

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

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

**May 05, 2020**

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

**Passcode:** 403752

**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**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – 5:30 p.m.**

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNSEL ON EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**FREEHOLDER REPORTS**

**Mr. Lanza** – provided an update on parks reopening for the first time since the COVID-19 lockdown. With schools closed until the fall, Mr. Lanza noted that the parks and open space will help families with getting outside with their children to enjoy some fresh air. Mr. Lanza also noted that it is Teacher Appreciation Week and he credited educators throughout the school systems for their ongoing hard work. Mr. Lanza thanked Sheriff Brown, Prosecutor Williams and their respective officers, along with George Wagner, and Brayden Fahey for helping with the parks reopening. Mr. Lanza also gave credit to residents for following the social distancing rules. Mr. Lanza is hopeful that this will continue and that the parks will remain open to the public and residents in Hunterdon County

**Ms. Soloway** – Provided an overview of the ongoing work of the Hunterdon County Health Department including its work with long-term care facilities. Four long term health care facilities in Hunterdon County have COVID-19 cases. The Health Department is providing on going monitoring and support of these facilities including how they are isolating and controlling the virus inside. 72,000 pieces of of personal protective equipment have been donated to these facilities. Ms. Soloway noted that long term facilities are reporting any issues within their facilities to the Hunterdon County Health Department.

**Mr. Holt** – Noted that Mr. Marc Saluk will be presenting several proposed municipal grants for consideration later in the meeting. They are part of the economic recovery program that the Board passed last month. Advised that he wants to see things begin to open in a responsible manner to get economy moving again. Mentioned that the Restoring Economic Health Through Public Health plan that Governor Murphy has unveiled is frustrating because it sets the bar too high. Mr. Holt went through the goals that Governor Murphy has set and noted some problematic issues with a few of them. Mr. Holt mentioned that Mr. Lanza's report on the parks shows that people can adhere to reasonable social distancing while enjoying some normalcy.

**Mr. Rich** – would like to wait till the end of the Freeholder meeting to share his report and thoughts.

**Mr. Van Doren** – Thanked Freeholders for their reports and noted Ms. Soloway's report on long term care facilities. Mr. Van Doren noted that deaths due to COVID-19 in Hunterdon County are lower than other counties in New Jersey. Mr. Van Doren also expressed the Board's condolences to the families of those who have lost loved ones to COVID-19. Recognized the Health Department and OEM Division on their collective work battling COVID-19 along with their ongoing efforts to help inform the public. Mr. Van Doren also spoke about his recent Hunterdon Mayors call that was held last week

with U.S Senator Booker and Congressman Malinowski. The discussion centered around additional federal stimulus aid for counties and municipalities that were left out of the first round. Help with small businesses was mentioned on the call as well. County parks are now in the County's hands as of this weekend. Thanked Sheriff Brown and his officers, Park Rangers, Prosecutors Investigators and local police for their efforts to the public to make sure health policies are in effect to help protect everyone. Mr. Van Doren also thanked the Hunterdon County residents for following the rules with the parks being re-opened. County offices are still closed to the public and if residents need assistance to call the Hunterdon County Administration Office or by using the website. Anticipates social distancing measures until at least May 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### **PROCLAMATIONS / RECOGNITION**

**See Page 5/5/2020- PROCLAMATION**

**PROCLAMATION #2020-16** - Recognizing Nathaniel Leon Nemeth, Boy Scouts of America Troop 200, on attaining the designation of Eagle Scout.

**Moved:** Mr. Lanza

**Seconded:** Ms. Soloway

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

#### **GRANTS: Janet Previte, CFO**

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION #2020-288 – RESOLVED**, Authorizing the Hunterdon County Department of Public Works to file an electronic grant application with the New Jersey Department of Transportation, for the replacement of Hunterdon County Bridge E-243, located on Van Lieus Road over Back Brook in the Township of East Amwell.

**Moved:** Mr. Rich

**Seconded:** Mr. Holt

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

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION #2020-289 – RESOLVED**, Authorizing the Hunterdon County Department of Public Works to file an electronic grant application with the New Jersey Department of Transportation, for the rehabilitation of Hunterdon County Bridge D-304A, located on Rosemont-Ringoos Road (County Route 604) over Wickcheoke Creek in the Township of Delaware.

**Moved:** Ms. Soloway

**Seconded:** Mr. Holt

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

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION #2020-290 – RESOLVED**, Authorizing the Hunterdon County Department of Public Works to file an electronic grant application with the New Jersey Department of Transportation, for the replacement of Hunterdon County Bridge ED-262, located on Dunkard Church Road over the Third Neshanic River Tributary in the Township of East Amwell.

**Moved:** Mr. Rich

**Seconded:** Mr. Lanza

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

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION #2020-291 – RESOLVED**, Authorizing the Hunterdon County Health Department to apply for a Right to Know grant renewal in the amount of \$9,618.00 to the New Jersey Department of Health for the period of July 01, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

**Moved:** Mr. Holt

**Seconded:** Ms. Soloway

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

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION #2020-292 - RESOLVED**, Authorizing the Hunterdon County Library to apply for a New Jersey Library Construction Bond Application in the amount of \$1,961,674.00 (state funds: \$980,837.00; county match: \$980,837.00).

**Moved:** Mr. Rich

**Seconded:** Mr. Lanza

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

**Mr. Rich Comment -**

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**  
**RESOLUTION #2020-293 – RESOLVED**, Authorizing the Hunterdon County Department of Human Services to apply Section 5311 CARES Funding in the amount of \$1,005,600.00.  
**Moved:** Ms. Soloway  
**Seconded:** Mr. Lanza  
**Roll Call (Ayes):** Ms. Soloway, Mr. Lanza, Mr. Holt, Mr. Rich, Mr. Van Doren

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Marc Saluk, Director**

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**  
**RESOLUTION #2020-294 – RESOLVED**, Awarding a Hunterdon County Economic Development Grant in the amount of \$9,000.00 to the Borough of Milford, for zoning changes designed to expand the business district within the Borough.  
**Moved:** Mr. Holt  
**Seconded:** Mr. Rich  
**Roll Call (Ayes):** Mr. Holt, Mr. Rich, Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**  
**RESOLUTION #2020-295 – RESOLVED**, Awarding a Hunterdon County Economic Development Grant in the amount of \$2,700.00 to the Township of Kingwood, to create an interactive App to highlight parks and walking trails for residents and visitors.  
**Moved:** Mr. Holt  
**Seconded:** Mr. Rich  
**Roll Call (Ayes):** Mr. Holt, Mr. Rich, Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**  
**RESOLUTION #2020-296 – RESOLVED**, Awarding a Hunterdon County Economic Development Grant in the amount of \$11,700.00 to the City of Lambertville, for an ordinance and code review aimed at reducing burdens on business and expanding economic development.  
**Moved:** Mr. Holt  
**Seconded:** Mr. Rich  
**Roll Call (Ayes):** Mr. Holt, Mr. Rich, Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**  
**RESOLUTION #2020-297 – RESOLVED**, Awarding a Hunterdon County Economic Development Grant in the amount of \$9,616.50 to the Borough of Frenchtown, for the electronic codification of the Borough's zoning rules and regulations and placement on the Borough website.  
**Moved:** Mr. Holt  
**Seconded:** Mr. Rich  
**Roll Call (Ayes):** Mr. Holt, Mr. Rich, Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren

**PURCHASING: Ray Rule, Purchasing Agent**

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**  
**RESOLUTION #2020-298 – RESOLVED**, Authorizing award of RFP #0010-2020, in the amount of \$20,000.00 to Charles Nechtem Associates, Inc. for Employee Assistance Program Services.  
**Moved:** Mr. Lanza  
**Seconded:** Ms. Soloway  
**Roll Call (Ayes):** Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Holt, Mr. Rich, Mr. Van Doren

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**  
**RESOLUTION #2020-299 – RESOLVED**, Authorizing award of County Bid #2020-04, in the amount of \$858,807.00 to Colonnelli Brothers, Inc., for the reconstruction of Hunterdon County Bridge A-52 on County Route 519, over Harihokake Creek, in the Township of Alexandria.  
**Moved:** Mr. Rich  
**Seconded:** Mr. Lanza  
**Roll Call (Ayes):** Mr. Rich, Mr. Lanza, Mr. Holt, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**  
**RESOLUTION #2020-300 – RESOLVED**, Authorizing Requisition #R0-02527, in the amount of \$59,261.60 to PMC Associates, for radio base station equipment for the EMS Operations Channel at the Hunterdon County Division of Communications.  
**Moved:** Mr. Lanza

**Seconded:** Ms. Soloway

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

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION #2020-301 – RESOLVED**, Authorizing Requisition #R0-02566, in the amount of \$269,101.25 to Weatherproof Technologies, Inc. for roof replacement and restoration at the County Administration Building located at 71 Main Street in Flemington Borough.

**Moved:** Mr. Rich

**Seconded:** Mr. Holt

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

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION #2020-302 – RESOLVED**, Authorizing Requisition #R0-02819, in the amount of \$103,342.44 to SHI International Corp for the acquisition of self-checkout kiosks for the Hunterdon County Library.

**Moved:** Mr. Rich

**Seconded:** Mr. Holt

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

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE: Karen DeMarco, Department Head:** Heath Department has started investigating cases of COVID-19 including residents who are not symptomatic. Important for residents to continue to follow stay at home orders and social distancing restrictions. CDC has linked additional symptoms to COVID-19. Heath Department is continuing to post updates on the website and Facebook page. Thanked the Board and County Administration for their ongoing support.

**OEM UPDATE: Brayden Fahey, OEM Director:** Provided an overview on resource requests filled by OEM for the Hunterdon County Medical Center. Information concerning donations is on the Hunterdon County website. Mr. Fahey also alerted the public to the state's website for executive orders from the governor's office.

**HUMAN SERVICES UPDATE, Meagan O'Reilly, Department Head:** Complemented the Human Services staff on their care and enthusiasm during this time. Thanked all County workers and Hunterdon County residents. Enhanced SNAP benefits have been implemented as of April 2020 per the CARES Act. Ms. O'Reilly also referred the public to the county and state's website to apply for needed benefits. The Veteran's Service Officer continues to assist Veterans in need. Should the public have questions about veterans issues, they should contact Mr. Rich Booth. Ms. O'Reilly announced that fitness and health instructors are conducting classes online for senior citizens. Ms. O'Reilly also covered several matters related to the LINK. Ms. O'Reilly also highlighted that May is Mental Health Awareness Month.

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT: Kevin Davis**

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION #2020-303 – RESOLVED**, Approving Memorandum of Understanding with Somerset County for COVID-19 testing.

**Moved:** Ms. Soloway

**Seconded:** Mr. Rich

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

**Mr. Davis** – Covered several Memorial Day Parades that have been canceled so far. Municipal Access Liability Funds will freeze their 2021 budget, no higher than 2020 budget. Public hearing on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**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 May 05, 2020.

**Moved:** Mr. Rich

**Seconded:** Mr. Lanza

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

Approval of the regular meeting minutes of April 21, 2020.

**Moved:** Mr. Rich

**Seconded:** Mr. Lanza

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

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION #2020-304 – RESOLVED**, Authorizing the Freeholder Director to sign on behalf of the County of Hunterdon, a contract for Sale of Development Easement for the Bowlby Farm located in the Township of Raritan.

**Moved:** Mr. Rich

**Seconded:** Mr. Lanza

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

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION #2020-305 – RESOLVED**, Authorizing the appointment of John Peterson to the title of seasonal, Inspector Mosquito Extermination in the Division of Vector Services, of the Department of Health.

**Moved:** Mr. Rich

**Seconded:** Mr. Lanza

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

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION #2020-306 – RESOLVED**, Authorizing the appointment of Wayne Crans to the title of seasonal, Inspector Mosquito Extermination in the Division of Vector Services, of the Department of Health.

**Moved:** Mr. Rich

**Seconded:** Mr. Lanza

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

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION #2020-307 – RESOLVED**, Authorizing the appointment of Vincenzo Russo to the title of seasonal, Laboratory Assistant in the Division of Vector Services, of the Department of Health.

**Moved:** Mr. Rich

**Seconded:** Mr. Lanza

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

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION #2020-308 – RESOLVED**, Authorizing the appointment of Zoe Narvaez to the title of seasonal, Laboratory Assistant in the Division of Vector Services, of the Department of Health.

**Moved:** Mr. Rich

**Seconded:** Mr. Lanza

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

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION #2020-309 – RESOLVED**, **Authorizing the provisional promotion** of Katherine Powell to the title of Supervising Public Safety Telecommunicator, in Division of Communications, of the Department of Public Safety.

**Moved:** Mr. Rich

**Seconded:** Mr. Lanza

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

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION #2020-310 – RESOLVED**, Authorizing the provisional promotion of William Swaney to the title of Senior Public Safety Telecommunicator, in the Division of Communications, of the Department of Public Safety.

**Moved:** Mr. Rich

**Seconded:** Mr. Lanza

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

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION #2020-311 – RESOLVED**, Authorizing a \$1,000 increase in base salary for Jason Lawrence, Equipment Operator, in the Division of Roads, for one year of service in that title per the collective bargaining agreement with CWA Local 1036.

**Moved:** Mr. Rich

**Seconded:** Mr. Lanza

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

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION #2020-312 – RESOLVED**, Authorizing a \$1,000 increase in base salary for John Gamatko, Equipment Operator, in the Division of Roads, for one year of service in that title per the collective bargaining agreement with CWA Local 1036.

**Moved:** Mr. Rich

**Seconded:** Mr. Lanza

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

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION #2020-313 – RESOLVED**, Authorizing the inter department transfer of Darla Ballard, Senior Clerk Transcriber, from the Division of Vehicle Services to the Print Shop within Department of Administrative Services.

**Moved:** Mr. Rich

**Seconded:** Mr. Lanza

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

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION #2020-314 – RESOLVED**, Acknowledging the action of County Clerk Mary H. Melfi to appoint Kristin E. Weiland as a seasonal intern in the Office of the Hunterdon County Clerk.

**Moved:** Mr. Rich

**Seconded:** Mr. Lanza

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

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION #2020-315 – RESOLVED**, Authorizing the reappointment of Kevin P. Davis as County Administrator for a three-year term effective May 01, 2020 through April 30, 2023.

**Moved:** Mr. Rich

**Seconded:** Mr. Lanza

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

**Mr. Lanza** – gave appreciation to Mr. Davis and thanked him for his work and leadership with his terms.

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION #2020-316 – RESOLVED**, Authorizing the appointment of Kelly Pimenta to the title of Public Health Investigator, in the Hunterdon County Department of Health.

**Moved:** Mr. Rich

**Seconded:** Mr. Lanza

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

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**See Page 5/5/2020- RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION #2020-317 – RESOLVED**, Approval of a road opening hardship request from Travis Bowers.

**Moved:** Mr. Holt

**Seconded:** Mr. Lanza

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Ms. Caroline Scutt – Frenchtown** – Thanked the Board and Mr. Saluk for the approval of the grant earlier in the meeting. Commented on Mr. Holt’s statements on Economic Development and agreed to what he said. Commented on her responses to Code Blue and would like to see that issue handled before Fall and mentioned that it is important in case, we see COVID-19 come back in the winter and wants to look after the homeless. Mentioned that Meagan O’Reilly has been a great help to municipalities and thanked everyone for their leadership during this time.

**Mr. Van Doren** – agreed to discussing Code Blue before the colder weather comes

**Ms. Barbara Sachau – Raritan Township** – asked about the public comment in the beginning of the meeting. Would like to see it come back at the beginning, thinks that public comment should be moved to the beginning as well.

**Mr. Van Doren** – answered Ms. Sachau concerning her public comment and stated that he made the decision for one public comment due to technology issues with the ongoing conference calls during this ongoing health emergency. Once things get back to normal, two public comment sessions will be offered again.

**Ms. Sachau** also questioned several items on the claims register and stated that she wants things to reopen in the county.

#### **FREEHOLDER COMMENTS/REPORTS**

**Mr. Rich** – Expressed gratitude to the nurses, doctors, first responders and law enforcement officers who are on the frontlines of the COVID-19 public health emergency. Mr. Rich highlighted the county's essential employees including the 9-1-1 dispatchers, public health staff, Sheriff's Officers, Park Rangers, OEM staff and others as well. Mentioned Mr. Lanza's campaign last year and the effectiveness of the county government operations and the dedication of the employees and fiscal controls that were in place on behalf of the taxpayers. With this experience of COVID-19, he states that it wasn't just talk, it is the truth. Impressed by all of his colleagues and employees at this time of crisis. The reports from the Health Department and OEM Coordinator show just how much the County does when it is needed the most. Thanked Mr. Van Doren for his continued efforts with keeping the County Mayors informed during this time. Mentioned that along with Mr. Holt, he wants to see a more sensible plan by the state for returning to work and opening back up the economy as soon as possible. Appreciates all the hard work being done by the county and continues to support these efforts.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Motion by Mr. Lanza, seconded by Ms. Soloway at 7:12 PM, followed by voice carry.

#### **ADJOURN**

The Board adjourned at 8:12 PM on a motion by Freeholder Lanza and seconded by Freeholder Soloway and carried by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted.

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**Brad Myhre, Clerk to the Board**

Transcribed by:

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**Lindsay Heller, Secretary to the Board**