

HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

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

Flemington, New Jersey 08822

March 18, 2014

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

PRESENT: MR. HOLT, MR. KING, MS. LAGAY, MR. LANZA, MR. WALTON.

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 March 14, 2014, to the Star Ledger, Trenton Times, Courier News, Express Times and the Hunterdon County News (online), newspapers designated to receive such notices and by filing a copy with the Hunterdon County Clerk."

CONTINUATION OF BUDGET SESSION

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders continued its discussion regarding promotions, backfilling positions, and new positions with George Wagner, Director of Public Safety and Health Services; Taghgh Rainey, Director of the Division of Health Services; John Paulmeno, Correctional Division Administrator; Bob Thurgarland, Director of Central Printing, Mail and Information Services Department; and Tom Mathews, Director of Public Works/Engineering Division.

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders will review the information provided and discuss same at a future meeting.

FINANCE, Janet Previte

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. King seconded this:

See Page 03/18/14-1A RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the Emergency Temporary Appropriations for the 2014 County Budget.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. WALTON, MR. KING, MS. LAGAY, MR. LANZA, MR. HOLT.

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Lanza seconded this:

See Page 03/18/14-1B RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving transfers between certain 2013 Appropriation Accounts.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA, MR. KING, MS. LAGAY, MR. HOLT.

EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTS

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Lanza seconded these:

See Page 03/18/14-1C RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss salary considerations for employees who have been Rice Noticed in the Human Services Department and the Human Resources Department.

See Page 03/18/14-1D RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to receive an update on the Administrator's position vacancy.

See Page 03/18/14-1E RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss the Cultural and Heritage Bylaws.

See Page 03/18/14-1F RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss the State Council on the Arts, Local Art (LAP) Program.

See Page 03/18/14-1G RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss health benefits issues and potential litigation.

See Page 03/18/14-1F RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss the WIB One-Stop and the contractual issues surrounding those operations.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA, MR. KING, MS. LAGAY, MR. HOLT.

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders went into Executive Session at 4:27 p.m., recessed at 5:22 p.m. and reconvened in Open Session at 5:30 p.m.

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENT

Director Holt opened the meeting to the public.

Greg Crance, owner of Delaware River Tubing, located in Kingwood Township, came before the Board requesting support for his business, some guidance and endorsement of his family, eco-tourism business. Mr. Crance has operated the tubing business out of Kingwood Township for the past ten years and they have contributed to the community. Tubing is an operation that does not require many structures; it is mainly parking and busing people to and from the Delaware River. In 2012, Delaware River Tubing brought over 56,000 tubers to the area.

Mr. Crance advised because of the size of his operation, last year, he had to go through a bid concession agreement for the access points in New Jersey and he appreciated the support he received from the Freeholder Board. The bid was originally \$140,000 and it went down to \$100,000 a season to allow people to get in and out of the river; with no parking facility. Mr. Crance had the Army Core of Engineers look at his operation, and he then had to get permits for the stairs, to get in and out of the river.

Mr. Crance stated Delaware River Tubing has been endorsed by the National Park Service. He further stated that they were able to purchase a ¼ acres of property from Kingwood Township and Mr. Crance went through the variance process and one person put up an opposition but eventually the variance was approved.

Mr. Crance explained to the Board that his 10 year lease with his landlord is up and she has decided not to renew the lease.

Mr. Crance confirmed for Director Holt that Delaware River Tubing owns the small piece of property that the tubes and rafts will be stored on and also, that the access to the river is agreed to through the State Concession Agreement.

Director Holt asked Mr. Crance what he is asking the County to do.

Mr. Crance is asking for help with Kingwood Township, in order to get a temporary arrangement, in order to allow for parking for this season (2-3 months).

Elaine Neuman came before the Board, explaining she is no longer an elected official of Kingwood Township but during her service she did work with this business in an attempt to smooth things out with the state and federal regulatory agencies. At this time, there is a parcel on Route 29 that is under preservation by the State Department of Environmental Protection (the Cooley Property), and the Freeholder Board might write a letter of support for the business to be allowed access for just this season to that property.

Mr. Walton agreed the County could write a letter of support to the DEP asking for his private business to utilize the property for one year and they can work out the details.

Ms. Neuman confirmed the Cooley property is not under Kingwood Township management and she feels the state has closed on that property.

Director Holt asked Mr. Crance to get the block and lot of the property being discussed so that the Board can write a letter of support to the DEP on behalf of Delaware River Tubing.

Shana Taylor, County Counsel was directed by Director Holt to draft a letter of support for his signature.

Andrea Bonnett, East Amwell Township resident, came before the Board asking about what is discussed in Executive Session.

Director Holt informed Ms. Bonnett that at the beginning of each meeting County Counsel Taylor lists items to be discussed in Executive Session and those items are typed into the minutes for public knowledge. He advised Ms. Bonnett that she can contact Denise B. Doolan, Clerk of the Board, with any questions regarding minutes and items for Executive Session.

Hank Klumpp, Tewksbury Township farmer, came before the Board regarding the 150 acres of land he owns in the state designated Highlands area. This matter has been going on for 10 years. There are a group of farmers are attempting to put Senate Bill 355 through to suspend the Highlands Water Protection Act, until the equity issue is addressed. Mr. Klump has been standing before the Highlands Council for the past 10 years asking to see the scientific study that put his 150 acres of farmland into the Highlands Preservation area and he still has not seen that study. He has also questioned how the Highlands Act was passed when there was no money in place to compensate the landowners for their property value losses. The farmers are being asked to accept pennies on the dollar for their land. The Highlands Council continues to add more restrictions on the land. The farmers are a family that must stick together and they have to speak for themselves because no one is speaking for them. People need to respond to Senate Bill 355.

Mr. Klumpp is asking for assistance in getting this senate bill moved forward for adoption. He noted that Mr. Walton is currently on the Highlands Council and he understands the farmers' plight.

Mr. Walton advised there are currently several bills in the senate and assembly for proposal which this Board should probably pine and some which the Board should try to direct. Senator Smith stated there would be funding in place and he did not want to push this senate bill along unless funding was in place.

After further discussion, Mr. Walton stated he will put together a resolution for this Freeholder Board to support.

Lois Stewart, Flemington Borough resident, addressed the Board regarding the County's plans for Arbor Day.

Tom Mathews, Director of Public Works, informed those present that the Shade Tree Commission will be planting 300 seedlings at the South County Park to celebrate Arbor Day, as part of the County's 300th Anniversary celebration. In addition, the Shade Tree Commission is again asking each school in the County if they are interested in participating to receive tree seedlings.

Director Holt answered various questions with regard to the Consent Agenda for Ms. Stewart.

POLYTECH Update

Dr. Kim Metz, Superintendent of Polytech came before the Board and introduced Polytech's Computer Instructor, Joe; and an adult student Kevin. Currently Polytech offers over 100 adult education courses.

PURCHASING

Mr. King moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

See Page 03/18/14-3A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2014-01, for the Realignment of the Pennsylvania Avenue Extension, to Bob Viersma & Sons, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$514,715.70.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. KING, MS. LAGAY, MR. LANZA, MR. WALTON, MR. HOLT.

Mr. King moved and Mr. Walton seconded this:

See Page 03/18/14-3B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the rejection of all proposals received for County Bid #2013-24, for a truck chassis and hook lift system, for the Department of Public Works, as they exceeded the County's budgeted amount.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. KING, MR. WALTON, MS. LAGAY, MR. LANZA, MR. HOLT.

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Lanza seconded this:

See Page 03/18/14-3C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the extension of County Bid #2011-02, for the Operation of a Consolidated Transportation System, for the Human Services Department, with First Transit, Inc., through June 30, 2015, in an amount not to exceed \$1,394,061.59.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA, MS. LAGAY, MR. KING, MR. HOLT.

Mr. King moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

See Page 03/18/14-3D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a professional services agreement under the Farmland Preservation Program, with Bohren & Bohren Associates, for (AT Movers property), Block 15, Lot 27 and (Papzian property), Block 15, Lot 27.01, in Alexandria Township, in an amount not to exceed \$8,950, for surveying services.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. KING, MS. LAGAY, MR. LANZA, MR. WALTON, MR. HOLT.

FARMLAND PRESERVATION/OPEN SPACE

Mr. Walton moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

See Page 03/18/14-3E

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a development easement from Elanor Hahola, the Estate of Frank Hahola Sr., Executrix Frank Hahola Jr. and Margaret Hahola, on Block 11, Lot 12, (Hahola North), in Alexandria Township, estimated 49 acres, (SADC-\$244,020; County-\$81,340; Township-\$81,340), total amount of \$406,700.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. WALTON, MS. LAGAY, MR. KING, MR. LANZA, MR. HOLT.

Mr. King moved and Mr. Lanza seconded this:

See Page 03/18/14-4A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a development easement from Elanor Hahola, the Estate of Frank Hahola Sr., Executrix Frank Hahola Jr. and Margaret Hahola, on Block 16, Lot 13, (Hahola South), in Alexandria Township, estimated 15 acres, (SADC-\$83,700; County-\$27,900; Township-\$27,900), total amount of \$139,500.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. KING, MR. LANZA, MS. LAGAY, MR. WALTON, MR. HOLT.

ROADS AND BRIDGES UPDATE

Thomas Mathews, Director of Public Works came before the Board to provide an update of various County road and bridge projects.

- County Route 513 from High Bridge Borough to the Morris County Line, the project will start back up the last week of March 2014.
- County Route 513 from Frenchtown Borough to Alexandria Township will be the 2014 New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJ DOT) fund project. The preliminary design is 20% complete.
- County Route 519, in Milford Borough and County Route 614, are federally funded High Risk Rural Road (HRRR) projects. A preconstruction meeting will be held on March 26, 2014.
- County Bridge C-26, on Cratetown Road in Clinton Township, the right of way and temporary easement plan have been received from the consultants and they are being reviewed; there were minor comments so they were sent back to the consultants. The preliminary plans have been sent to NJ DOT for review.
- Bids have been received for County Bridge Q-168.
- County Culvert X-6, on Mine Road, in High Bridge Borough, the design is 90% complete.
- County Bridge F-45, on White Bridge Road, in Franklin Township, which is a federally funded project, the truss was delivered and put in place; the deck is being installed. The bridge should be opened in early Spring.
- County Route 579, the railroad bridge, the 4-F report revision are being reviewed and the scope of services has been submitted to NJ DOT for approval.
- County Bridge E-174, the right of entry has been received from all the property owners and there are still two properties to close on for the right of way.
- County Route 513, Exit 15, on Interstate 78, a meeting is scheduled with the local aid for major access for DOT; traffic signal for DOT; and that will happen on March 25, 2014.
- County Routes 600/612, also known as the Hunterdon Medical Center intersection; the final site plans and specifications are on tonight's agenda for approval.

Mr. Mathews informed the Board that approval is needed for the annual Accomplishment Report Form for the Hunterdon County Shade Tree Commission.

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Lanza seconded a motion authorizing approval of the annual Accomplishment Report Form for the Hunterdon County Shade Tree Commission.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA, MS. LAGAY, MR. KING, MR. HOLT.

CONSENT AGENDA

Director Holt 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."

Item #2 was held at this time.

Mr. King moved and Mr. Lanza seconded a motion to approve claims in accordance with the Claims Register dated March 18, 2014.

See Page 03/18/14-4B

CLAIMS REGISTER

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA, MS. LAGAY, MR. KING, MR. HOLT.

Mr. King moved and Mr. Lanza seconded these:

See Page 03/18/14-4C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Jessica Wallace appointed unclassified, full time Special Deputy Surrogate, Surrogate's Court.

See Page 03/18/14-4D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Revised longevity payments for employees covered under the CWA Supervisory contract for 2014.

See Page 03/18/14-4E

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Revised longevity payments for employees covered under the CWA Non-Supervisory contract for 2014.

See Page 03/18/14-5A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a modification to the professional auditing services agreement with Wiss & Company, LLP, for additional services in connection with the 2012 audit, increase of \$35,325.

See Page 03/18/14-5B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a modification to the professional auditing services agreement with Wiss & Company, LLP, for additional services in connection with the 2013 audit, increase of \$25,000.

See Page 03/18/14-5C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the Purchasing Agent to advertise for bids for two (2) roadside tractor mowers.

See Page 03/18/14-5D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving Change Order #1, for County Bid #2012-17, for the Reconstruction of Inter-County Bridge E-140-M, on County Route 518, over the Stony Brook, in East Amwell and Hopewell Townships, with Interstate Contracting & Excavating, decrease of \$79,753.36.

See Page 03/18/14-5E

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving Change Order #3, for County Bid #2012-25, for the Rehabilitation of County Bridge D-300, on Rosemont-Raven Rock Road, in Delaware Township, with Rencor, Inc., increase of \$34,690.

See Page 03/18/14-5F

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving Change Order #2, for County Bid #2012-29, for the Rehabilitation of County Bridge RQ-179, on Stanton Station Road, over the South Branch of the Raritan River, in Raritan and Readington Townships, with Interstate Contracting & Excavating, LLC, time extension due to the cold weather.

See Page 03/18/14-5G

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the supplemental specifications for County Route 600 (Wescott Drive) and County Route 612 (Sand Hill Road), in Raritan Township and authorizing the County Purchasing Agent to advertise for bids.

See Page 03/18/14-5H

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a modification to an agreement with the New Jersey Department of Transportation, Local Aid and Economic Development, Federal ID # STP-C00S (492), for Little York Road, in Alexandria and Union Townships, Agreement #2013-DT-BLA-0308, decrease of \$26,000.20.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. WALTON, MR. LANZA, MS. LAGAY, MR. KING, MR. HOLT.

Mr. King moved and Mr. Walton seconded a motion to approve the special session minutes of December 30, 2014.

**ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. KING, MR. WALTON, MR. HOLT.
(ABSTAIN) MR. LANZA, MS. LAGAY.**

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITION

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. King seconded these:

See Page 03/18/14-5I

PROCLAMATION

RESOLVED, Recognizing Andrew Shenenan, Troop 194, for attaining the designation of Eagle Scout.

See Page 03/18/14-5J

PROCLAMATION

RESOLVED, Recognizing Daniel Bramley, Troop 194, for attaining the designation of Eagle Scout.

See Page 03/18/14-5K

PROCLAMATION

RESOLVED, Recognizing Andrew Natale, Troop 199, for attaining the designation of Eagle Scout.

See Page 03/18/14-5L

PROCLAMATION

RESOLVED, Recognizing Nicholas C. Fericola, Troop 199, for attaining the designation of Eagle Scout.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. WALTON, MR. KING, MS. LAGAY, MR. LANZA, MR. HOLT.

GRANTS

Mr. King moved and Mr. Lanza seconded these:

See Page 03/18/14-6A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the 2014 Strategic Plan for the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse for grant funding, in the amount of \$181,380, for municipal alliance programs and administration.

See Page 03/18/14-6B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a grant application for a State Health Insurance Program, in the amount of \$19,500.

See Page 03/18/14-6C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a grant agreement with the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, for transportation for veterans to medical appointments, through the LINK, in the amount of \$15,000.

See Page 03/18/14-6D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Job Access and Reverse Community program, to improve access to transportation services, in the amount of \$124,000 and a County match of \$124,000 for both 2014 and 2015.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. KING, MR. LANZA, MS. LAGAY, MR. WALTON, MR. HOLT.

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was received from the Morris Area Freewheelers Foundation, requesting permission to use County Route 523, at various locations, in Readington Township, during their Revolutionary Ride on Saturday, June 14, 2014. Mr. Lanza moved and Mr. Walton seconded a motion granting permission provided this event is coordinated through the County’s Department of Public Works.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. LANZA, MR. WALTON, MS. LAGAY, MR. KING, MR. HOLT.

Correspondence was received from Gran Fondo NJ, requesting permission to again use the North Branch Library parking area and lawn, on Sunday, September 07, 2014, as a “Rest and Refreshment” area during their 4th Annual Gran Fondo NJ, which is a fundraiser for numerous New Jersey non-profit organizations (primarily The Seeing Eye). Ms. Lagay moved and Mr. Lanza seconded a motion granting permission provided this event is coordinated through the County’s Department of Public Works.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MS. LAGAY, MR. LANZA, MR. WALTON, MR. KING, MR. HOLT.

FREEHOLDERS COMMENTS/REPORTS

Mr. King informed the Board that he is on the New Jersey Association of Counties’ Board and he is also on their Finance Committee and Legislative Action Committee.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders answered various questions regarding the parade for the County’s 300th Anniversary.

EXECUTIVE SESSION continued

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. King seconded this:

See Page 03/18/14-6E

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss the possibility of a One Stop in the County.

ROLL CALL: (AYES) MR. WALTON, MR. KING, MS. LAGAY, MR. LANZA, MR. HOLT.

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders went into Executive Session at 6:25 p.m. and reconvened in Open Session at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Denise B. Doolan
Clerk of the Board

