

REGULAR MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2011

9:00 AM

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item

1. CALL TO ORDER BY DIRECTOR at 9:07 am.

2. ROLL CALL: Freeholder Crabb; Freeholder Vohden; Freeholder Zellman;
Freeholder Director Zeoli; John Eskilson, County Administrator;
Dennis McConnell, County Counsel; Elaine Morgan, Clerk

Absent: Freeholder Space

3. MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG

4. PUBLIC STATEMENT

"Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 Adequate Notice as defined by Section 3D of Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, has been made by regular mail, such notice being submitted on February 15, 2011 from the Administrative Center of the County of Sussex, located at One Spring Street, Newton, New Jersey to the following:

New Jersey Herald	WSUS Radio
New Jersey Sunday Herald	WNNJ Radio
Star Ledger	

and is also posted on the bulletin board maintained in the Administrative Center for public announcements and has been submitted to the Sussex County Clerk in compliance with said Act."

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were none.

6. PROCLAMATIONS/CERTIFICATES/PRESENTATIONS

There were none.

7. PUBLIC SESSION FROM THE FLOOR

(Please note: Everyone is asked to keep their comments to 5 minutes or less)

MOTION made at 9:09 am by Freeholder Crabb to open the meeting to the Public, seconded by Freeholder Vohden and passed unanimously.

There was no one.

MOTION made at 9:10 am by Freeholder Crabb to close the meeting to the Public, seconded by Freeholder Vohden and passed unanimously.

8. FREEHOLDERS' COMMENTS

Comments from Freeholder Vohden

Champions for Charity

Freeholder Vohden said he attended the Champions for Charity at High Point High School and found out that High Point has a program for Community Service; it is a graduation requirement of 50 hours; he thought perhaps the County could use them for maybe filing, etc..

Agriculture Development Board

Freeholder Vohden said the Agriculture Development Board meets once a month; they evaluate and review the open space applications; they are on the road once or twice a year doing site visits; they visit and inspect all the farms, rank them, monitor the appraisals, surveys and the closings, which also keep the County Counsel busy; to date they have preserved over 16,500 acres of farmland on 165 farms; the amazing fact is that in Wantage there are 6,400 acres that are contiguous that are preserved forever; that is an area of 10 square miles.

He (Freeholder Vohden) said the Board also monitors the preserved farms to make sure they are in compliance with State regulations and to make sure the land is devoted to agriculture; he feels they should be recognized and thanked on the record for all the work they do.

Comments from Freeholder Crabb

Freeholder Crabb said he wanted to remind everyone that on January 12th there will be a stakeholders' meeting for the rehabilitation of the Franklin Viaduct; it will be held in Franklin Borough; there are two sessions, one at 2 pm for officials and technical aspects of it and then one for the general public either contiguous or an hour break from 6-8 pm or perhaps 5 pm.

County Counsel said if there are three Freeholders going to be there, the Clerk needs to advertise that three Freeholders will be there, but no action will be taken.

Freeholder Crabb said the Board had a very dynamic year and it looks like those dynamics will continue into the next year.

Comments from Freeholder Zellman

By-Laws

Freeholder Zellman said over the past 6 weeks or so, she had the opportunity to review the by-laws of all the Boards and Committees; she made comments on those and passed them on to the Clerk; there are some that she believes need to be updated; they have been around quite a while; there are others that probably should be updated to include language from earlier in the year requesting Boards provide input to the Freeholders rather than sending directives and/or correspondence directly out from that Board; there was a short discussion.

Freeholder Zellman said it also brought to mind all the work the Boards do and felt that County government wouldn't be County government as it is without the volunteer work from the many Boards.

Community Covenant

Freeholder Zellman wanted to follow up with the Community Covenant that was suggested by Mary Emilius; Mr. Eskilson said the County has received a draft letter from Ms. Emilius and she has asked that the Freeholder Director and himself sign the letter; there was a short discussion.

Freeholder Zellman told Freeholder Zeoli it has been a pleasure working with him and thanked him for all he has done for Sussex County.

Comments from Freeholder Zeoli

Freeholder Zeoli thanked everyone on the dias for everything they have done this year.

Freeholder Zeoli said the County received a very nice letter from Kevin Cattalina commending Mike from the Bridge Division; the employees of the County deserve a lot of credit from this Board because they have helped the Board weather the storm; employees agreed to a pay freeze and kept their heads up; they have showed a lot of pride for this County; the Board is very lucky to have all these employees.

9. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

A. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION TO PROVIDE FOR THE PURCHASE

669-2011 OF A STANDARDIZED CREDENTIALING SYSTEM FOR FIRST RESPONDERS AS SPECIFIED IN THE URBAN AREAS SECURITY INITIATIVE (USASI)

- B. **670-2011** RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX AND THE BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANT SERVICES PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE SHARED SERVICES ACT N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 ET SEQ.

The Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Sussex has reviewed the Consent Agenda consisting of various proposed Resolutions and determined that adoption of the said Resolutions is in and will further the public interest.

MOTION made by Freeholder Crabb to approve these Resolutions, seconded by Freeholder Vohden.

On roll call the vote was:

Freeholder Crabb	Yes
Freeholder Vohden	Yes
Freeholder Zellman	Yes
Freeholder Director Zeoli	Yes

10. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were none.

11. APPOINTMENTS AND/OR RESIGNATIONS

There were none.

12. RESOLUTIONS

There were none.

13. AWARDS OF CONTRACTS/CHANGE ORDERS/BIDS

There were none.

14. FINANCIAL

- A. **671-2011** RESOLUTION RE: TRANSFER OF 2011 CURRENT APPROPRIATIONS
- B. **672-2011** RESOLUTION RE: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SALE AND ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$2,600,000.00 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS (PENSION REFUNDING PROJECT), SERIES 2012 (FEDERALLY TAXABLE) (THE "BONDS"), OF THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZED BY A REFUNDING BOND ORDINANCE HERETOFORE DULY ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS OF THE COUNTY ON DECEMBER 14, 2011, TO REFUND CERTAIN OUTSTANDING PENSION REFUNDING BONDS OF THE COUNTY TO ACHIEVE DEBT SERVICE SAVINGS, AND PROVIDING FOR THE FORM AND CERTAIN MATTERS WITH RESPECT TO THE SALE AND ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS
- C. **673-2011** RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION TO CANCEL CERTAIN GENERAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AUTHORIZATION BALANCES

MOTION made by Freeholder Crabb to adopt these Resolutions, seconded by Freeholder Vohden.

On roll call the vote was:

Freeholder Crabb	Yes
Freeholder Vohden	Yes
Freeholder Zellman	Yes
Freeholder Director Zeoli	Yes

15. PERSONNEL

A. Resolutions

1. **RESOLUTION RE: ESTABLISHING AMENDMENTS TO VARIOUS POLICIES SET FORTH IN THE SUSSEX COUNTY EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK REGARDING BENEFITS FOR NON-REPRESENTED EMPLOYEES HIRED AFTER JANUARY 1, 2012**

MOTION made by Freeholder Crabb to adopt this Resolution, seconded by Freeholder Zellman and passed unanimously.

16. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

A. Other

Mr. Eskilson, County Administrator, said he had two items for action for the Board's consideration; one was Mary Emilius' letter and the other item is the renewal in the Statewide Insurance Fund, which is a renewal of all of the County's lines of insurance, workers' comp, general liability, police professional, public officials, etc..; he said that the County's 3 year commitments to both the PAIC fund and Statewide fund are up December 31 of this year; the good news is the Statewide Insurance Fund has come in with a proposal for all lines that is actually 1.3% lower than our total amount for 2011; staff is recommending that the County renew with the Statewide Fund for a period of 3 years for all lines of insurance as quoted.

Freeholder Zeoli asked if Statewide has agreed to cap the commission; Mr. Eskilson said it has.

Freeholder Zeoli asked that the Resolution for Statewide be added to New Business.

Mr. McConnell said there are actually two Resolutions and he would just like to read the titles for the record:

RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION TO JOIN THE STATEWIDE INSURANCE FUND

RESOLUTION RE: APPOINTMENT OF RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT

Freeholder Zeoli said with no objection he would move those Resolutions to New Business.

Mr. Eskilson thanked the entire Board for another year of support; everyone remains hopeful that we will turn the corner soon.

17. COUNTY COUNSEL

- A. Capital Projects
- B. Litigation
- C. Contract
- D. Other Matters

Mr. McConnell said he had nothing tonight except for the two Resolutions mentioned earlier and one caveat when they come up, there is some corrections that have to be made inside and himself, the Clerk and the Administrator will do that; it needs a little tweaking.

18. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was none.

19. NEW BUSINESS

Freeholder Zeoli said he would introduce those Resolutions with the caveat that the Board is authorizing Mr. Eskilson, Mr. McConnell and other staff as required to make the necessary technical adjustments.

RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION TO JOIN THE STATEWIDE INSURANCE FUND
675-2011

RESOLUTION RE: APPOINTMENT OF RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT
676-2011

MOTION made by Freeholder Vohden to adopt these Resolutions, seconded by Freeholder Crabb.

On roll call the vote was:

Freeholder Crabb	Yes
Freeholder Vohden	Yes
Freeholder Zellman	Yes
Freeholder Director Zeoli	Abstain

Letter from Mary Emilius

After a short discussion the Board agreed to have Ms. Emilius send this letter out under the Freeholder Director's and Mr. Eskilson's signatures.

MOTION made by Freeholder Zellman to give the Director and the County Administrator authorization to sign the letter after it is tweaked, seconded by Freeholder Vohden and passed unanimously.

20. PUBLIC SESSION FROM THE FLOOR
(Please note: Everyone is asked to keep their comments to 5 minutes or less)

MOTION made at 9:32 am by Freeholder Crabb to open the meeting to the Public, seconded by Freeholder Zellman and passed unanimously.

Judy Storms, Vernon Township, came forward and said she is a retired school teacher; she is the 2012 treasurer of the Sussex County Tea Party Patriots, but she is not here representing a specific view of the Tea Party; they do have a presentation that is excellent that they have presented before and they would love an opportunity to present it to the Board at some point in the near future to let the Board know about their concerns, her concerns in particular and it is about sustainable Jersey; explained some of her concerns to the Board; she handed the Board some information.

Freeholder Zeoli asked Ms. Storms to work with the Clerk about a time for the presentation.

MOTION made at 9:35 am by Freeholder Crabb to close the meeting to the Public, seconded by Freeholder Vohden and passed unanimously.

21. EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTION RE: REQUESTING EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no Executive Session for this meeting.

- A. Personnel
- B. Contract
- C. Litigation
- D. Other Matters

It is anticipated that the deliberations conducted in closed session may be disclosed to the public upon the determination of the Sussex County Board of Chosen Freeholders that the public interest will no longer be served by such confidentiality.

22. REMINDERS

Monday	January 2, 2012	New Year's Day(observed) Holiday	
Monday	January 2, 2012	Reorganization Meeting	12 Noon
		Historic Courthouse	
Wednesday	January 11, 2012	Regular Meeting	5:00 pm

Freeholder Zeoli made some very nice comments about everyone on the dais.

23. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION made at 9:39 am by Freeholder Zellman to adjourn, seconded by Freeholder Crabb and passed unanimously.

Elaine A. Morgan, Clerk

DATED: December 29, 2011