

## HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

71 Main Street, Freeholder's Meeting Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Flemington, New Jersey 08822

**September 17, 2019**

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 15, 2019, to the Hunterdon County Democrat, Star Ledger, Trenton Times, Courier News, TAPinto (online) and the Express Times, newspapers designated to receive such notices and by filing a copy with the Hunterdon County Clerk.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

To discuss legal and personnel issues.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **MOMENT OF SILENCE**

### **REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNSEL ON EXECUTIVE SESSION**

### **PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITION**

**PROCLAMATION** - Recognizing Jacob D'Amico on attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.

**Moved:** Mr. Holt

**Seconded:** Ms. Soloway

**Roll Call (Ayes):** Mr. Holt, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Lanza, Mr. Van Doren, Ms. Lagay

**PROCLAMATION** - Recognizing Frank Dolan on attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.

**Moved:** Mr. Van Doren

**Seconded:** Mr. Lanza

**Roll Call (Ayes):** Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Lanza, Mr. Holt, Ms. Soloway, Ms. Lagay

**PROCLAMATION** - Recognizing the Rutgers Master Gardeners of Hunterdon County, Sensory Garden Team, on their first-place award at the 2019 International Master Gardener Conference in Valley Forge, PA.

**Moved:** Ms. Soloway

**Seconded:** Mr. Lanza

**Roll Call (Ayes):** Ms. Soloway, Mr. Lanza, Mr. Holt, Mr. Van Doren, Ms. Lagay

**Rebecca Magron**, Horticultural Consultant and Research Associate for Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Hunterdon County, presented information to the Board and public about the Master Gardeners and the creations, and dedication that went into the Sensory Garden

### **FREEHOLDERS REPORTS**

**Mr. Holt:** In a great sign of economic opportunity in the County, over twenty area employers will be participating in the Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board's Hunterdon County Job Fair on Wednesday, September 25th from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at the County Complex on Route 12. The job openings are in a wide array of sectors with quality companies. Employers like Unicom, Magna Power, and QuVa Pharmaceutical, among others, will be looking to fill specific job vacancies. There are real opportunities for individuals looking for work or to upgrade from their present positions. The quality of companies that are represented demonstrates the diversity and strength of the Hunterdon economy, and the jobs available represent genuine long-term opportunity for the local

workforce. We really are fortunate in the County to have the corporate citizens that we do. For those who may need social service assistance, representatives from NORWESCAP Child and Family Resource Services, GoHunterdon, and the United Way of Hunterdon County are also scheduled to be in attendance at the Job Fair.

**Ms. Soloway:** Census Presentation: Our Senior center will be hosting an informative program for seniors about participating in the 2020 census on October 4<sup>th</sup> at 9 am. Dr. Allison Jackson, the Census Partnership Specialist for Hunterdon & Somerset Counties, who presented here at the Freeholder meeting in July, will be presenting information for our seniors. I am advised that seniors are often undercounted in the census because of their failure to respond to communications from the Census Bureau or unfamiliarity with electronic formats, so this program is timely and needed. Those interested can contact the Senior Center at 788-1359. Information is also available on the County's website.

GOAL Program: The County Senior Citizen Program's Grandparent and Older Adult Learning, or GOAL, series continues in October with very topical and needed presentations. There will be presentations on Addiction on October 4<sup>th</sup>, on Vaping on October 18<sup>th</sup> and on Cyberbullying also on October 18<sup>th</sup>. These programs can give our grandparents and other older adults insights and understanding of some of the difficult issues that they may not have experienced in their lives but are threatening and affecting our young people today. Additionally, there will be presentations on Constitutional Law and the Bill of Rights on October 18<sup>th</sup> and on How the Court System works on November 15<sup>th</sup>. Again, more information is available by calling the Senior Center or on the County's website.

Good job: The County's Senior Citizen program leadership and staff do a great job of identifying current useful issues with which seniors may not be familiar and providing the opportunity for the seniors to expand their knowledge. I commend all involved with these very citizen positive programs.

**Mr. Van Doren:** I usually report on the start or completion of various road and bridge projects, closings and detours, but tonight I wish to report on the state of finances in the Department of Public Works and Engineering. The Department has the significant and important job of ensuring the safety of those using our roadways, the maintenance and repair for County roads, bridges, culverts, storm sewers, right of ways, and overseeing infrastructure projects. The Department comprises the largest number of personnel in the County workforce and its Divisions of Roads, Bridges and Engineering total the greatest concentration of budget dollars, totaling over \$8.5 million annually. As the liaison for the Board, I periodically hold meetings with our CFO, Ms. Previte, County Engineer Mr. Matthews, and the Administrator, Mr. Davis, to do a status check and update on the current budget for those Divisions. We recently met last month. The budget reports I reviewed reflect that each Division's expenditures, particularly for personnel, are well within the appropriations established by the 2019 budget, with the expectation of being right on the money or even a little under by the end of the year. Maintaining 246 miles of roadway, 246 bridges and over 1500 culverts require significant annual material costs. Some of the major expenditures beyond personnel include the purchase of steel, concrete, cement, and sand for bridge work, and surface treatment material, snow chemicals and sand (spent or encumbered so far this year \$1,170,000), stone and shale, snow plow blades and accessories, and steel sign posts for road division work. Additionally, as we discussed preparations for winter weather anticipated in the later months of the year, it was reported that despite an unusually heavy dose of winter weather in the first few months of 2019, the overtime budget is in positive shape to deal with whatever comes our way through December 31. In the event of unexpected and overwhelming emergencies, the County maintains a storm recovery trust account that state law permits to be tapped under specific conditions. It is our backstop and failsafe that protects the County's ability to ensure adequate response in a time of great need. The staff has done an

excellent job in ensuring the integrity of that fund. We will be reconvening to do our finance review again before the end of the year. I do not anticipate any significant changes. I commend all involved for the careful stewardship of the Engineering and Public Works budget.

For your Information

County Budget Totals

<i>Engineering</i>	<i>S&amp;W</i>	<i>\$1,685,101</i>
	<i>OE</i>	<i>75,000</i>
<i>Roads</i>	<i>S&amp;W</i>	<i>\$3,115,392</i>
	<i>OE</i>	<i>2,385,000</i>
<i>Bridges</i>	<i>S&amp;W</i>	<i>\$1,185,030</i>
	<i>OE</i>	<i>325,000</i>
<b><i>Total</i></b>		<b><i>\$8,770,523</i></b>

**Ms. Lagay:** West Amwell Freeholder Meeting: The Board will be holding our next meeting, October 1, at the West Amwell Municipal Building, as we continue our program of bringing Freeholder meetings out to our municipalities. The staff has made a look back through the records of past Freeholder meetings and it appears the Board has not held a meeting in West Amwell in recent times, so this will be a first. We try to bring our meetings to our municipalities at least twice a year. This meeting will be the eleventh time since 2014 that the Freeholders have moved our regular meeting out of the Flemington Administration Building to a local municipal building. Meeting in our various municipalities has been a positive experience and is well received by the public. We believe it opens up the County government to the public more. We have experienced a good turnout of residents for these meetings. Most recently in June, the Board held a regular meeting in Clinton Township. Meetings have also been held in Hampton Borough, Lambertville, Tewksbury, Raritan Township, Frenchtown, Delaware Township, East Amwell, and Holland Township twice. The West Amwell municipal building is located at 150 Rocktown Lambertville Road. The meeting is at our regular time 5:30 pm on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Black Fly Legislation: Senator Mike Doherty has reached out to the County with draft state legislation that proposes to require the NJDEP to annually provide for black fly suppression along the Delaware River. The bill directs the NJDEP to include funding for the suppression program in its annual budget request. As you may recall, the black fly suppression spraying is conducted by Pennsylvania's DEP on both sides of the Delaware, with New Jersey covering half the cost of the program. This year, New Jersey was not providing its share of funding and the PADEP was not able to provide the service to the Hunterdon County side of the river. Fortunately, through the work of the County's Vector Control Division Head Tadhgh Rainey, arrangements were made for the County to provide the PADEP with funding, \$10,500, to conduct spraying on our side of the river on the last helicopter pass in August. Mr. Rainey has reviewed Senator Doherty's proposed legislation and he is supportive of the bill as prepared. We greatly appreciate Senator Doherty's interest and help and look forward to his introduction of the legislation in the near future.

**Mr. Lanza:** "As most are probably aware from reports in the media, I recently received two summonses returnable in municipal court from the Raritan Township Police Department. I intend to plead not guilty and contest both charges and I am confident that this matter will be resolved fairly in municipal court. I have been advised that the matter will be heard in a municipal court outside of Hunterdon County, in Sparta in Sussex County, in order to avoid any appearance of conflict of interest. Similarly, because the joint Delaware – East Amwell Municipal Court handles these same kind of summonses, I have elected to take a leave from my position there as Prosecutor, pending the disposition of this matter, in order to give no cause for anyone to challenge the actions of the joint Municipal Court. I will refrain from any further public comment until the

matter is resolved in court, other than to say thank you to my family and friends for their support and encouragement.”

**PUBLIC COMMENT**, Limited to 2 minutes per person.

(Comments exceeding 2 minutes will be entertained later in the agenda)

**Mr. Mario Murlandy** – 160 Dreahook Road in Readington Township, informed the Freeholder Board of his concerns over County Route 523 and County Route 629 and the proposed roundabout. Mr. Murlandy expressed his desire that the proposed project not to move forward. Mr. Murlandy noted that there is a community group that is proposing alternatives to project based upon their own review of the federal statutes associated with the funding.

Holt commented that he will be looking into this matter.

**David Owen:** 791 Route 523 in Whitehouse Station, noted that he felt reassured based upon Mr. Holt’s comments. Mr. Owen expressed his concerns about the proposed roundabout project as well. Mr. Owen suggested lowering the speed limit to 25 MPH and additional enforcement as a good starting point.

**Wayne** – 7 Holland Road in Readington Township. Member of the committee opposed to proposed roundabout. Supports additional research about the proposed roundabout and asked that the Freeholder Board explore alternative solutions.

**Lisa Hall** – 28 Springtown Road in Readington Township. Member of RCRA committee as well. Supports a reduction in the speed limit and alternative approaches to a roundabout. Ms. Hall also noted that the group suggested reducing the speed limit at the September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019 meeting of the Readington Township Committee.

**FINANCE, Janet R. Previte, CFO**

**See Page 9/17/2019-4A                      RESOLUTION**

Requesting the insertion of an item of revenue and the like sum as an appropriation in the 2019 County Budget for the 2019 Area Plan (Mid-Year Allocation) in the amount of \$20,069.00.

**Moved:** Mr. Holt

**Seconded:** Ms. Soloway

**Roll Call (Ayes):** Mr. Holt, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Lanza, Mr. Van Doren, Ms. Lagay

Mr. Van Doren noted that it was a Resolution on the original agenda for September 17th, not an ordinance and wanted to bring this to attention of Brad Myhre

**See Page 9/17/2019-4B                      RESOLUTION**

Authorizing an emergency appropriation in the amount of \$200,000.00 for repairs at the Hunterdon County Transfer Station.

**Moved:** Mr. Lanza

**Seconded:** Mr. Van Doren

**Roll Call (Ayes):** Mr. Lanza, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Holt, Ms. Soloway, Ms. Lagay

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, Marc Saluk**

**PRESENTATION** - Update on the tourism study that is being conducted by Stockton University.

Mr. Marc Saluk gave an update on tourism study with Stockton University. Mr. Saluk highlighted the three phases of this study, the likely outcomes and what his department hopes will come from the study.

## **LAND USE / OPEN SPACE, Bob Hornby**

### **See Page 9/17/2019-5A            RESOLUTION**

Authorizing the Freeholder Director to sign on behalf of the County, a Conservation Plan developed by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), on the Vartikar Farm (approximately 71 acres) in the Township of Franklin, Hunterdon County. This conservation plan is a prerequisite for a preservation agreement via a Cooperative Agreement between the United States Department of Agriculture, New Jersey State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC), and Hunterdon Land Trust.

**Moved:** Mr. Van Doren

**Seconded:** Mr. Holt

**Roll Call (Ayes):** Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Holt, Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Ms. Lagay

## **COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, Kevin Davis**

Mr. Kevin Davis provided an overview of the Joint Insurance Fund for which the County is a member. Mr. Davis highlighted the County's positive downward trend of claims which has contributed to a recent return of surplus insurance funds to the County.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

"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."

**Moved:** Mr. Lanza

**Seconded:** Mr. Van Doren

**Roll Call (Ayes):** Mr. Lanza, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Holt, Ms. Soloway, Ms. Lagay

**RESOLVED**, Approval of the claims in accordance with the Claims Register dated September 17, 2019.

**RESOLVED**, Approval of the regular and executive session meeting minutes of September 03, 2019.

### **See page 9/17/2019-5B            RESOLUTION**

Authorizing the renewal of the Hunterdon County Cooperative Pricing System (ID# 51HCCPS) with the New Jersey Division of Local Government Services.

### **See page 9/17/2019-5C            RESOLUTION**

Authorizing the County Purchasing Agent to advertise for the solicitation of competitive bids for janitorial services.

### **See page 9/17/2019-5D            RESOLUTION**

Authorizing the County Purchasing Agent to advertise for the solicitation of competitive bids for refuse disposal and recycling services.

### **See page 9/17/2019-5E            RESOLUTION**

Authorizing the County Purchasing Agent to advertise for the solicitation of competitive bids for the replacement of Bridge RT-16, on County Road 523, over the North Branch of the Rockaway Creek in the Townships of Readington and Tewksbury.

### **See page 9/17/2019-5F            RESOLUTION**

Authorizing the Freeholder Director and the Clerk to the Board of Chosen Freeholders to sign on behalf of the County, an agreement to clean up scrap tires at the Estate of Frank E. Schnieder, Jr., located at Block 17, Lot 18 in the Township of Delaware.

**See page 9/17/2019-6A                    RESOLUTION**

Authorizing the submittal of the Bethlehem Township Municipal Chapter of the Hunterdon County Wastewater Management Plan.

**See page 9/17/2019-6B                    RESOLUTION**

Authorizing the County CFO to sign a contract amendment with Nationwide for administration of the 457 Deferred Compensation Program.

**See page 9/17/2019-6C                    RESOLUTION**

Authorizing the Freeholder Director to sign on behalf of the County, an agreement with Universal Vending Management for vending machine services at the Hunterdon County Justice Complex, utilizing a New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program, for a period beginning on November 1, 2019 and commencing on November 1, 2021.

**See page 9/17/2019-6D                    RESOLUTION**

Authorizing an amended salary adjustment for Charles Dickinson, County Corrections Officer, in the Hunterdon County Sheriff's Department in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement with FOP 94.

**See page 9/17/2019-6E                    RESOLUTION**

Authorizing an amended hiring resolution for Cortney Frank, provisional Librarian 2, in the Hunterdon County Library.

**See page 9/17/2019-6F                    RESOLUTION**

Acknowledging the action of Surrogate Susan Hoffman to appointment Heather Lewis as an unclassified, full time, Private Clerk in the Hunterdon County Surrogate's Court.

**See page 9/17/2019-6G                    RESOLUTION**

Approving the interdivision transfer of Mary Connor from the Division of Social Services to the Division of Senior, Disabilities & Veterans Services within the Department of Human Services.

**See page 9/17/2019-6H                    RESOLUTION**

Approving the appointment of Millard Rooks to the permanent title of full time, Superintendent of Weights & Measures, within the Division of Weights & Measures upon the successful passage of his New Jersey Civil Service exam.

**See page 9/17/2019-6I                    RESOLUTION**

Authorizing the appointment of Miriam Mendez to the provisional title of Family Service Worker, in the Division of Social Services, of the Department of Human Services.

**See page 9/17/2019-6J                    RESOLUTION**

Authorizing the appointment of Timothy Toner to the regular title of Laborer 1, Division of Road of the Department of Public Works.

**See page 9/17/2019-6K                    RESOLUTION**

Authorizing the appointment of Poonam Doshi from a New Jersey Civil Service Commission hiring list to the regular title of Keyboarding Clerk 2, in the Division of Social Services, of the Hunterdon County Department of Human Services.

**GRANTS**

**See page 9/17/2019-6L                    RESOLUTION**

Authorizing the Freeholder Director to sign and accept on behalf of the County, the SFY 2020 New Jersey Job Access/Reverse Commute (NJ-JARC) Agreement for Round 6, with New Jersey Transit in the amount of \$240,000.00 (\$120,000.00 in state grant funds and \$120,000.00 in county matching funds) for the period of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

**Moved:** Mr. Holt

**Seconded:** Mr. Lanza

**Roll Call (Ayes):** Mr. Holt, Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren, Ms. Lagay

**See page 9/17/2019-7A                    RESOLUTION**

Authorizing the Freeholder Director to sign on behalf of the County, a grant agreement between the Hunterdon County Division of Senior, Disabilities and Veterans Services and the State Department of Human Services, Division of Aging services for the Area Plan Contract Update in the total program amount of \$777,452.00 (\$347,736.00 in state grant funds; \$418,229.00 in federal grant funds; and \$11,487.00 in county matching funds).

**Moved:** Ms. Soloway

**Seconded:** Mr. Van Doren

**Roll Call (Ayes):** Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Holt, Mr. Lanza, Ms. Lagay

**See page 9/17/2019-7B                    RESOLUTION**

Authorizing the Freeholder Director to sign and accept, on behalf of the County, an Operation Helping Hand grant application with the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety in the amount of \$100,000 for the period of September 1, 2019 to August 31, 2020.

**Moved:** Mr. Lanza

**Seconded:** Mr. Holt

**Roll Call (Ayes):** Mr. Lanza, Mr. Holt, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren, Ms. Lagay

**See page 9/17/2019-7C                    RESOLUTION**

Authorizing Hunterdon County Sheriff Fred Brown to file a grant application with the United States Department of Justice, to a grant program entitled: "*Reducing Injury and Death of Missing Individuals with Dementia and Developmental Disabilities.*" The amount of the grant application is \$150,000 with a three-year program performance deadline starting on December 1, 2019. This resolution will also grant Sheriff Brown the authority to accept grant funding upon successful review of the County's application by the United States Department of Justice.

**Moved:** Mr. Lanza

**Seconded:** Ms. Soloway

**Roll Call (Ayes):** Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Holt, Ms. Lagay

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**See page 9/17/2019-7D                    RESOLUTION**

Approving a request by Delaware Valley High School Cheerleaders, to host a coin toss on Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, with a rain date of Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 8:00 AM through 4:00 PM at Intersection 519 and Water Street in Milford.

**Moved:** Mr. Lanza

**Seconded:** Mr. Holt

**Roll Call (Ayes):** Mr. Lanza, Mr. Holt, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren, Ms. Lagay

**See page 9/17/2019-7E                    RESOLUTION**

Approving a request from St. Magdalen's Roman Catholic Church to host a Holy Rosary prayer for our country on Sunday, October 13, 2019 from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM on the steps of the Historic Hunterdon County Courthouse.

**Moved:** Ms. Soloway

**Seconded:** Mr. Holt

**Roll Call (Ayes):** Ms. Soloway, Mr. Holt, Mr. Lanza, Mr. Van Doren, Ms. Lagay

**See page 9/17/2019-7F                    RESOLUTION**

Approving a request from the Delaware Township Recreation Commission close a portion of County Route 604, on Saturday, October 5, 2019 from 3:00 PM to 9:00 PM for the annual Delaware Township Community Block Party.

**Moved:** Ms. Soloway

**Seconded:** Mr. Holt

**Roll Call (Ayes):** Ms. Soloway, Mr. Holt, Mr. Lanza, Mr. Van Doren, Ms. Lagay

**FREEHOLDERS COMMENTS/REPORTS**

Mr. Van Doren thanked the residents of Readington about the roundabout, positive and negative comments, and insisted on meeting with the group and gather information on this matter in Readington Township, since he will not be able to attend the meeting towards the end of September.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC  
EXECUTIVE SESSION (Reconvene if necessary)**

The Board Adjourned at 6:40 PM on a motion by Freeholder Soloway which was seconded by Freeholder Holt and carried by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted.

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**Brad Myhre, Clerk**

Transcribed by:

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**Lindsay Heller, Secretary to the Board**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON**

**RESOLUTION  
ENTERING INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**WHEREAS**, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231 P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

**WHEREAS**, the County is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of the specified subject matter.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

**Legal:**

- Penn East Pipeline Litigation Update
- LINK System Contract Update
- Jail Contract Negotiations

**Personnel:**

- Polytech Board Vacancy
3. It is anticipated that the minutes on the subject matter of the Executive Session will be made public upon conclusion of the matter under discussion; and in any event, when appropriate pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.
  4. The Board of Chosen Freeholders will return to Regular Session and may take further action.
  5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Brad Myhre, Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders, County of Hunterdon, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution is a true, complete and accurate copy of a resolution adopted by the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders at a meeting held on September 17, 2019.

ROLL CALL	MOVED	SECONDED	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Suzanne Lagay, Director			X			
John E. Lanza, Deputy Director			X			
J. Matthew Holt, Freeholder		X	X			
Susan J. Soloway, Freeholder	X		X			
Shaun C. Van Doren, Freeholder			X			

**ADOPTED:** September 17, 2019

**Brad Myhre, CLERK**