

HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

71 Main Street, Freeholder's Meeting Room, 2nd Floor

Flemington, New Jersey 08822

November 19, 2013

The regular meeting of the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders convened at 4:32 p.m. in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

PRESENT: MR. WALTON, MR. HOLT, MR. KING.

ABSENT: MR. MELICK, 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. King moved and Mr. Holt seconded these:

See Page 11/19/13-1A RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss a Chief Financial Officer interviewing process.

See Page 11/19/13-1B RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss the search for a new County Administrator.

See Page 11/19/13-1C RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss a Rice Notice in the Human Services Department and the reorganization of the Human Services Department.

See Page 11/19/13-1D RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss the departmental appeal hearings.

See Page 11/19/13-1E RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss health benefits coverage and hours of work.

See Page 11/19/13-1F RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss the executive session minutes of August 2013.

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

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders went into Executive Session at 4:04 p.m. and reconvened in Open Session at 5:30 p.m.

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

ABSENT: MR. MELICK.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Director Walton asked for a moment of silence as one of the County's employee's, Nancy Elizabeth Schepens who was on medical leave.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Director Walton opened the meeting to the public.

Lois Stewart, Flemington Borough resident, advised the Board of how wonderfully run the County's Tricentennial event as at the Campanelli Home was this past Saturday. She encouraged everyone to participate in all events that this Committee is having.

Ms. Stewart confirmed with Director Walton that the personnel items listed on the Consent Agenda are replacements.

Ms. Stewart questioned Item #2, under Purchasing for bunker renovations for the Heron Glen Golf Course and feels since there is no longer debt on the golf course that money is being spent for other things. She questioned if the golf course is running in the black.

Director Walton assured Ms. Stewart that the golf course continues to be revenue positive; almost since its inception has made a profit year after year.

Barbara Sachau, Raritan Township resident, asked how much profit the golf course makes.

Director Walton assured Ms. Sachau that the golf course made a profit.

Ms. Sachau is aware there are resolutions coming in to the County from municipalities asking the County to take over Animal Control and she doesn't feel this is something the County should be doing.

Mr. Melick left the meeting at 5:40 p.m.

FINANCE

Old Business:

Lou Garbaccio, Interim County Finance Officer came before the Board regarding a resolution to approve transfers between certain 2013 Appropriation Accounts.

Director Walton reported that the Board had questions at their last meeting on this resolution and it has been revised and amended.

Mr. King moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 11/19/13-2A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving transfers between certain appropriation accounts for 2013.

Mr. Mennen questioned if the County has been reimbursed for the Special Election from the State.

Mr. Garbaccio advised the Finance Office has inquired if there is a definite amount the County will receive from the State for the Special Election. The County is still waiting for that reimbursement but the amount is not known.

Mr. King questioned the movement in salary and wages and in the Social Security account. He asked if that is common.

Mr. Garbaccio stated it can be common. He wasn't with the County for the preparation of the budget however, when going through the analysis, these particular accounts, where money is being transferred to, would experience a shortfall if the shortfalls were not made.

Director Walton confirmed the transfers are needed to meet year end needs.

Mr. Garbaccio reported he reviewed past transfer resolutions and while this large amount wasn't transferred from Social Security, the amount transferred in the past was close to this amount.

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

This resolution was not approved.

POLYTECH

Dan Kerr, Polytech Principal, came before the Board and introduced Jonathon Berman, Manager of the Tractor Supply, who is Polytech's Business Partner of the Year, who over the past couple of years has donated over \$9,000 in equipment and supplies to over 5 Polytech Programs which utilize the components (auto body, auto technology, auto services, construction and the green energy programs).

Mr. Melick returned to the meeting at 5:57 p.m.

HUNTERDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE/Economic Development

Chris Phelan, Chairman, Hunterdon Chamber of Commerce came before the Board with members of the Leadership Hunterdon Class of 2013. Recognized were Freeholder Holt who sits on the Board of Trustees for Leadership Hunterdon, Sheriff Brown, Bonnie Duncan, and Freeholder Elect-Suzanne Lagay. The Leadership Class members included Freeholder Harrie E. Copeland III, former Freeholder, Caroline Smith of United Way, David Johnston managing partner of Amwell Ridge Golf Management, Rob Gebhardt of MERCK and Co., Jerrie Collevchio of Hunterdon Prevention Resources, and Brad Muller of the Office of the Attorney General.

The Leadership Class informed the Board about the program and provided Economic Development recommendations that could benefit the County. They looked at the County's infrastructure, workforce development and industry sectors, business retention and expansion, as well as tourism. An inter-county public transportation system would be helpful as well as a coordinated tourism effort between the municipalities in the County as they are currently doing their own tourism promotion. The Workforce Investment Board/program through Raritan Valley Community College is an excellent program and should be promoted more so more people can take advantage of this wealth of resources.

A question and answer session was held with the members of the Leadership Class, the Board of Chosen Freeholders and those present at the meeting.

The Board thanked those present for participating in the program and for their presentation this evening, stating all things will be considered.

FARMLAND PRESERVATION/OPEN SPACE

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Mennen seconded this:

See Page 11/19/13-3A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Deed of Development Easement and Grant Agreement, from Doris E. Snyder, on Block 82, Lot 2, in Raritan Township, estimated 47.107 acres, (SADC-446,574.36; County-\$148,858.12, Township-\$147,858.12), amount of \$744,290.60.

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

PURCHASING

Mr. King moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 11/19/13-3B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving Requisition #26900, using State Contract #A-83905, with ESS, Inc., for battery plant/rectifier system, for the Division of Emergency Services, of the Public Safety and Health Services Department, in the amount of \$38,439.71.

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

Mr. King moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 11/19/13-3C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2013-08, for Bunker Renovations at Heron Glen Golf Course, with Earthworks, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$326,410.

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

ROADS and BRIDGES Update

Tom Mathews, Public Works Director provided the Board with an update of various County road and bridge projects.

- 2013 Transportation Trust Fund Project, County Route 513, from High Bridge to the Morris County Line, tree trimming and drainage improvements are complete; driveways are 98% complete; milling of intersections started this week and the Main Line roadway milling will begin once that is done.
- County Route 519 and County Route 614 are High Risk Rural Road projects and are currently out to bid.
- County Route 651 is also a High Risk Rural Road project but it is for 2014 and there was kickoff meeting held on October 31, 2013.
- The revised preliminary plans for County Bridge C-26 on Cratetown Road were received and sent back to the consultant.
- County Bridge E-140-M is wrapping up and should be opened in early December.
- Verbal approval has been received from Soil Conservation District on a permit for County Bridge Q-168 on Pennsylvania Avenue; the plans and specifications should be ready for consideration by the December Board meeting.
- A preconstruction meeting was held for County Bridge T-36-S on Black River Road on October 30, 2013 and clearing of the site will begin in early December.
- In-house project, County Culvert E-152 on Mountain Road has been completed and the roadway has been re-opened.
- The preliminary design for K-138 on Union Road in Kingwood Township is being reviewed.
- County Bridge U-36 on Van Sycles Road has been completed and is open.
- County Route 519, Warren Glen Hill is a local lead project, the right of way documents were received and are under review and revisions will be required.
- A kickoff meeting was held for the County Route 579, Lehigh Valley Railroad Bridge.
- Comments from NJDOT on the final plans and specifications for County Bridge E-174 and estimates which were received and revisions will be required.
- Right of way parcels for County Route 513, Exit 15, on Interstate 78 have been approved and the appraisal process will begin.
- County Bridge RQ-179 over the South Branch on Stanton Station Road, the steel truss is being reassembled.
- Punch list items for the intersection improvements to County Route 512/513 are complete.

Mr. Mathews informed the Board that the railroad bridge on County Route 579 is an orphaned Railroad Bridge. The railroad abandoned it years ago and no one has claimed ownership or maintenance responsibility for it. Over the years, it has been a shared maintenance responsibility where the State has maintained the bridge structurally and the County has maintained the roadway, signs, striping and such. Through the funding process a question came up, as to once this bridge is replaced who will take ownership; someone will have to claim ownership. The way the statutes are written, this is the determination of the Commissioner of the Department of Transportation.

After further discussion, Mr. Mathews was directed to have County Counsel draw up a letter asking the Department of Transportation to have the ownership remain as it is now, a shared ownership where the State takes care of the bridge structurally and the County would continue to take care of the County Road. The Board directed Mr. Mathews to send this letter to the Commissioner of Transportation and keep the Board informed.

Mr. Mathews informed the Board that a Road Opening request was received for County Route 579 in Ringoes. The standard County practice is once the County repaves a road there is a five year moratorium on it before anyone can open it, unless there is an emergency such as a water or gas leak. Mr. Mathews advised he did deny this request because the road has just been paved this past June. The gentlemen who applied for the permit is asking the Freeholder Board to overrule the denial and allow the roadway to be opened. Mr. Mathews provided a bridge history behind the request and explained the gas line is on the other side of the road, so the entire road would have to be opened. This person is asking to have this done because his oil burning furnace broke down and he would like to purchase a gas furnace.

Director Walton understands the gas furnace has already been purchased and the opening of the road would be a 2 x4 cut. Mr. Mathews explained it would be a trench cut across the road. Mr. Mathews has no objection to the gas company making borings.

After further discussion, Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Holt seconded a motion to allow a boring under the road and not cut a trench across the road and directed Mr. Mathews to inform the property owner who made the request and to also advise the gas company of the Board's decision.

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

COUNTY COUNSEL

Shana L. Taylor, County Counsel advised an update concerning the State Health Benefits program is necessary indicating the County will not participate in the State's prescription drug program and will continue with its current program as it is more economical.

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. King seconded this:

See Page 11/189/13-4A RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the County continue with it's currently prescription program through Express Scripts and not participate in the State Health Benefits prescription program.

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

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."

Director Walton answered questions from the public concerning the Consent Agenda.

Check #143615 and 17054 are held at this time.

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. King seconded a motion to approve the claims in accordance with the Claims Register dated November 19, 2013, minus Check #143615 and 17054.

See Page 11/19/13-4B CLAIMS REGISTER

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

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. King seconded a motion to approve the regular session minutes of November 06, 2013.

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

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. King seconded these:

See Page 11/19/13-4B RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Autumn Dilly appointed part time Librarian, Library.

See Page 11/19/13-4C RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Kathleen Terhune appointed full time Detective Trainee, Prosecutor's Office.

See Page 11/19/13-4D RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Bradley Winfield appointed full time Detective Trainee, Prosecutor's Office.

See Page 11/19/13-5A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Rebecca Lunger appointed provisional, full time Registered Environmental Health Specialist, Health Services Division of Public Safety and Health Services.

See Page 11/19/13-5B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Paul Approvato appointed unclassified, full time Prosecutor's Agent, Prosecutor's Office.

See Page 11/19/13-5C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Jesse Cvecich appointed provisional, full time Correction Officer, Division of Corrections, Public Safety and Health Services Office.

See Page 11/19/13-5D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving Change Order #1, for County Bid #2011-12, Chiller Replacement for the Justice Center, with Mechanical Preservation Association, (MPA), an increase of \$41,937.50.

See Page 11/19/13-5E

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving an application for payment #3, for County Bid #2011-12, for the Chiller Replacement for the Justice Center, with Mechanical Preservation Association, (MPA), in the amount of \$22,275.

See Page 11/19/13-5F

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the solicitation of bids for County Bid #2013-23, for 2014 Cutaway Chassis Multi-Seating Configuration Buses.

See Page 11/19/13-5G

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving an agreement with Sussex and Warren Counties for a Continuum of Care plan, with Monarch Housing Associates, for consulting services, (\$3,333.33 per county).

See Page 11/19/13-5H

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Lease Agreement with NJ Transit for use in the Consolidated Transportation System, (LINK), using Section 5310 Federal Transit Act, for a 2013 Freightliner Custom Classic Supreme President, with seating for 10 Amb + 2 WC or 5 WC.

See Page 11/19/13-5I

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Lease Agreement with New Jersey Transit for use in the Consolidated Transportation System, (LINK), using Section 5310 Federal Transit Act, for a 2013 Freightliner Custom Classic Supreme President, with seating for 22 + 2 + 2WC.

See Page 11/19/13-5J

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving an agreement with Somerset County, for Juvenile Home Detention Services, at a rate of \$88 per client, for 2014.

See Page 11/19/13-5K

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving Change Order #1, for County Bid #2012-27, for Roadway Resurfacing and Drainage Improvements, to County Route 602 (Manners Road) and County Route 523 (Lamington Road), in East Amwell and Tewksbury Townships, with Top Line Construction Corp, decrease of \$231,736.66.

See Page 11/19/13-5L

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving modification #1, for the Local Aid and Economic Development Agreement, with the New Jersey Department of Transportation, for RQ-179 on Stanton Station Road, in Raritan and Readington Township, increase of \$412,421.

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

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Mennen seconded a motion to pay Check #143615 and 17054 in accordance with the Claims Register dated November 19, 2013.

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

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITION

Mr. King moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 11/19/13-5M

PROCLAMATION

RESOLVED, Recognizing Janet Hunt for having served on the Cultural & Heritage Commission.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Director Walton asked the Board to revisit the request from the Stockton School for storage space at the County's Warehouse/Records Retention Center. He noted the facility was built through shared services money and PARIS grant funds to house municipal documents. There were three municipalities which did not participate, including Stockton Borough. Stockton School is asking to use the space, at a cost, and they would remove it once it is filled by the other municipalities.

Director Walton moved and Mr. King seconded a motion to allow the Stockton School to utilize space at the Warehouse/Records Retention Center until it is needed by other municipalities at no cost to the Stockton School.

Mr. Holt acknowledged that PARIS funds came into the County and each municipality had an opportunity to take their PARIS grant share (\$50,000 plus), to put it into the construction of this facility for a guarantee of storage space and data collection. Twenty-Three out of Twenty-Six municipalities participated to insure that this space existed. Mr. Holt confirmed the opportunity was there for Stockton to participate for this specific purpose and that space has been committed to the Twenty-Three municipalities.

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

FREEHOLDERS COMMENTS/REPORTS

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders did not present any reports or comments.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Director Walton opened the meeting to the public.

Frances Gavigan, East Amwell Township resident questioned the rules the County has for road openings.

Mr. Mathews quickly went through the protocols and rules for Road Opening Permits.

George Wyngren Jr. informed the Board that he wrote the Board concerning an incident during the County's 4-H Fair, by individuals in charge of 4-H.

Director Walton advised Mr. Wyngren that he will be receiving a response shortly from the County Administrator on this matter, who has looked into his concern.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Director Walton adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise B. Doolan
Clerk of the Board