

REGULAR MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2014

9:00 AM

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item

1. CALL TO ORDER BY DIRECTOR at 9:02 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL Freeholder Graham; Freeholder Mudrick; Freeholder Phoebus;
Freeholder Director Vohden; John Eskilson, County
Administrator/Clerk; Dennis McConnell, County Counsel;
Cathy Williams, Secretary to County Administrator

Freeholder Crabb was not present.

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Freeholder Vohden advised, for the record, that Freeholder Crabb had called and was on his way.

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 January 8, 2014 and December 19, 2014 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 no Public Hearings.

6. PROCLAMATIONS/CERTIFICATES/PRESENTATIONS

A. PRESENTATIONS

1. Acknowledging the retirement of Susan R. Graham , Senior Library Assistant for Library Services, who retired after 16 years with the County

MOTION made by Freeholder Mudrick to approve this Presentation, seconded by Freeholder Graham and passed unanimously.

7. PUBLIC SESSION FROM THE FLOOR

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

MOTION made at 9:05 a.m. by Freeholder Phoebus to open the meeting to the Public, seconded by Freeholder Graham and passed unanimously.

Comment from Willard Klemm

Willard Klemm, 124 Fredon Marksboro Road, Waterwheel Farm came forward; he said that there was a bridge out on Puder Road that has been closed for a few years and he described how the bridge being closed has been a hardship for him when attempting to feed his 100 horses.

Freeholder Vohden asked that the record show that Freeholder Crabb arrived at 9:07 a.m.

There was a lengthy discussion concerning the bridge on Puder Road and the Board and Mr. Eskilson made Mr. Klemm aware of the fact that they were well informed about the situation and apologized to Mr. Klemm concerning his plight.

Comment from Jackie Espinoza

Jackie Espinoza of JCP&L came forward; she advised the Board that JCP&L would be opening up a two year "line school" next year at the Raritan Community College to train new linemen; she also updated the Board on the progress JCP&L was making with damage from the Thanksgiving storm especially in the Lake Mohawk area.

Freeholder Phoebus thanked Ms. Espinoza for her frequent updates to the Board.

MOTION made at 9:16 a.m. by Freeholder Mudrick to close the meeting to the Public, seconded by Freeholder Graham and passed unanimously.

8. FREEHOLDERS' COMMENTS

Comments by Freeholder Mudrick

- **50th Anniversary of the Vernon Township Ambulance Squad**

Freeholder Mudrick remarked that he, Freeholder Director Vohden and Freeholder Phoebus attended the 50th Anniversary Dinner/Dance Celebration of the Vernon Township Ambulance Squad at Black Bear Golf Club on Saturday, December 13th; he said that it was very well attended and Freeholder Director Vohden made a presentation on behalf of the Freeholder Board.

- **Project Self-Sufficiency Toy Shop**

Freeholder Mudrick commented that on December 20th he had the opportunity to attend the Project Self-Sufficiency Toy Shop where they handed out over 100,000 donated toys to over 17,000 children; he extended his kudos to Deborah Berry-Toon, her staff and all of the volunteers.

- **Budget Committee**

Freeholder Mudrick reported that he and Freeholder Crabb have been continuously working with County Treasurer, Bernie Re, County Administration and Department Heads where countless hours have been spent on preliminary budget work for 2015.

- **Word of Thanks**

Freeholder Mudrick thanked Freeholder Vohden for his nearly two years of service as Director to this Board; he applauded Freeholder Vohden on his unique way of handling the demands of being Director.

Freeholder Mudrick also recognized the other members of the Board and said what a pleasure it was to serve on the Board with them; he also recognized the County Administrator, County Counsel, Cathy Williams and Trish Springer and wished everyone a happy, prosperous new year.

Comments by Freeholder Crabb

- **Recognition of Freeholder Vohden**

Freeholder Crabb recognized Freeholder Director Vohden for being the most prepared Freeholder of all time and said that he ran all the Freeholder Meetings with dignity and a firm hand which is something to be admired.

- **Project Self-Sufficiency**

Freeholder Crabb mentioned that he had the pleasure of being an honorary reader at Project Self-Sufficiency; he said he also had the pleasure of viewing the Toy Room and was truly impressed by how much it looked like Santa's workshop. Freeholder Crabb applauded Project Self-Sufficiency for what they do for the community on an ongoing basis.

- **Budget Committee**

Freeholder Crabb said that he and Freeholder Mudrick were involved in several Budget meetings since the last Freeholder meeting with several more following this meeting.

Comments by Freeholder Graham

- **Capital Projects**

Freeholder Graham reported that he and Freeholder Phoebus have been involved in three Capital Projects meetings and they are looking at keeping the Capital budget down as low as possible but at the same time understanding that the County has to continue making investments in the infrastructure that keeps this County secure and those are roads and roofs.

- **Thanks to Freeholder Director Vohden**

Freeholder Graham thanked Freeholder Director Vohden for being generous with his knowledge, not just in the generosity of saying what you think, but for throwing something out there, totally understanding that there will be opposite opinions and working them out and looking at them from different perspectives.

Comments by Freeholder Phoebus

- **Thanks to Freeholder Director Vohden**

Freeholder Phoebus also thanked Freeholder Director Vohden for two wonderful years; she agreed with what the other three Freeholders had said and thanked him for having the patience to guide her along in this position and enabling her to become a better Freeholder through his guidance to serve the residents of this County.

- **Lackawanna Cutoff**

Freeholder Phoebus reported they are getting there, however, they are still waiting for the DEP to release the permits, but it looks like it's getting closer to that; and finally they have come up with a year to start construction and that appears to be 2016 and she believes that will help Sussex County's economy to be able to provide mass transit.

Mr. Eskilson said he just received information that Sussex Commons, after approximately 10 years in the works, has received their discharge permit from NJ DEP.

Comments by Freeholder Vohden

- **New Jersey Association of Counties (NJAC) Summit**

Freeholder Vohden reported that on December 12th he attended the NJAC Summit on the Transportation Trust Fund at the Trenton Country Club; he said the program consisted of two panels which were made up of State and County Executives and transportation industry experts where the discussion focused on the need to establish

a stable, dependable and long term source of funding for the Transportation Trust Fund.

- **New Jersey Highlands Act**

Freeholder Vohden mentioned that the New Jersey Highlands Act is more than 10 ½ years old and the Regional Master Plan was adopted in 2008 to protect the natural resources of the Highlands Region; he provided statistics on the Master Plan and the requirements for its review. Freeholder Vohden advised the Board that there is a Stakeholder Outreach Workshop on Monday, January 12, 2015 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Sussex County Technical School in the Cafeteria.

- **Thank you from Freeholder Director**

Freeholder Vohden said that since this is his last meeting as Director he wanted to take this time to thank everyone for working through 2014 as a team.

9. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. RESOLUTION RE: PAYMENT OF BILLS FOR DECEMBER 22, 2014
663-2014 AUTHORIZED ON JANUARY 3, 2014
- B. RESOLUTION RE: TRANSFER OF 2014 CURRENT APPROPRIATIONS
664-2014
- C. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION TO CANCEL CERTAIN CURRENT
665-2014 FUND APPROPRIATION BALANCES
- D. RESOLUTION RE: CANCELLATION OF OUTSTANDING CHECKS
666-2014
- E. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE
667-2014 COUNTY OF SUSSEX AND NEWTON MEDICAL CENTER FOR THE SUSSEX COUNTY TRANSITIONAL CARE PROGRAM (*Resolution authorizes this Agreement with Newton Medical Center providing \$165,000.00 and the County providing \$100,000.00 for a total of \$265,000.00*)
- F. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO AN AWARDED
668-2014 CONTRACT FOR PARTICIPATION WITH THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY IN THE COUNTY PROSECUTOR INSURANCE FRAUD REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM ADMINISTRED BY THE OFFICE OF THE INSURANCE FRAUD PROSECUTOR(*Amending Resolution of November 12, 2014 of a typographical error for the requested amount of funding to \$114,452.78*)
- G. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING ENTRY INTO A PROFESSIONAL
669-2014 SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH RHM BENEFITS, INC. TO PROVIDE BROKER SERVICES FOR HEALTH AND PRESCRIPTION DRUG INSURANCE WITHOUT COMPETITIVE BIDDING AS AN EXTRAORDINARY UNSPECIFIABLE SERVICE PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(M) (*County desires to incorporate the Broker/Consulting Services for prescription drug with the health insurance services into one agreement*)

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Freeholder Vohden added two additional Resolutions.

- H. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION TO CANCEL CERTAIN GENERAL
670-2014 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AUTHORIZATION BALANCES
- I. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION TO CANCEL CERTAIN GENERAL
671-2014 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AUTHORIZATION BALANCES

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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 Graham to approve the Financial Consent Agenda, seconded by Freeholder Mudrick.

On Roll Call the vote was:

Freeholder Crabb	Yes
Freeholder Graham	Yes
Freeholder Mudrick	Yes
Freeholder Phoebus	Yes
Freeholder Director Vohden	Yes

10. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were no Minutes to approve for this Meeting.

11. APPOINTMENTS AND/OR RESIGNATIONS

There were no Appointments and/or Resignations.

12. RESOLUTIONS

- A. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION TO JOIN THE STATEWIDE
672-2014 INSURANCE FUND
- B. RESOLUTION RE: THE SUPPORT FOR ESTABLISHING THE KOSA
673-2014 VETERANS SUPPORT CENTER IN FRANKLIN, NEW
JERSEY

MOTION made by Freeholder Graham to adopt these Resolutions, seconded by Freeholder Mudrick.

Mr. McConnell asked for a Roll Call Vote since there was money involved in Resolution 12.A.

On Roll Call the vote was:

Freeholder Crabb	Yes
Freeholder Graham	Yes
Freeholder Mudrick	Yes
Freeholder Phoebus	Yes
Freeholder Director Vohden	Yes

13. AWARDS OF CONTRACTS/CHANGE ORDERS/BIDS

There were no Awards of Contracts/Change Orders/Bids.

14. FINANCIAL

There were no Financial items.

15. PERSONNEL

- A. Personnel Agenda (no Personnel Agenda for this meeting)

16. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

- A. Other

Mr. Eskilson remarked that he is now going into his 35th year of service with Government in New Jersey and after serving for many elected officials over the years, he wanted to say that none of them that he served under or for have served with more humility, integrity, sincerity, or strength of conviction than Freeholder Director Rich Vohden; he said it has sincerely been an honor to serve with Freeholder Director Vohden for the last two years.

17. COUNTY COUNSEL

Mr. McConnell said that he would like to echo everything Mr. Eskilson and this Board has said about Freeholder Director Vohden and added that it has been an absolute honor and pleasure to deal with Freeholder Director Vohden; he said he has worked with many Freeholder Directors and Freeholder Director Vohden is outstanding in the crowd.

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

18. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished Business.

19. NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business.

20. PUBLIC SESSION FROM THE FLOOR

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

MOTION made at 9:42 a.m. by Freeholder Phoebus to open the meeting to the Public, seconded by Freeholder Graham and passed unanimously.

There was no one present.

MOTION made at 9:43 a.m. by Freeholder Phoebus to close the meeting to the Public, seconded by Freeholder Graham and passed unanimously.

21. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no items for Executive Session.

RESOLUTION RE: REQUESTING EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 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

Thursday	January 1, 2015	New Year's Day	Holiday
Friday	January 2, 2015	Reorganization Meeting	6:00 pm
		(Historic Courthouse)	

Freeholder Vohden asked Mr. Eskilson what the outcome was of the President's Proclamation.

Mr. Eskilson replied that the County remained open; four Union contracts triggered a holiday provision so there were decisions made as to whether to bring in key staff and pay an overtime rate or allow people to take off; the two CWA Unions, 1032 and Supervisor Rank and File, did not have that provision in the Contract; therefore, the County remained open. The specifics were immediately run by Labor Counsel when the Proclamation came down to determine if there was a trigger in all the PBA Units and CWA 1083 Unit and got a legal opinion that yes, in fact, it did a trigger based on the contract language.

There was a short discussion.

23. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION made at 9:46 a.m. by Freeholder Mudrick to adjourn, seconded by Freeholder Graham and passed unanimously.

John H. Eskilson, Clerk

DATED: DECEMBER 30, 2014