

**HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS
TELECONFERENCE MEETING**

71 Main Street, Freeholder's Meeting Room, 2nd Floor
Flemington, New Jersey 08822

June 02, 2020

Dial-In Number: 720-399-1558 or 877-658-5107

Passcode: 403752

5:00 PM CONVENE: "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 07, 2020, 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

5:30 PM PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNSEL ON EXECUTIVE SESSION

FREEHOLDER REPORTS

Mr. Lanza – Last Tuesday, Pennsylvania DEP completed the second round of the Black Fly Suppression program on both side of the Delaware River. Hunterdon County has also completed two suppression runs meant to hold down infestation along the Raritan River from Clinton to Three Bridges. Conducting these suppressions is important during this pandemic since residents are using parks and trails and enjoying outdoor activities. Mr. Lanza also provided an update on farmland and noted that New Jersey is #1 out of all the states in the country for our policies relating to farmland protection. Hunterdon County has been a leader in helping New Jersey achieve this.

Mr. Holt – Held report till end

Mr. Rich – provided updates on roads and bridges including projects being conducted with social distancing guidelines. DPW has now resumed regularly scheduled operations. County Engineering has also returned to full crews. Mr. Rich also commented on unemployment in Hunterdon County and how we should start opening up businesses so residents can get back to work. Congratulated Freeholder Director Shaun Van Doren for his work with Warren and Sussex Counties with the regional re-opening plan.

Mr. Rich also noted that the Greater Raritan Workforce Board has been working to help job seekers obtain new skills through their online learning portal, SkillUp Greater Raritan. This application is free for all Hunterdon and Somerset County residents and includes hundreds of learning applications.

Ms. Soloway – Hunterdon County Senior Center using Zoom for meetings and classes. Information on Zoom sessions is available on the Hunterdon County Senior Center webpage. Ms. Soloway also acknowledged Human Services employees for their work in organizing these classes. Ms. Soloway also noted that over 1,200 COVID-19 tests for Hunterdon and Somerset Counties have been completed at Raritan Valley Community College. To use RVCC testing site, there is still a requirement for a prescription from a physician and individual should be symptomatic. Walmart and CVS in Hunterdon County are now conducting tests. Non-facility cases have declined. Ms. Soloway also commented that it is time to reopen businesses and get the economy back up and running.

Mr. Van Doren – CVS and Rite Aid are now offering COVID-19 testing. Mr. Van Doren noted that the Freeholders asked CVS and Rite Aid to preform tests at their locations in Hunterdon County. In addition to these facilities, Mr. Van Doren noted that the County has called upon Walgreens to offer COVID-19 testing as well.

Mr. Van Doren noted that Hunterdon County along with Warren and Sussex Counties called for a regional approach to re-opening and have also establish a website entitled, "Gateway to Resources" with information that can help local businesses as they plan to re-open. Mr. Van Doren also reflected upon the death of George Floyd and expressed the Freeholder Board's greatest sympathy to the family of George Floyd. Mr. Van Doren also noted that last Sunday there was a protest in Flemington and all who attended were peaceful and the event deserves recognition for its overall positive outcome. Mr. Van Doren thanked the Sheriff and Prosecutor's Offices and Flemington Police for providing safety and security to all who attended. Hopes that others around the nation will follow the Hunterdon County example.

PROCLAMATIONS / RECOGNITION

SEE PAGE 06/02/2020-2A

PROCLAMATION

PROCLAMATION #2020-21 - Recognizing James C. Kennedy, Boy Scouts of America Troop 186, on attaining the designation of Eagle Scout.

Moved: Mr. Rich

Seconded: Ms. Soloway

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

SEE PAGE 06/02/2020-2B

PROCLAMATION

PROCLAMATION #2020-22 - Recognizing Thomas J. Rottner, Boy Scouts of America Troop 186, on attaining the designation of Eagle Scout.

Moved: Mr. Holt

Seconded: Mr. Lanza

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

SEE PAGE 06/02/2020-2C

PROCLAMATION

PROCLAMATION #2020-23 - Recognizing Gene "Agniso" Valentino on the occasion of his 100th birthday on April 24, 2020.

Moved: Mr. Lanza

Seconded: Ms. Soloway

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

Ms. Soloway – gave thanks to Mr. Valentino for his service and wished him a very happy birthday. True hero to the Country and Ms. Soloway hopes to see him at the Veterans Medal Ceremony at the 4H Fair.

SEE PAGE 06/02/2020-2D

PROCLAMATION

PROCLAMATION #2020-24 - Recognizing Rowdy Meys of Stockton Borough for his support of the New Jersey State Police.

Moved: Mr. Rich

Seconded: Mr. Lanza

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

GRANTS: Janet Previte, CFO

SEE PAGE 06/02/2020-2E

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION #2020-337 – RESOLVED, Authorizing the Freeholder Director to sign and accept on behalf of the County, a County Innovation Grant through Chapter 51 funding from the New Jersey Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services, in the amount of \$35,708.00, for the period of June 30, 2020 through June 29, 2021.

Moved: Mr. Holt

Seconded: Mr. Lanza

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

APPOINTMENTS:

SEE PAGE 06/02/2020-2F

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION #2020-338 – RESOLVED, Authoring the appointment of Jeffrey A. Spencer to Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC) for a term effective immediately through May 31, 2023.

Moved: Mr. Rich

Seconded: Mr. Holt

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

SEE PAGE 06/02/2020-3A

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION #2020-339 – RESOLVED, Authorizing the reappointment of Samantha Wakefield to the Hunterdon County Mental Health Board (MHB), for a term to be effective immediately through June 30, 2022.

Moved: Mr. Rich

Seconded: Mr. Holt

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

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Marc Saluk, Director

Mr. Holt – gave history on this property and economic development and the meetings that took place about this property and this trail with the park. Thanked all involved to make this happen

SEE PAGE 06/02/2020-3B

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION #2020-340 – RESOLVED, Authorizing the purchase of Block 13, Lot 1; Block 13, Lot 2; Block 13, Lot 3; and Block 13, Lot 4 in the Borough of Milford in the amount of \$434,000.00 and authorizing the necessary Hunterdon County Departments and Divisions to take all necessary and appropriate actions to accomplish this acquisition.

Moved: Mr. Holt

Seconded: Mr. Lanza

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

HIGHLANDS UPDATE: Ken Bogen, Supervising Planner

Mr. Bogen noted that the Division of Planning has been hard at work implementing compliance with the Highlands Master Plan. Mr. Bogen reported that the majority of the work has been completed and dialogue with the Highlands Council would continue.

Mr. Holt – thanked all involved and knew it was a tough road to get to where they are now.

Mr. Van Doren – pleased to know that there has been a turn and a positive movement towards this for farmland.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT UPDATE: Carrie Fellows, Director

Ms. Fellows provided an overview of how the Department of Planning and Land Use is working and meeting residents needs in light of COVID-19.

ORGANIZATION UPDATE: George Wagner, Chief of Staff

Mr. Wagner provided an overall organizational update with respect to how the County is responding to COVID-19. Mr. Wagner noted that County operations have continued during the public health emergency without interruption and county departments and divisions have found ways to meet constituent needs despite social distancing measures.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT: Kevin Davis - Group called Save The Children has done a report for Global Childhood and ranked counties across the Country – Hunterdon County was named the Number 1 Safest County to raise a child. This speaks to the schools, parents, and government departments dedicated to children’s needs across Hunterdon 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.”

Approval of claims in accordance with the Claims Register dated June 02, 2020.

To Act on Removal:

Moved: Mr. Lanza

Seconded: Ms. Soloway

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

Abstain: Mr. Rich – Claim #Page 4 Item 1 – Kyle Conti Construction

To Act on Approving:

Moved: Mr. Holt

Seconded: Ms. Soloway

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

Abstain: Mr. Rich

Approval of the regular and executive session meeting minutes of May 19, 2020.

Moved: Mr. Rich

Seconded: Mr. Holt

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

SEE PAGE 06/02/2020-4A

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION #2020-341 – RESOLVED, Authorizing the County Purchasing Agent to solicit for competitive bids to furnish and deliver fine paper and envelopes.

Moved: Mr. Rich

Seconded: Mr. Holt

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

SEE PAGE 06/02/2020-4B

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION #2020-342 – RESOLVED, Amending an Open Space Acquisition Assistance Grant, upon the recommendation of the Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee, to New Jersey Conservation Foundation, for the acquisition of the Etzel property, Block 21, Lot 16 in Raritan Township, approximately 42 acres, in an amount not to exceed \$157,898.98.

Moved: Mr. Rich

Seconded: Mr. Holt

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

SEE PAGE 06/02/2020-4C

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION #2020-343 – RESOLVED, Authorizing the advancement of Alexander Samilow to the title of Public Safety Telecommunicator, upon his successful completion of the one-year Trainee program.

Moved: Mr. Rich

Seconded: Mr. Holt

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

SEE PAGE 06/02/2020-4D

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION #2020-344 – RESOLVED, Acknowledging the action of County Clerk Mary Melfi to appoint Zoe Comiskey as a seasonal intern in the Office of the Hunterdon County Clerk.

Moved: Mr. Rich

Seconded: Mr. Holt

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

SEE PAGE 06/02/2020-4E

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION #2020-345 – RESOLVED, Authorizing the regular appointment of Stephanie Muscatell as a full time Clerk 4, in the Division of Social Services, of the Department of Human Services, upon the successful completion of her New Jersey Civil Service examination.

Moved: Mr. Rich

Seconded: Mr. Holt

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

SEE PAGE 06/02/2020-4F

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION #2020-346 – RESOLVED, Authorizing the regular appointment of Garrett E. Dunlap as a full time Senior Bridge Repairer, the Division of Bridges, of the Department of Public Works, upon the successful completion of his New Jersey Civil Service examination.

Moved: Mr. Rich

Seconded: Mr. Holt

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

SEE PAGE 06/02/2020-4G

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION #2020-347 – RESOLVED, Acknowledging the action of Acting Prosecutor Michael J. Williams to appoint Michelle Masciola, to the full-time title of Management Specialist, upon the successful completion of her New Jersey Civil Service examination.

Moved: Mr. Rich

Seconded: Mr. Holt

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

SEE PAGE 06/02/2020-5A

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION #2020-348 – RESOLVED, Authorizing the regular appointment of Daniel J. Zmuda as a full time Assistant Supervising Mechanic, the Vehicle Services Unit, of the Department of Administrative Services, upon the successful completion of his New Jersey Civil Service examination.

Moved: Mr. Rich

Seconded: Mr. Holt

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

SEE PAGE 06/02/2020-5B

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION #2020-349 – RESOLVED, Authorizing the appointment and promotion of Michele Menditto to the unclassified title of Emergency Response Specialist in the Department of Health.

Moved: Mr. Rich

Seconded: Mr. Holt

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

SEE PAGE 06/02/2020-5C

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION #2020-350 – RESOLVED, Authorizing contractual salary adjustments for Public Safety Telecommunicators in the Division of Communications, effective June 13, 2020, in accordance with a revised Article 8A agreement with the Communications Workers of America, Local 1036.

Moved: Mr. Rich

Seconded: Mr. Holt

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

SEE PAGE 06/02/2020-5D

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION #2020-351 – RESOLVED, Authorizing the appointment of Benjamin A. Crans as a Seasonal Inspector Mosquito Extermination, in the Division of Vector Services, of the Department of Health.

Moved: Mr. Rich

Seconded: Mr. Holt

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

SEE PAGE 06/02/2020-5E

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION #2020-352 – RESOLVED, Authorizing the appointment of Lily Fatooh as a Seasonal Intern in the Office of the Board of Elections.

Moved: Mr. Rich

Seconded: Mr. Holt

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

SEE PAGE 06/02/2020-5F

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION #2020-353 – RESOLVED, Approving an agreement with GTM Executive Consulting to provide services related to remote workforce readiness and continuity of services related to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Moved: Mr. Rich

Seconded: Mr. Holt

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

SEE PAGE 06/02/2020-5G

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION #2020-354 – RESOLVED, Authorizing the Freeholder Director to sign and accept on behalf of the County, a grant application with the New Jersey Division of Elections for CARES Act funding on behalf of the Hunterdon County Division of Elections.

Moved: Mr. Rich

Seconded: Mr. Holt

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Fred Brown – Sheriff of Hunterdon County – Shredding day Route 12 by the maintenance building. Officers to help direct residents – 8 AM – 12 PM

Barbara Sachau – Raritan Township – American wildlife association finds that oppressive. \$1291.00 for deer on the side of the road, suggested to find someone local.

Along with other questions, and things the County needs to be more focused on where the money is going.

FREEHOLDER COMMENTS/REPORTS

Mr. Holt – Commented on a report from Marc Saluk and the 579 Trail and how this coincides with Mr. Lanza’s report on farmland preservation and the agricultural community in Hunterdon County. Mr. Lanza is supportive of the work with the Highlands Council and he foresees Hunterdon County and Highlands having a good future working arrangement.

Mr. Lanza also noted the Milford Riverfront Park began when Mr. Holt was director in 2018 and congratulated the staff on bringing this first phases of the project together. Mr. Lanza also thanked Director Van Doren for his leadership on the regional reopening strategy. Mr. Lanza also complimented Mr. Van Doren for his remarks on the death of George Floyd and complimented local law enforcement for their role in helping to ensure a safe demonstration occurred this past week.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURN

The Board adjourned at 6:55 PM on a motion by Freeholder Soloway and seconded by Freeholder Van Doren and carried by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted.

Brad Myhre, Clerk to the Board

Transcribed by:

Lindsay Heller, Secretary to the Board