

SPECIAL MEETING

HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

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

Flemington, New Jersey 08822

December 30, 2015

The special meeting of the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders convened at 9:00 a.m. in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

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

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 December 09, 2015, to the Star Ledger, Trenton Times, Courier News, Express Times and the Hunterdon County Democrat, newspapers designated to receive such notices and by filing a copy with the Hunterdon County Clerk."

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PUBLIC COMMENT

Director King opened the meeting to the public.

Barbara Sahau, Raritan Township resident, questioned the Board regarding payments to part-time workers with regard to health benefits.

FINANCE

Janet Previte, County Financial Officer, came before the Board to explain the need for budget transfers in the amount of \$548,300.00 which represents a little more than half of one percent of the County's total budget; and advising the \$415,000.00 is related to the transition of the jail operation.

Mrs. Previte feels the success of the 2015 year's low number of transfers is a direct result of Department Heads and employees working hard to manage their budgets and the implementation of the Edmunds System to manage information. She feels the County will continue to reap the benefits from purchasing the Edmunds System.

Ms. Previte thanked the Board for their cooperation in budget discussions throughout the past year.

Director King praised Ms. Previte for her extraordinary management.

Ms. Lagay moved and Mr. Holt seconded this:

See Page 12/30/15-1A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing Transfers between certain appropriations.

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

Items held at this time: Check Numbers 152-202 and 152-284.

Mr. Lanza moved and Ms. Lagay seconded a motion to approve the claims in accordance with the Claims Register dated December 30, 2015, with the exception of checks #152-202 and #152-284.

See Page 12/13/15-1B

CLAIMS REGISTER

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

Mr. Lanza moved and Ms. Lagay seconded a motion to approve the regular session minutes of November 16, 2015 and the special session minutes of November 18, 2015.

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

Mr. Lanza moved and Ms. Lagay seconded these:

See Page 12/30/15-2A

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the transfer of Jared Green to the Sheriff's Office, F.O.P. Lodge #187.

See Page 12/30/15-2B

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the appointment of Lynne McClintock to the Local Advisory Committee on Alcoholism and Drug Addiction.

See Page 12/30/15-2C

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving the solicitation of bids for County Bid #2016-04, for Landscape Maintenance and Mowing Services.

See Page 12/30/15-2D

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Authorizing the renewal of membership in the Public Alliance Insurance Coverage, through January 01, 2017.

See Page 12/30/15-2E

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Settlement Agreement with Harry Heller.

See Page 12/30/15-2F

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a Settlement Agreement with Amy Yashkas.

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

Mr. Lanza moved and Mr. Holt seconded a motion to approve Check Numbers 152-202 and 152-284 in accordance with the Claims Register dated December 30, 2015.

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

GRANTS

Mr. Lanza moved and Ms. Lagay seconded this:

See Page 12/30/15-2G

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, Approving a grant award with the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Office of the Attorney General, for a Prosecutor-Led Mental Health Division Program, for 2016 and 2017, in the amount of \$150,000 with a County match of \$37,502.

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

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITION

Mr. Walton moved and Ms. Lagay seconded these:

See Page 12/30/15-2H

PROCLAMATION

RESOLVED, Recognizing William Bowlby for having served on the Hunterdon County Agriculture Development Board.

See Page 12/30/15-2I

PROCLAMATION

RESOLVED, Recognizing Robert Zellely for having served on the Hunterdon County Agriculture Development Board.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was received from the Hunterdon County Vocational School District (known as Polytech), requesting permission to use the Route 12 County Complex, Assembly Room Area, on Monday, February 29, 2016, to hold an educational clinic for industry professionals across the County. The event is free to the public, to educate current and future employers in the construction industry. Ms. Lagay moved and Mr. Holt seconded a motion granting permission provided this event is coordinated through the County's Buildings and Maintenance Department.

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

FOR DISCUSSION

Brad Myhre, Human Services Director, provided an update on the County's Health Benefits conversion.

Mr. Myhre informed the Board that the County of Hunterdon's transition away from the State Health Benefits Plan (SHBP) to a self-insured health care model administered by Aetna is nearly complete. The entire administrative team has worked hard to ensure that the conversion was as seamless as possible. As with any major policy change there were some difficulties along the

way, but ultimately any changes or modifications that were needed were addressed. Below are some key points about the conversion process along with an assessment of where we are today.

Active Health Care Enrollment

The decision to have an active health care enrollment administered by Winston was an important strategic decision. Mr. Myhre's has no doubt that the active enrollment was the key to the conversion's success. As of December 23, 2015, a total of 555 active employees and 215 retirees participated in open-enrollment. For those who chose not to participate directly, the Human Resources Office transferred the necessary demographic information to Winston for processing and final transfer to Aetna.

Plan Analysis

The Plan Summary Documents (PSDs) produced by Aetna received careful review from County Counsel, Human Resources, our outside insurance broker and our various unions. Where there was an inconsistency in coverage or a general lack of clarity, Human Resources in conjunction with County Counsel immediately addressed the problem.

Mr. Myhre reported he personally reviewed the PSDs from Aetna line-by-line against their Horizon equivalent under the State Health Benefits Program (SHBP).

Communication to Employees and Retirees

Mr. Myhre explained the efforts to communicate to employees and retirees have greatly increased in recent weeks. Ongoing education and communication will be essential to the success of the conversion. Below are some of the key communications that have occurred.

- Individual phone calls to retirees made from Karen Briggs.
- Individual letters mailed to retirees last week from Human Resources containing the Aetna customer service phone number, directions on how to log into Aetna Navigator and also how to download the Mobile App.
- All active employees received an email update from Human Resources on the health care conversion that included how to access temporary ID cards, information on Aetna Navigator and also where to find and download the Aetna mobile app.
- Communication continues with the respective bargaining units on individual health care coverages that were modified per their request for consistency with the SHBP.
- Human Resources will be producing a communication related to the Transition of Care coverage available through Aetna.

Next Steps

- Physical Aetna ID cards were ready for print as of yesterday, 12/29. A total of 1,345 Aetna ID cards will be produced and sent out after the New Year. Of that figure there are 637 active employees and retirees receiving ID cards along with 738 dependents.
- Aetna has informed us that official Summary Plan Documents along with the official Handbook should be ready in 90 days.
- Summary of Benefits & Coverage (SBC) documents required under the Affordable Care Act should be ready in 7-10 days and will be available for distribution.
- Communications to employees, retirees and our bargaining units will continue.

Director King, Freeholders Holt and Lanza thanked the various staff who helped with the healthcare transition, to include Shana Taylor, Lupe Fowler, Karen Briggs and Roxanna Lavoie.

FREEHOLDERS COMMENTS/REPORTS

Recognition – John W. King, Freeholder Director

Mr. Lanza recognized Director King for his successful year and several great accomplishments.

Ms. Lagay echoed Mr. Lanza's comments with regards to Director King's year of leadership.

CERT Team

Director King advised a letter came to the Board from Stan Proctor, JCP&L Representative, commending the performance of Ken Mendoli and the training of the Raritan Township Emergency Response Team. The CERT teams have done a great job with several events on behalf of the County. He also thanked the staff for the various accomplishments this past year.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Director King opened the meeting to the public.

Mary Melfi, County Clerk, commended the Board and Janet Previte for the foresight to acquire the Edmunds System. As a Department Head, when the Edmunds System was implemented, it was initially very difficult but once it was fully implemented it was a great tool for her department and she hopes to see even more improvement throughout the County's operation.

Ms. Lagay, on behalf of the Board, wished everyone a very Happy New Year.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Director King adjourned the meeting at 9:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,