

HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

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

Flemington, New Jersey 08822

April 21, 2015

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. KING, MS. LAGAY, MR. LANZA, MR. WALTON.

ABSENT: MR. HOLT.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

Director King 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 06, 2015, 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."

Director King wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Lanza moved and Ms. Lagay seconded these:

See Page 04/21/15-1A RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss an appointment to the Human Services Advisory Council.

See Page 04/21/15-1B RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to receive a litigation update regarding Falat and Brown/Pasqua cases.

See Page 04/21/15-1C RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to discuss an update regarding negotiations with CWA specific to longevity.

See Page 04/21/15-1D RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to receive an update regarding insurance brokers for the County.

See Page 04/21/15-1E RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Executive Session to receive an update regarding contract negotiations with the Greater Raritan Workforce Investment Board.

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

The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders went into Executive Session at 4:01 p.m., recessed at 4:40 p.m. and reconvened in Open Session at 5:30 p.m.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PUBLIC COMMENT

Director King opened the meeting to the public.

Stan Prader, JCP&L representative, came before the Board, stating he covers 9 of Hunterdon's municipalities, located in the northern section of the County and providing an update on JCP&L's summer readiness program.

John Anderson, JCP&L representative, advised the Board that the substation located on Rocktown Road, is now energized and they are working out the technical difficulties.

Gary Hazard, newly appointed members to the Raritan Valley Community College Board of Trustees thanked the Board for his appointment.

Barbara Suchau, Raritan Township resident requested a payment to NJAC (New Jersey Association of Counties) listed on the Claims Register for today's meeting.

Director King will inquire about this payment and let Ms. Suchau know.

PROCLAMATION/RECOGNITION

Mr. Walton moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

See Page 04/21/15-2A

PROCLAMATION

RESOLVED, Recognition of Matthew Sidler, Boy Scout Troop 186, for attaining the designation of Eagle Scout.

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

Freeholder Director King presented Eagle Scout Sidler with a proclamation from the Board recognizing his outstanding accomplishment.

FINANCE

Mr. Lanza moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

See Page 04/21/15-2B

PROCLAMATION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the Budget be read by Title Only.

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

Janet Previte, Acting Finance Officer, stated tonight being presented is the 2015 County Budget for both introduction and approval. She thanked the Board of Chosen Freeholders and the County's budget committee for assisting in making this a team effort.

Ms. Previte reported the Hunterdon County Budget, as presented, is flat from 2014 and is fully CAP compliant. Revenues and appropriations for 2015 total \$88,741,482.40. The 2015 Tax Rate is to remain flat with a total amount to be raised by taxation of \$64,546. The amount of fund balance utilized in the 2015 budget is the same as 2014, as well.

Mr. Holt noted that the budget contains a fully funded capital program; it continues to preserve open space and parkland; and it is still \$10 million below what it was a few years ago; and spending levels are at where they were a dozen years ago.

Mr. Holt thanked Freeholders' Walton and Lanza for being on the Budget Committee and doing the lion's share of the work.

Director King stated it is with great appreciation that he also thanks Freeholder Walton and Freeholder Lanza and the Finance Committee, as well as various administrative officials who help put this budget together. The great outcome is that the Board is introducing something that is really a non-event. The Department Heads and Division Heads took an interest in their individual budgets and fully understood what the Freeholders' requirements were.

Director King stated the budget is a flat rate and it is essentially a flat budget but it develops and continues the success the County had in 2014 under the leadership of Freeholder Matt Holt as the Director, gaining health in the County's fund balance.

Director King reported there has been a minus uptick in retables' for the first time in several years in Hunterdon County. This represents an opportunity for the County to continue onto fiscal health and clarity.

Mr. Holt noted that for the first time in twenty years, Hunterdon County is debt free.

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Lanza seconded a motion to **introduce the County Budget for 2015** with a public hearing to be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 at 5:30 p.m., in the Freeholders' Meeting Room, 71 Main Street, Flemington, New Jersey 08822.

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

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 04/21/15-2C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Corrective Action Plan for the 2013 Single Audit.

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

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Lanza seconded this:

See Page 04/21/15-2D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the Certification of the Welfare Budget.

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

FOR DISCUSSION

County Route 519 in Holland Township.

Tom Mathews, Director of Public Works provided the Board with the history of County Route 519, in Holland Township, known as Warren Glen Hill, with a couple runaway trucks and one was a

Fatality. Between 1989 and 1995, Holland Township aggressively requested the County to build a truck runaway ramp on County Route 519. In 1996, the Freeholders at the time authorized the application of federal funds for the scoping of the project. Federal processes can be lengthy for scoping, analysis and such. While this was going on, the economy changed and the plants and warehouses started to shut down in the area, causing the truck traffic to be reduced on County Route 519. In 2002, a public information meeting was held at the Holland Township Municipal Building with a discussion of the runaway ramp and because traffic had been reduced, it was recommended that a climbing lane replace the runaway truck ramp. The climbing lane was chosen as the desired improvement for that project. In 2009, after a climbing lane had been designed and the project was moving forward, another public information meeting was held in Holland Township at the municipal building because during that time the Green Acres Standards had changed which now said if the County took any Green Acres funding for anything, all parkland was Green Acres. Now, the land that was to be used for this project was now considered Green Acres, and the County had to go through the Green Acres diversion process. After further public outcry and the further decrease in truck traffic over a period of years, it was determined by standards that a climbing lane was no longer needed. The federal government approved a scoping change again for the project for two 12' lanes and 8' shoulders; 8' shoulders are the bare minimum in ASHTO standards for the improvement; and also because the original scoping and scope of the project said a geometry improvement was necessary; so both horizontally and vertically the road will be smoothed out to make it safer.

Mr. Mathews confirmed for the Board that this project is to be two 12' lanes with 8' shoulders. Also, at the 2009 meeting, there was mixed reactions regarding the shoulders and the Holland Township Police Chief at the time stood up and stated 8' shoulders were needed on County Route 519 because there are always accidents on the road and for police safety. Also, according to Green Acres, when widening is done in the fill sections to get back to grade, you need to remove trees and Green Acres requires the replacement of the trees and if this is done, Holland Township will be overloaded with trees. The project was changed to build retaining walls in order to reduce the impact to Green Acres; when constructing retaining walls, they need a tieback on it, and the weight on the tieback keeps the wall from falling over. Mr. Mathews explained because of the tieback the road has to be closed during construction.

Mr. Mathews reported the County obtain the permits for the County Route 519 project in 2014 and in 2015, the County received final authorization from Green Acres who agreed with the retaining walls, and approved moving forward with the diversion process and part of that process is to hold another public information meeting and that was held on March 31, 2015. At that time, it came to light that County Route 519 would be closed for two construction seasons. Holland Township does agree with the project but not for closing 519.

Mr. Walton confirmed two construction seasons, is not two full years continuously; but it is just during construction and the road would be open when there is no construction.

Mr. Mathews informed the Board that Holland Township is upset about the detour, which will use County Route 627 to Church Road because Church Road is a Holland Township Road; however, it is federally classified as a minor collector; it's one of the few township roads which is a collector. His department is committee to having a working relationship with Holland Township and is looking how to minimize the impact of the construction. Since May 31, 2015, the County has contacted its consultant and asked them to revise the specifications of the project to be more aggressive in the construction schedule; the County could also put incentives in the bid to get the project done quicker and with incentives comes penalties if the project doesn't get done on time. The consultant believes the road will have to be closed but that the retaining walls can be completed within 4 months. The full closure of Route 519 has been reduced from 2 construction seasons to 4 months. After the 4 month period, the road will still need to be closed in 1 direction.

Mr. Mathews suggested that his department start meeting with Holland Township's professionals on this project. He stressed this is a federally reimbursed project which began in 1989.

Mr. Lanza reported that he has been to the site with Mr. Mathews and traveled the detour. Part of this history, is since this is a federally reimbursable project and some engineering has already been undertaken; the County has been reimbursed for roughly \$300,000 of engineering costs. If the County were to walk away from the project it would have to reimburse the federal government the money already received for engineering costs; and because this project has been in the pipeline for so long, the County has not done resurfacing or repaving of that stretch of road, which would cost the County \$1.5 million. If the County were to cancel the federal project it would cost each taxpayer roughly 1.8 cents for every man, woman and child in the County. If the project is scraped and the County has to reimburse the \$300,000 and pave that stretch of road, it will cost \$1.8 million which will be borne solely by the 126,000 residents of the County; which is around \$14.28 per head. Scraping this project is a terrible decision which would saddle the County with the burdensome task of having to fund the repaving of this section of road.

Director King reported he has talk with Holland Township's Mayor Krov after they had issued a summary resolution in opposition to the closing of the road. For the record, Mayor Krov told him that Holland Township is not opposed to the project; they are not opposed to the idea that something needs to be done to the road; they would like to see it toned down so the road is not closed for such a long stretch of time. Director King feels once Mr. Mathews and the County's professionals meet with Holland Township, this issue can be resolved.

Director King reported that Holland Township was invited to tonight's meeting but unfortunately, their normally scheduled 7:00 p.m. meeting was rescheduled for 6:00 p.m. and it could not be changed. Holland Township did send someone to represent the Township's interest and that would be Freeholder Suzanne Lagay.

Ms. Lagay has been involved in the Route 519 project and has met with Mr. Mathews. Ms. Lagay feels Holland Township supports this project and would like to work it out with the County.

Director King stated he would have preferred the County would have receive a phone call saying there were problems with this project before emails were sent out and formal action was taken. He appreciates the bind Mr. Mathews is in, with this project being started in 1989.

Director King thanked Mr. Mathews for his hard work in trying to accommodate the needs for the residents of Holland Township.

Mr. Lanza advised since he's been the Liaison to the Department of Public Works, he has recognized that anytime an individual or municipality has had a difficulty with a County project, Mr. Mathews has always been readily available; he is responsive and he is always looking for a way to work out problems without compromising the County's interests. Mr. Mathews is always looking for solutions to these problems. Mr. Lanza thanked Mr. Mathews for the work he has done; it needs to be recognized that here in Hunterdon County, we are here to help and when there is an issue, the County is responsive and looks for ways to work issues out.

ROADS and BRIDGES Update

Tom Mathews, Director of Public Works updated the Board on various County road and bridge projects.

- County Route 513, is a 2014 Transportation Trust Fund project, from Frenchtown to Everittstown; construction will start on Monday, April 27, 2015.
- 2015 Resurfacing and Surface Treatment of various roads throughout Hunterdon County, is an aggressive project this year; consisting of 17 miles of road and it also consists of resurfacing the North Branch County Library parking area. Municipalities are invited to join in the County's bid and six municipalities have decided to join in this shared service.
- County Bridge E-174, in East Amwell Township, on County Route 602, the roadway realignment and the bridge superstructure (deck), is currently under construction. This project is currently two weeks ahead of schedule.
- County Bridges K-110/K-111 has collapsed; it's a triple arch in Kingwood Township. The NJDEP application permit was sent down on March 25, 2015 and the state holds that application for 30 days. Comments have been received from DEP which has caused the consultant to do some slight design changes with the roadway geometry.
- County Culvert L-69, on Newport Road is the reconstruction of a stone arch and headwall. The stone work being done is amazing.

Mr. Mathews reported to the Board that due to the freeze/thaw this year and it being the second consecutive bad winter the County has had, so far 15 different culverts have failed in some manner, causing the need for an unexpected repair. The repairs will be done in-house.

FARMLAND PRESERVATION/OPEN SPACE

Mr. Walton moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

See Page 04/21/15-4A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing final approval for the development easement acquisition on the Lambert Farm LLC, from Janice Jarrett and Susan Little Member/Managers, on Block 3, Lot 16, in West Amwell Township, estimated 59 acres, (SADC - \$400,020; County - \$133,340; Township- \$133,340), total amount of \$666,700.

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

Shana Taylor, County Counsel reported a request was received from the County's Agriculture Development Board to accept preservation applications twice a year, (February and August). Ms. Lagay moved and Mr. Holt seconded a motion granting permission to accept preservation applications in February and August.

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

PURCHASING

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Lanza seconded this:

See Page 04/21/15-4B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2015-04, for Parkland Maintenance, for the Musconetcong Gorge Preserve, Block 1, Lot 9.01, Holland Township and the Tower Hill Reserve, Blocks 33/37 and Lots 36/15, Bethlehem Township, to William T. Jelliff III, in an amount to be received of \$1,813.30 annually.

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

Ms. Lagay moved and Mr. Lanza seconded this:

See Page 04/21/15-4C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2015-04, for Parkland Maintenance, for Deer Path Park, Blocks 71/63 and Lots 31/14, in Readington Twp., to Milford Farms, LLC, in an amount to be received of \$1,120 annually.

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

Mr. Holt moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

See Page 04/21/15-5A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2015-04, for Parkland Maintenance, for the Crystal Spring Section of Teetertown Preserve, Block 51, Lot 9, Lebanon Township; Point Mountain Preservation, Blocks 54/77, Lots 27/9, Lebanon Township; and Landsdown Meadows, Block 5, Lot 5, Franklin Township, to Wesley Pandey, in an amount to be received of \$5,806 annually.

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

Ms. Lagay moved and Mr. Walton seconded this:

See Page 04/21/15-5B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2015-04, for Parkland Maintenance, for the Van Leight Management Area, Block 37, Lot 28, Bethlehem Twp., to Thomas Grochowicz, LLC, in an amount to be received of \$300 annually.

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

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Lanza seconded this:

See Page 04/21/15-5C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2015-04, for Parkland Maintenance, for the Hilltop Preserve, to Robert Michisk, in an amount to be received of \$5,802.50.

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

Mr. Lanza moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

See Page 04/21/15-5D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2015-06, for Maintenance and Repair Materials, to Eastern Concrete Materials, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$6,880.

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

Mr. Holt moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

See Page 04/21/15-5E

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2015-06, for Maintenance and Repair Materials, to Trap Rock Industries, in an amount not to exceed \$153,735.

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

Mr. Lanza moved and Mr. Holt seconded these:

See Page 04/21/15-5F

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2015-06, for Maintenance and Repair Materials, to R & H Truck Parks and Service, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$16,360.

See Page 04/21/15-5G

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the award of County Bid #2015-06, for Maintenance and Repair Materials, to Stavola Construction Materials, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$217,572.50.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Director King 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."

Hold Check #'s 149303, 17584, 149251, 149309 and 149251; as well as Item #11.

Mr. Lanza moved and Ms. Lagay seconded a motion to approve the claims in accordance with the Claims Register dated April 21, 2015, minus check numbers 149303, 17584, 149251, 149309 and 149251.

See Page 04/21/15-5H

CLAIMS REGISTER

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

Mr. Lanza moved and Ms. Lagay seconded these:

See Page 04/21/15-6A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving temporary, seasonal Recreation Leaders, Division of Parks and Recreation, Department of Land Use and Planning.

See Page 04/21/15-6B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the appointment of Marybeth Hurford to the Hunterdon County Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee.

See Page 04/21/15-6C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the specifications for the 2015 Resurfacing and Surface Treatment of County Routes 514, 519A, 519B, 519C, 523, 579, 602, 611, 612, 615, 616, 617, 629 and the County's North Branch Library, in various municipalities.

See Page 04/21/15-6D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the specifications for the Painting of County Bridges F-82, on Lower Landsdown Road and County Bridge F-54, on Lower Kingtown Road, in Franklin Township and County Bridge WD-120, on Hamp Road, in Delaware and West Amwell Townships.

See Page 04/21/15-6E

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing final payment for County Bid #2012-25, for the Rehabilitation of County Bridge D-300, on Rosemont-Raven Rock Road, over the Lockatong Creek, in Delaware Township, with Rencor, Inc., in the amount of \$45,137.42.

See Page 04/21/15-6F

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving Change Order #1, for County Bid #2012-31, for County Routes 600 (Wescott Drive) and County Route 612 (Sandhill Road), in Raritan Township, with Hale Built, increase of \$4,150.22.

See Page 04/21/15-6G

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a professional services agreement Wiss & Company, LLP, for auditing services for the period ending December 31, 2014 and for preparation of the 2015 County Budget, in the amount of \$73,700.

See Page 04/21/15-6H

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the annual Accomplishment Report for the Shade Tree Commission and directing its submission to the New Jersey Shade Tree and Community Forest Program.

See Page 04/21/15-6I

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the appointment of Willis as the County's Insurance Broker for Professional Liability Insurance and Accidental Insurance.

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

Mr. Holt moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

See Page 04/21/15-6J

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a settlement release with Jersey Central Power and Light.

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

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Holt seconded a motion to approve Check #17584, in accordance with the Claims Register dated April 21, 2015.

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

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Lanza seconded a motion to approve Check #'s 149303 and 17584, in accordance with the Claims Register dated April 21, 2015.

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

Mr. Lanza moved and Ms. Lagay seconded a motion to approve Check #'s 149309 and 149251 to JCP&L, in accordance with the Claims Register dated April 21, 2015.

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

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITION

Ms. Lagay moved and Mr. Lanza seconded this:

See Page 04/21/15-7A

PROCLAMATION

RESOLVED, Recognizing April 24, 2015 as the 143rd Anniversary Celebration of Arbor Day, in Hunterdon County.

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

GRANTS

Mr. Walton moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 04/21/15-7B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a grant with the New Jersey Department of Agriculture for the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program, in the amount of \$500.

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

Mr. Holt moved and Mr. Lanza seconded this:

See Page 04/21/15-7C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a grant with New Jersey Transit for a Section 5310 grant, for the purchase of 5 extended minibus vehicles, to support the County's LINK System. (Federal Transit Administration contributes 80% and New Jersey Transit contributes 20%).

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

Mr. Walton moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

See Page 04/21/15-7D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving an amendment to the Medical Reserve Corps grant, renumbering the grant and transferring the grant to the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, in the amount of \$3,500.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was received from the Hunterdon Harmonizers, requesting permission to use the historic Court House steps during their 31st Annual Craft Fair, on September 19 and 20, 2015, from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., each day. Also, requesting permission to access restroom facilities in the rear of the historic Court House. Mr. Walton moved and Ms. Lagay seconded a motion granting permission provided this event is coordinated through the County's Division of Buildings and Maintenance and the Cultural and Heritage Commission.

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

Correspondence was received from the Memorial Day Parade Committee of Readington Township, requesting permission to use County Route 523, during their annual Memorial Day Parade, on Monday, May 25, 2015. Readington is also inviting the Freeholder Board to participate in the parade. 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. HOLT, MR. KING.

FREEHOLDERS COMMENTS/REPORTS

Director King opened the meeting to the Board for comments and reports.

Ms. Lagay reported the Cultural and Heritage Commission has informed her that April is National Poetry Month and on the 30th celebrated is Poem in your Pocket day. You are to select a poem, carry it with you and share it with others. There is a Pocket Poem website for those who need a poem for their pocket.

Mr. Lanza stated that since the County has introduced its budget, which is not only flat but it is also \$1,800 lower than last years; while this is a small amount, it is still lower; and this also takes into consideration having to pay raises based upon contractual obligations and the dwindling funding from the state. Mr. Lanza appreciates the efforts of the budget committee, specifically Freeholder Walton for his experience and drive.

Mr. Lanza feels this is a responsible budget; the County has oriented its priorities in the proper way; and the same services will be delivered in spite of the additional obligations on the County without spending additional money.

Mr. Holt is extremely proud today of Hunterdon County, explaining, he came up from the TransAction Conference in Atlantic City today; which he participated in for the past seven (7) years but this year, not only did Mr. Holt get to present a seminar but also Hunterdon County's Planning Division also presented a seminar, a very interesting seminar on the Economic Development Conference on Economic Strategies. The panel included the (NJTPA) North Jersey

Transportation Planning Authority, taking about the regional economic strategy which is throughout New Jersey; Somerset County did presented their second version of CEDS (County Economic Development Strategy). Mr. Holt stated that Freeholder Lagay spent a great deal of time working with Sue Dziamara, of the County's Planning Services Division, working on a presentation on Hunterdon County's progress and what CEDS is going. Mr. Holt thanked Freeholder Lagay for her hard work with Sue Dziamara on this presentation.

Director King reported he had the opportunity last evening to join Assemblywoman, Donna Simon, at a dinner presented by Family Promise, to celebrate and appreciate all the volunteers that work in that organization (formerly Inter-Faith Hospitality). They are dedicated to trying to eradicate homelessness in Hunterdon County.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Director King opened the meeting to the public.

Questions were answered for the press.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Director King adjourned the meeting at 6:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise B. Doolan
Clerk of the Board