



HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

71 Main Street, Historic Hunterdon County Courthouse
Flemington, New Jersey 08822
February 2, 2021

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

Passcode: 403752

4:30 p.m. 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 06, 2021, 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 p.m. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNSEL ON EXECUTIVE SESSION

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS

Mr. Van Doren gave a report on the vaccine clinic in Hunterdon County. Although the vaccine clinic has been running smoothly, the County isn't receiving enough vaccinations from the State of New Jersey to meet demand. The supply issue is not limited to the Hunterdon County Health Department but is also affecting the Medical Center and the state mega sites, along with ShopRite. This has become an issue because the State increased the eligibility to four million people, and the state is only receiving 100,000 vaccine doses per week from the federal government. The limit of vaccines is the challenge in Hunterdon County, and the Health Department has been doing their best to accommodate all who are eligible for the vaccine. Mr. Van Doren noted that the Hunterdon County Health Department is not involved or in any formal relationship with the Hunterdon Healthcare vaccine clinic that is operated by the Hunterdon Medical Center.

Mr. Rich reported on the Public Works Department and their ongoing hard work responding to the recent snowstorm. Mr. Rich also noted that last Friday that he, Director Soloway, County Clerk Mary Melfi, and Sheriff Brown launched a public information campaign about the expanded veteran's property tax deduction. The information campaign is entitled "Veterans, You Earned It." Mr. Rich also reported that Veterans Service Officer (VSO) Richard Booth still has COVID-19 at home testing kits set aside for Veterans. Please contact VSO Booth directly for a testing kit Mr. Rich also reported on the Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board including noting that unemployment claims have dipped week over week.

Mr. Lanza reported on the Department of Public Safety and the recent snowstorm in Hunterdon County. Mr. Lanza commented on the launch of the Hunterdon County Safe Schools App with the Acting Prosecutor, Acting Chief of Detectives, and Interim Executive Superintendent, all worked on to help protect students in Hunterdon County. The app is grant funded and allows

students to report a crisis, abuse, threat, concerns of suicide, drug use or sales, bullying, assaults, planned attacks, weapons possessions, and other dangerous situation anonymously to law enforcement. These reports will be monitored 24/7 to ensure that a time sensitive matter is dealt with promptly.

Mr. Holt commented on Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals locating to the Perryville III facility in Union Township along I-78, and the involvement of the Hunterdon County Economic Development staff in helping with this property use. Mr. Holt reminded the public that the Planning Board will be holding a public hearing on the Highlands Conformance Plan on Thursday February 4th at 9:15 AM. The information on this is provided on the Planning Board's website.

Ms. Soloway reported on the Hope One program now offered in Hunterdon County. The Hope One van, which is a converted LINK bus, will be used to connect with the community with educational resources on addiction and mental health, including programs offered by the Department of Human Services. Ms. Soloway thanked Commissioner Van Doren for his report on the vaccine clinic and shares in his frustration along with that of the rest of the Board and the residents of Hunterdon County, about limited vaccine quantities. Ms. Soloway congratulated Commissioner Van Doren on his election as Secretary/ Treasurer of the New Jersey Association of Counties. Ms. Soloway thanked all those who were out moving snow and maintaining the roadways throughout the county over the last few days due to the snowstorm.

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITION

PROCLAMATION #2021-01 – 2021-05 - Recognizing recipients of the 2020 Teacher of the Year Award in Hunterdon County.

Moved: Mr. Lanza

Seconded: Mr. Rich

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

PARKS: Dan Bush, Division Head

RESOLUTION #2021-107 – ORDINANCE -2021-01 - Establishing the 2021 Heron Glen Golf Course rates.

Moved: Mr. Holt

Seconded: Mr. Lanza

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

Mr. Holt thanked Mr. Bush and his department for their operations during the pandemic with the Golf Course. Mr. Holt commented that the increases are needed for the upkeep of the golf course.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE: Marc Saluk, Director

Kingwood Township Grant - Mayor Richard Dodds provided an overview of a new trail app that was created for Kingwood Township Parks and funded by the County's Economic Development office.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORT: Karen DeMarco, Director of the Hunterdon County Department of Health provided an update on COVID-19 and County's ongoing vaccination efforts.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR: Kevin Davis

RESOLUTION #2021-108 – RESOLVED, Authorizing the Office of County Counsel to execute a contract with KESZ Technologies for the acquisition of a Vaccination Portal in an amount not to exceed \$54,150.00.

Moved: Mr. Van Doren

Seconded: Mr. Rich

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

GRANTS: Janet Previte, CFO

RESOLUTION #2021-109 – RESOLVED, Authorizing the Director of the Board of Commissioners to accept on behalf of the County, a Lead Exposure Prevention Grant from the New Jersey Department of Health in the amount of \$49,800.00 for the period of October 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

Moved: Mr. Lanza

Seconded: Mr. Holt

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

LAND USE / OPEN SPACE, Bob Hornby

RESOLUTION #2021-110 – RESOLVED, Authorizing the acceptance of the proposed assignment of a development easement for the property owned by Richard and Michael Curtis, located at 780 Rosemont Ringoes Road, Stockton, NJ and designated on the County tax map as Block 31, Lot 5 in the Township of Delaware

Moved: Mr. Holt

Seconded: Mr. Lanza

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

APPOINTMENTS

RESOLUTION #2021-111 – RESOLVED, Authorizing the appointment of Louise Hartman as a member to the Hunterdon County Mental Health Board (MHB), term to be effective immediately through December 31, 2022.

Moved: Mr. Van Doren

Seconded: Mr. Holt

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

RESOLUTION #2021-112 – RESOLVED, Authorizing the reappointment of Caroline Smallwood as a member to the Hunterdon County Local Advisory Committee on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, term to be effective immediately through December 31, 2022.

Moved: Mr. Van Doren

Seconded: Mr. Holt

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

RESOLUTION #2021-113 – RESOLVED, Authorizing the reappointment of Christina Honthy as a member to the County Alliance Steering Subcommittee (CASS) of the Local Advisory Committee on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse. Term to be effective immediately through December 31, 2022.

Moved: Mr. Van Doren

Seconded: Mr. Holt

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

RESOLUTION #2021-114 – RESOLVED, Authorizing the reappointment of Michael McDonough as a member to the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC), term to be effective immediately through December 31, 2022.

Moved: Mr. Van Doren

Seconded: Mr. Holt

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

RESOLUTION #2021-115 – RESOLVED, Approving the reappointment of Catherine Taglienti, as a member to the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC), term to be effective immediately through December 31, 2022.

Moved: Mr. Van Doren

Seconded: Mr. Holt

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

RESOLUTION #2021-116 – RESOLVED, Approving the reappointment of Paulette Luxich to the Hunterdon County Division of Senior, Disabilities and Veterans Services Advisory Council, term to be effective immediately through December 31, 2023.

Moved: Mr. Van Doren

Seconded: Mr. Holt

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

CONSENT AGENDA

“All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Hunterdon County Board of County Commissioners 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.”

RESOLUTION - Approval of claims in accordance with the Claims Register dated February 2, 2021.

Moved: Mr. Lanza

Seconded: Mr. Rich

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

RESOLUTION - Approval of the regular and executive session meeting minutes from January 19, 2021.

Moved: Mr. Lanza

Seconded: Mr. Rich

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

RESOLUTION #2021-117 – RESOLVED, Updating Hunterdon County speeds limits set by resolution on November 7, 1988 and September 10, 1991, at the request of Alexandria Township and Holland Township, to reduce the speed limit on County Routes 519 and 614, and update regulatory and warning signs as designated by the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

Moved: Mr. Lanza

Seconded: Mr. Rich

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

RESOLUTION #2021-118 – RESOLVED, Authorizing the Director of the Board of County Commissioners to sign Contract Modification #1 with M-Tec Construction Services for additional funds for the inspection and contract administration of the reconstruction of County Route 519, in an amount not to exceed \$58,960.38.

Moved: Mr. Lanza

Seconded: Mr. Rich

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

RESOLUTION #2021-119 – RESOLVED, Approving the provisional appointment of Katherine L. Fullerton as a Supervising Planner in the Hunterdon County Department of Planning & Land Use, Division of Planning.

Moved: Mr. Lanza

Seconded: Mr. Rich

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

RESOLUTION #2021-120 – RESOLVED, Acknowledging the action of the Acting County Prosecutor Michael J. Williams, to transfer and appoint Toby Hill, to the unclassified position Prosecutor's Agent in the Office of the Hunterdon County Prosecutor.

Moved: Mr. Lanza

Seconded: Mr. Rich

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

RESOLUTION #2021-121 – RESOLVED, Authorizing the Director of the Hunterdon County Board of County Commissioners to sign on behalf of the County of Hunterdon, a Public Donor Agreement to Contract #21AHKC reflecting the provision of \$26,836.00 in cash match funds, as required for State Social Services Block Grant funding.

Moved: Mr. Lanza

Seconded: Mr. Rich

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

RESOLUTION #2021-122 – RESOLVED, Authorizing the Director of the Board of County Commissioners, to sign on behalf of the County, a letter of support on behalf of Hunterdon Prevention Resources, to the State of New Jersey, for the SAMHSA FY 2021 Building Communities of Recovery (BCOR) grant program.

Moved: Mr. Lanza

Seconded: Mr. Rich

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

RESOLUTION #2021-123 – RESOLVED, Approving the temporary hire and temporary/emergency appointment of Kristen Umyrn as a Per Diem COVID-19 Vaccinator in the Hunterdon County Department of Health, Division of Public Health Nursing.

Moved: Mr. Lanza

Seconded: Mr. Rich

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

RESOLUTION #2021-124 – RESOLVED, Approving an amendment to Resolution 2020-702, in support of Hunterdon County Polytech's application for funding from the Securing Our Children's Future Bond Act.

Moved: Mr. Lanza

Seconded: Mr. Rich

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

CORRESPONDENCE

RESOLUTION #2021-125 – RESOLVED, Approving a request from the High Bridge Fire Department to host a coin toss on Saturday April 10, 2021 on Main Street in High Bridge from 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Moved: Mr. Lanza

Seconded: Mr. Van Doren

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

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Michelle – Whitehouse Station – sad and disheartened that some people think that others should not be able to express their constitutional rights. Supports Susan Soloway as the Director of the Board, and Ms. Soloway’s right to peacefully gather.

Renee Rowe – Readington – questions regarding Ms. Soloway and the Board. Upset about how the Board handled the meeting on January 19th, no apology from Ms. Soloway and Board sounded angry about the accusations.

Lloyd – Raritan Township – was on the bus with Ms. Soloway to Washington D.C. Shocked about previous comments about Ms. Soloway, and hopes the Board stands the firm and continues to serve Hunterdon County.

Barbara Sachau - Raritan Township – commented on the KESZ Technology resolution. Asked about the Prosecutor’s Agent hire on the consent agenda.

822 Buffalo Court Flemington - Raritan Township – expressed support for Ms. Soloway, and sad to see the way that she has been attacked during this time. Women’s groups on Social Media, even men, were attacking her for simply supporting that all votes be counted. Appreciates Ms. Soloway and all she has done.

Sarah Vargas - Lebanon Township – Expressed her concern about a lack of perceived accessibility of some members of the public to Commissioner meetings. Ms. Varga also spoke about the lack of a statement from the Commissioners on International Holocaust Day. Commented on Ms. Soloway’s involvement at the US Capital. Doesn’t think Ms. Soloway should resign but thinks that she needs to address this matter.

Ed Shay – Lebanon Township – no one on the Board has addressed if they think the election was a fraud or not. Thinks Ms. Soloway should resign. Commissioner should respect voting process.

Joyce Leslie – Red Mill Road – Lebanon Township – commented on the January 19th meeting, and questioned if Director Soloway believes the General Election results were legitimate. Hopes that Ms. Soloway will give an answer on this tonight, and she should confirm that our democracy works.

Alicia Lerman – Lambertville – Commented on the KESZ contract and questioned the need for every county to create its own vaccine schedule. Why do we still have an acting Prosecutor? Why hasn’t position been filled? Ms. Soloway’s attendance in US Capital, was the voting legit? Would like an answer from Ms. Soloway and the Board.

Kathleen Reed – Lebanon Borough – Spoke about accusations against Ms. Soloway’s recent trip to the U.S Capitol. Mentioned that Ms. Soloway does not give up her right to free speech just because she is an elected official. Ms. Soloway should not be blamed for the mischief that happened.

Trisha Daily – Lebanon Borough – supports Susan Soloway and her First Amendment rights. Ashamed that people are trying to cancel Ms. Soloway from her position.

Scott Wilhelm – Holland Township – Supports Ms. Soloway and so does most of Hunterdon County, just in silence. Ms. Soloway should continue to serve and wanted Ms. Soloway to know the majority of Hunterdon County is behind her.

Brian Hodgins – High Bridge Borough – Did Ms. Soloway participate in the storming of the Capitol? She did indirectly support the movement. What Ms. Soloway did was not peaceful, this act was a form of treason. Attempt to undermine democracy. Ms. Soloway should resign.

Alexa Tardy – Franklin Township – Ms. Soloway is a levelheaded person, strong leader, and works for the good of everyone. Expressed her support for Ms. Soloway.

Zachary Hodgins – Delaware Township – asked the Board to stand behind and beside Ms. Soloway during this time. Went on the bus with Ms. Soloway, and she did not participate in the storming of the US Capitol.

Frances Gavigan - East Amwell – Expressed her displeasure with the vaccine roll out but was pleased to hear directly from Mr. Van Doren and Ms. DeMarco about the issue. Ms. Gavigan was also happy about the contract with KESZ Technology. The way the County has been responding to the US Capitol, is understood, but there are more important issues than this. It is time to move forward and get on with business. Ms. Gavigan expressed her support of Ms. Soloway.

Tom Brokowski – Clinton Township – Expressed his support of Ms. Soloway. Ms. Soloway is the exact person he wants to represent him.

Mary Frangile – Town of Clinton – called upon the Commissioner Board to think about their character and consider what should be said in Hunterdon County.

Kim Rodgers - Califon Brough – appalled by the statement from the Commissioners that was released after the US Capitol riot. Demands to have the statement amended. Commissioners should state whether the recent election results were legitimate.

Liz Brickly – Bethlehem Township – not in support of Ms. Soloway's attendance at the US Capital. This matter deserves a discussion.

Elizabeth – Bethlehem Township – agrees with previous caller and wants to know from each member of the Board, if you accept Joe Biden as the President, and do you believe he was elected fairly.

Susan Blubaugh – Alexandria Township – agrees with the last three callers. Requesting that Ms. Soloway refrain from deleting comments on social media and believes that it is a bad look for the County. Public officials cannot block users or constituents on social media.

Cathy Callahan – Branchburg Resident – NJ Federated Woman – Expressed support for Ms. Soloway and expressed concern about cancel culture. Stop asking the Board to tell people that they are in support of the election. Ms. Soloway should never stop expressing her amendment rights.

ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Mr. Lanza addressed the Public Safety Department, and why Mr. Williams is still in an Acting Prosecutor capacity noting a gubernatorial appointment is needed with the advice and consent of the New Jersey Senate. Mr. Lanza noted that Acting Prosecutor is doing a great job. Mr. Lanza also commented on the past reports that the Commissioners have released concerning the U.S. Capitol violence and his support of Ms. Soloway's 1st Amendment Rights.

Mr. Holt reiterated on what he stated on January 19th. He remains focused on the positive things that the Board has done over the past years including strong financial record. It is the people of this County that are making this work. Mr. Holt thanked Mr. Lanza for his statement and noted that he remains focused on County business.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Reconvene if necessary)

ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned at 7:48 PM on a motion by Commissioner Lanza and seconded by Commissioner Rich and carried by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted.

Brad Myhre, Clerk to the Board

Transcribed by:

Lindsay Heller, Secretary to the Board

**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 County Commissioners 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:

I. LEGAL:

- Computer System Data Issue
- Increase in Attorney Contract for C-1 Stream Litigation

II. LAND:

- Diocese of Metuchen Property
- Franklin Township Property

I, Brad Myhre, Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners, 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 County Commissioners at a meeting held on February 16, 2021.

ROLL CALL	MOVED	SECONDED	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Susan J. Soloway, Director						
John E. Lanza, Deputy Director						
Shaun C. Van Doren, Commissioner						
J. Matthew Holt, Commissioner						
Zachary T. Rich, Commissioner						

ADOPTED February 16, 2021

Brad Myhre, CLERK