seconded a motion to approve the regular session minutes of March 05, 2013.

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

Mr. King moved and Mr. Melick seconded these:

See Page 03/19/13-4B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Geoffrey Benz appointed unclassified, full time Sheriff's Investigator, in the Sheriff's Office.

See Page 03/19/13-4C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Thomas Foster appointed unclassified, full time Sheriff's Officer, in the Sheriff's Office.

See Page 03/19/13-4D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Joseph Dolan appointed temporary, seasonal Recreation Leader, Division of Parks and Recreation, Land Use and Facilities Management Department.

See Page 03/19/13-4E

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Stephanie Pierce appointed unclassified, member of the Board of Elections.

See Page 03/19/13-4F

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a volunteer agreement for the Hunterdon County Special Weapons and Tactics Team, with William Svard.

See Page 03/19/13-4G

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Mutual Assistance agreement for the Hunterdon County Special Weapons and Tactics Team, with Flemington Borough.

See Page 03/19/13-4H

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the appointment of Paul Muir and Dean Rapp to the Solid Waste Advisory Board.

See Page 03/19/13-4I

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the termination of a Provider Services Agreement dated January 17, 2012, with Meals on Wheels in Hunterdon, Inc., reflecting no decrease or change to the target population.

See Page 03/19/13-4J

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the Federal Fiscal Year 2013 Certifications and Assurances" for the Federal Transit Administration Assistance Program, and annual Affidavit of Compliance with the Americans of Disabilities Act.

See Page 03/19/13-4K

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving an Employment and Reimbursement Agreement with Thomas E. Foster, Sheriff's Officer.

See Page 03/19/13-4L

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving an Employment and Reimbursement Agreement with Geoffrey M. Benz, Sheriff's Investigator.

See Page 03/19/13-5A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the establishment of a bank account for the Solid Waste and Recycling Services Account.

See Page 03/19/13-5B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a modification to the Local Aid & Economic Development Agreement, with the State Department of Transportation, for the Rehabilitation of the Rosemont-Raven Rock Bridge, D-300, in Delaware Township, decreasing the amount to \$2,141,610.40.

See Page 03/19/13-5C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a modification to an agreement with Rencor, Inc., (County Bid #2012-25), for the Rehabilitation of County Bridge 10XX300 (D-300), federal project, in Delaware Township, removing all State reporting requirements pertaining to the Pay to Play law.

See Page 03/19/13-5D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a modification to an agreement with Kalogridis Contracting, LLC, (County Bid #2012-28), for the Reconstruction of County Bridge F-45, on White Bridge Road, over the Capoolong Creek, in Franklin Township, removing all State reporting requirements pertaining to the Pay to Play law.

See Page 03/19/13-5E

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a modification to an agreement with Interstate Contracting and Excavating, LLC, (County Bid #2012-29), for the Rehabilitation of County Bridge 10RQ-179, federal project, in Raritan and Readington Townships, removing all State reporting requirements pertaining to the Pay to Play law.

See Page 03/19/13-5F

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a modification to an agreement with Reivax Contracting Corporation, (County Bid #2012-30), for Intersection Improvements for County Routes 512 and 513, federal project, in Lebanon Township and Califon Borough, removing all State reporting requirements pertaining to the Pay to Play law.

See Page 03/19/13-5G

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Urging NJ Transit to allow for one seat service for all trains operating during weekday off-peak hours and on weekends.

See Page 03/19/13-5I

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the 2013 County Salary Reimbursement Agreement with Rutgers' Cooperative Extension, part of Rutgers' the State University.

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

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITION

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. King seconded these:

See Page 03/19/13-5H

PROCLAMATION

RESOLVED, Declaring April 27, 2013 as T'ai Chi and QiGong day in the County.

See Page 03/19/13-5I

PROCLAMATION

RESOLVED, Recognizing April 27, 2013 as Caregivers' Support Day.

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

GRANTS

Mr. Melick moved and Mr. King seconded this:

See Page 03/19/13-5J

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a grant agreement with the New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division on Aging and Community Services, for the State Health Insurance Program, (SHIP), in the amount of \$25,000, for the period of April 01, 2013 through March 31, 2014.

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

Mr. King moved and Mr. Melick seconded this:

See Page 03/19/13-6A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Accepting a Subgrant Award from the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of State Police, for the FY2012 EMAA grant, in the amount of \$140,000 (\$70,000 federal funds and a County Match of \$70,000).

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

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was received from the High Bridge Fire Department, asking permission to hold Coin Tosses on April 06th and November 30, 2013, on Route 513 between Grayrock Road and Arch Street, beginning 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Mr. King moved and Mr. Melick seconded a motion granting permission provided the event is coordinated through the Public Works Department.

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

A request was received from Hunterdon Harmonizers, asking permission to use the historic Court House steps and rest rooms in the rear of the building, during their annual Craft Fair, on September 21 and 22, 2013. Mr. King moved and Mr. Melick seconded a motion granting permission provided this event is coordinated through the County's Department of Public Works.

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

FREEHOLDERS COMMENTS/REPORTS

Director Walton informed those present that a letter was received which was addressed to George Wagner, Director of Public Safety (Emergency Services), the Board of Chosen Freeholders, the Tewksbury Police Chief, the Chief of the Whitehouse Rescue Squad and the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Tewksbury Township, from a Susan L. Taylor, who expressed incredible gratitude and respect in writing this letter to recognize the lifesaving efforts of the individuals who responded to her home for an emergency on Tuesday, March 06, 2013. Ms. Taylor thanked the Public Safety Telecommunicator, Katie Powell and the Tewksbury Township Police Officer, William Beam, the Whitehouse Rescue Technician, Dan Campbell, Whitehouse Rescue EMT, Shannon Binger. Director Walton read Mrs. Taylor's letter aloud detailing the emergency at her home regarding her husband. Mr. Taylor's heart had stopped and the 911 Telecommunicator, Katie Power instructed Mrs. Taylor on CPR and brought other emergency personnel to the home. Mrs. Taylor describes in detail the services provided to her during this situation to which she is very happy and her husband is fine.

Director Walton asked Mr. Wagner to express Mrs. Taylor's appreciation recognizing Ms. Powell and thank her for her wonderful service by this Board.

Mr. King reported that the president of Raritan Valley Community College, Dr. Casey Crabil is resigning from her position at the end of this semester, and she is moving on to a Community College in New York.

Mr. King informed the Board that the YMCA is one of 25 YMCA's in the country that are part of the 50 Moving Forward Program which is co-sponsored by Pfizer. It is health prevention, fitness and fun geared towards those who are 50 years old plus. It is free to members of the YMCA and to members of the general public.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Neil Fant, Readington Township resident said in the Recycling report it was stated only 16 municipalities out of 26 responded on the County's request for information.

Director Walton explained the state has put the County in charge of the Recycling Program, which is a municipal responsibility, and it is an area of frustration for the County. Municipal reporting seems to be a problem but the report is only 6 questions.

Mrs. Yard explained the state statute reads the County is the implementing agency for the Solid Waste Management Plan but it is a municipal function. The County has a great deal of difficulty in getting the municipalities to do what they are expected to do.

Lois Stewart, Flemington Borough resident, brought to the Board's attention the meeting to clean and pick up litter in front of the County's properties on Main Street. She also recommended that additional plantings be placed in front of the buildings to spruce up the appearance.

Director Walton will check with the Buildings and Maintenance Division of the Land Use and Facilities Management Department to see if they can do something to spruce up the area.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Director Walton adjourned the meeting at 6:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise B. Doolan
Clerk of the Board