



Board of Chosen Freeholders

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MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New Internet Phone System To Save County Nearly \$200,000 Annually

Hunterdon County will save nearly \$200,000 annually in expenses for County government wide telephone service, under a new contract for a Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) telecommunications system with AT&T, awarded by the Freeholders at the May 15th Board meeting.

Freeholder Director Matt Holt stated, "By implementing the VoIP system, a key recommendation of the County's Information Technology Assessment report, we are advised that the County's annual communications cost will reduce from \$405,000 to \$207,000 per year going forward, a considerable savings for the taxpayers.

Substantial work has gone into this project from the staff at the County's Communications Division, IT Division, and Purchasing. All are to be congratulated for coming up with an effective communication system that takes advantage of technology while lowering costs."

The VoIP telephone system will use the County's current IP network to transmit voice communications to an AT&T data center where the calls are connected to the nationwide switched telephone network.

The new system replaces the Century Link Centrex system that has been in place for more than 30 years. VoIP will provide a number of enhanced calling features that are not available in the current Centrex environment at a dramatically reduced cost.

A contract in the amount of \$145,805 was awarded by the Freeholders to AT&T through the state contract system to install and host the VoIP system. "That capital outlay will be recovered in less than a year due to the annual cost savings," Holt said.