

REGULAR MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2009

5:00 PM

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item

1. CALL TO ORDER BY DIRECTOR at 5:02 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL: Freeholder Crabb; Freeholder Parrott; Freeholder Wirths;
Freeholder Director Vetrano; Dennis McConnell, County
Counsel; John Eskilson, County Administrator; Elaine Morgan,
Clerk

Freeholder Zellman arrived at 5:05 p.m.

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 5, 2009 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
The Daily Record	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. Proclamations/Certificates

1. Proclamation in recognition of Stephen Panek attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.

130-2009

2. Proclamation designating the month of March as "American Red Cross Month".

131-2009

3. Certificate for the Wanderers Car Club of Northern New Jersey in recognition of being the recipient of the Community Service Award presented by the Chinkchewunaska Chapter of The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution 2009.

132-2009

4. Certificate for Leonard Peck in recognition of being the recipient of the Preservation Award presented by the Chinkchewunaska Chapter of The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution 2009.

133-2009

5. Certificate for William R. Truran in recognition of being the recipient of the History Award presented by the Chinkchewunaska Chapter of The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution 2009.

134-2009

6. Certificate for Jennie Sweetman in recognition of being the recipient of the Ramsey/Stamy/Ayers Memorial Award presented by the Chinkchewunska Chapter of The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution 2009.

135-2009

7. Certificate for Monsignor Kieran McHugh for being chosen by the Sussex County St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee to serve as the 2009 Grand Marshal for the St. Patrick's Day Parade Newton, NJ.

136-2009

8. Certificate for Kyler Steele, Florence M. Burd School, for being chosen as a recipient of the Sussex County 2009 "Human Spirit Award" for assisting in saving the life of a student who was choking.

137-2009

9. Certificate for Cameron Bailey, Florence M. Burd School, for being chosen as a recipient of the Sussex County 2009 "Human Spirit Award" for assisting in saving the life of a student who was choking.

138-2009

10. Certificate for Brian Zakrewski, Florence M. Burd School, for being chosen as a recipient of the Sussex County 2009 "Human Spirit Award" for assisting in saving the life of a student who was choking.

139-2009

11. Certificate for Jack Thiel, Florence M. Burd School, for being chosen as a recipient of the Sussex County 2009 "Human Spirit Award" for assisting in saving the life of a student who was choking.

140-2009

12. Certificate for Candy Meeler, Florence M. Burd School, for being chosen as a recipient of the Sussex County 2009 "Human Spirit Award" for assisting in saving the life of a student who was choking.

141-2009

13. Certificate for Nancy Hansen, Florence M. Burd School, for being chosen as a recipient of the Sussex County 2009 "Human Spirit Award" for assisting in saving the life of a student who was choking.

142-2009

14. Certificate for Brendan Branning for being chosen as a recipient of the Sussex County 2009 "Human Spirit Award" for assisting and remaining with the victim of an automobile accident until emergency services arrived.

143-2009

15. Certificate for Sean Marks for being chosen as a recipient of the Sussex County 2009 "Human Spirit Award" for assisting and remaining with the victim of an automobile accident until emergency services arrived.

144-2009

16. Certificate for Colin Fricke for being chosen as a recipient of the Sussex County 2009 "Human Spirit Award" for assisting and remaining with the victim of an automobile accident until emergency services arrived.

145-2009

17. Certificate for Kathy Permunion for being chosen as a recipient of the Sussex County 2009 "Human Spirit Award" for assisting in saving the life of an autistic child who had wandered into the street.

146-2009

18. Certificate for Skyler Post for being chosen by the Saint Barnabas Burn Foundation and the Aluminum Cans for Burned Children (ACBC) as a County winner in the 2009 "Burn Awareness Poster Contest".
147-2009

MOTION made by Freeholder Parrott to approve these Proclamations and these Certificates, seconded by Freeholder Crabb and passed unanimously.

Presentation of Proclamation to the Rotary

Freeholder Wirths presented a Proclamation to representatives of the Rotary; this Proclamation acknowledged February 23, 2009, as "Rotary Day" and had been listed on the February 11, 2009.

Presentation of Proclamation to Red Cross

Freeholder Vetrano presented a Proclamation to Pat Day from the Red Cross, proclaiming March as "Red Cross Month".

7. **PUBLIC SESSION FROM THE FLOOR**
(Please note: Everyone is asked to keep their comments to 10 minutes or less)

MOTION made at 5:25 p.m. by Freeholder Wirths to open the meeting to the Public, seconded by Freeholder Parrott and passed unanimously.

There was no one.

MOTION made at 5:26 p.m. by Freeholder Crabb to close the meeting to the Public, seconded by Freeholder Zellman and passed unanimously.

8. **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. RESOLUTION RE: PAYMENT OF BILLS
148-2009
- B. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION FOR THE FREEHOLDER DIRECTOR AND THE CLERK OF THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS TO EXECUTE THE SALARY REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX AND RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION, RUTGERS, THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY, FOR THE PROVISION OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES IN THE AREAS OF AGRICULTURE, HOME ECONOMICS, AND 4-H DEVELOPMENT FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2009
- C. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION FOR THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS TO EXECUTE MODIFICATION #1 OF CONTRACT #09-41-CCC-L-2 WITH THE NJ DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW JERSEY COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CONTROL PLAN AT THE COUNTY LEVEL FOR THE CONTRACT PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2008 TO JUNE 30, 2009 (Resolution authorizes Modification #1 to reflect changes in the budget categories of Personnel Costs, including Salaries and Wages; Other Cost Categories, including Program Expense and Related Costs; and Travel, Conferences and Meetings)
150-2009

- D. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWNSHIP OF BYRAM PROVIDING FOR ROAD SIGN MANUFACTURING SERVICES BY THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 ET SEQ. AND N.J.S.A. 40A:11-10 ET SEQ.
- E. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX TO ENTER INTO A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE FOR THE PROVISION OF AN EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM THROUGH ALLIANCE WORK PARTNERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 ET SEQ. AND N.J.S.A. 40A11-10 ET SEQ.
- F. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION FOR THE FREEHOLDER DIRECTOR AND CLERK TO EXECUTE THE FISCAL YEAR 2009 SUBREGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING WORK PROGRAM SUBCONTRACT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX AND THE NORTH JERSEY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AUTHORITY (Resolution authorizes this Subcontract to provide \$40,720.50 in Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Planning Funds, \$13,573.50 in Federal Transit Administrator (FTA) Funds (for a total Federal funding allotment of \$54,294.00) and \$13,573.50 in Sussex County In-Kind Funds (Local Match))
- G. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION FOR THE FREEHOLDER DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE A GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT (VOCA) VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROJECT ADMINISTERED BY THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY, DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE, OFFICE OF VICTIM WITNESS ADVOCACY FOR THE PERIOD MARCH 16, 2009 THROUGH MARCH 15, 2010 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$76,892.00 STATE SHARE AND \$19,223.00 IN KIND MATCH

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 Zellman to approve the Financial Consent Agenda, seconded by Freeholder Crabb.

On Roll Call the vote was:

Freeholder Crabb	Yes
Freeholder Parrott	Yes
Freeholder Wirths	Yes
Freeholder Zellman	Yes
Freeholder Director Vetrano	Yes

9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were no minutes for approval.

10. APPOINTMENTS AND/OR RESIGNATIONS

A. Appointments

1. RESOLUTION RE: REAPPOINTMENT OF THE MEMBERSHIP OF
Tabled THE SUSSEX COUNTY STRATEGIC GROWTH
ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR TERMS OF TWO
YEARS EACH (Resolution reappoints these
members for terms expiring December 31, 2010)

MOTION made by Freeholder Parrott to table this Resolution, seconded by Freeholder Wirths.

Question on Strategic Growth Advisory Committee

Freeholder Wirths asked if there continued to be a purpose to have the Strategic Growth Advisory Committee.

Mr. Eskilson replied that the job was completed when the Strategic Growth Plan was adopted; the Planning Director felt there was a reason to keep the Advisory Committee in place to solicit its input on Plan Endorsement Petitions by municipal governments to the State Planning Commission with the idea that it would be able to help; he added that there were currently a number of Plan Endorsement Petitions pending.

The Motion was approved unanimously.

11. RESOLUTIONS

- A. RESOLUTION RE: ESTABLISHING SPEED LIMITS ALONG SUSSEX
155-2009 COUNTY ROUTE 517 BETWEEN MILE POST 32.74 AND
MILE POST 40.20 WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP OF SPARTA,
BOROUGH OF OGDENSBURG, AND BOROUGH OF
FRANKLIN
- B. RESOLUTION RE: PROPOSED REVISION TO THE SUSSEX COUNTY
156-2009 WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE
MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF SALESIAN SISTERS,
HAMPTON TOWNSHIP
- C. RESOLUTION RE: HIGHLANDS PLAN CONFORMANCE
157-2009

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

Resolution 11. A.

Freeholder Crabb suggested that the reporter from the NJ Herald make a note of the speed limit change; he added that he felt the travelling public would appreciate being made aware of this change.

The Motion was approved unanimously.

12. AWARDS OF CONTRACTS/CHANGE ORDERS/BIDS

A. Awards of Contract

1. **RESOLUTION RE: 158-2009** AUTHORIZING ENTRY INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH BROWN AND BROWN METRO, 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) (Resolution authorizes this Agreement in the amount not to exceed \$104,166.68 for calendar year 2009)

2. **RESOLUTION RE: 159-2009** AWARD OF CONTRACT BASED ON PROPOSALS RECEIVED THROUGH THE COMPETITIVE CONTRACTING PROCESS FOR THE PROVISION OF A NUTRITION SERVICES INCENTIVE PROGRAM (NSIP) WITH CATHOLIC FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF USDA FUNDS FOR THE CONGREGATE NUTRITION PROGRAM AND HOME DELIVERED MEAL PROGRAM FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 1, 2009 TO DECEMBER 31, 2009 (Resolution awards this contract to provide \$5,027.00 in USDA Reimbursement for the Congregate Nutrition Program and \$5,220.00 in USDA Reimbursement for the Home Delivered Meal Program)

3. **RESOLUTION RE: 160-2009** AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH NEWTON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL FOR THE PROVISION OF PHYSICIAN SERVICES FOR THE INMATES WITHIN THE KEOGH-DWYER CORRECTIONAL FACILITY PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a)(i) (Resolution authorizes this Contract in the amount not to exceed \$65,000.00 for calendar year 2009)

Change to Resolution 12. A. 1.

Mr. McConnell stated that with regard to Resolution 12. A. 1., the Agreement with Brown and Brown Metro, Inc., was actually for the sum of \$125,000.00; he added that for the record, the amount was \$125,000.00.

MOTION made by Freeholder Zellman to adopt these Resolutions, seconded by Freeholder Parrott.

On Roll Call the vote was:

Freeholder Crabb	Yes
Freeholder Parrott	Yes
Freeholder Wirths	Yes
Freeholder Zellman	Yes
Freeholder Director Vetrano	Yes

B. Change Orders

1. RESOLUTION RE: AWARD OF CHANGE ORDER NUMBER 3, FINAL, TO A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX AND OWL CONTRACTING FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF COUNTY ROUTE 515 BETWEEN MP 8.14 & MP 8.54 IN THE TOWNSHIP OF VERNON (Resolution authorizes this increase in the amount of \$32,193.55 to a total adjusted amount of \$1,848,053.18 (6.78%))
161-2009

MOTION made by Freeholder Wirths to adopt this Resolution, seconded by Freeholder Zellman.

On Roll Call the vote was:

Freeholder Crabb	Yes
Freeholder Parrott	Yes
Freeholder Wirths	Yes
Freeholder Zellman	Yes
Freeholder Director Vetrano	Yes

13. FINANCIAL

- A. RESOLUTION RE: TRANSFER OF 2008 APPROPRIATION RESERVES
162-2009

MOTION made by Freeholder Wirths to adopt this Resolution, seconded by Freeholder Parrott.

On Roll Call the vote was:

Freeholder Crabb	Yes
Freeholder Parrott	Yes
Freeholder Wirths	Yes
Freeholder Zellman	Yes
Freeholder Director Vetrano	Yes

B.

**INTRODUCTION FOR FIRST READING – BOND ORDINANCE
163-2009**

BOND ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS TO THE SUSSEX COUNTY VOCATIONAL SCHOOL, APPROPRIATING \$800,000.00 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$800,000.00 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE COUNTY FOR FINANCING PART OF THE COST THEREOF

MOTION to adopt this Bond Ordinance on first reading made by Freeholder Wirths, seconded by Freeholder Crabb.

Comment on Bond Ordinance

Freeholder Wirths stated that this was within the spending plan of \$6.7 million of much needed projects.

Freeholder Parrott requested that when the Bond finally went out for auction, that the Board be informed as to what the rate was.

On Roll Call the vote was:

Freeholder Crabb	Yes
Freeholder Parrott	Yes
Freeholder Wirths	Yes
Freeholder Zellman	Yes
Freeholder Director Vetrano	Yes

MOTION to authorize the Clerk to advertise this Bond Ordinance as introduced for first reading, and also post same on the bulletin board in the lobby of the County Administrative Center, together with a Notice of Public Hearing stating that a hearing will be held on March 11, 2009 at 5:00 pm prior to final adoption of this Bond Ordinance made by Freeholder Zellman, seconded by Freeholder Crabb and passed unanimously.

14. **PERSONNEL**

A. Personnel Agenda

MOTION made by Freeholder Zellman to approve the Personnel Agenda in accordance with the County Administrator's recommendations, seconded by Freeholder Wirths.

Item #2 on Personnel Agenda

Freeholder Crabb asked if it was normal for motor vehicle reimbursements to be added into the salary rather than a separate expense payment.

Mr. Eskilson said that this was probably the first time this has been done; this was a part of this employee's original agreement of employment and it was done via discussion with the Liaison and then Director at that time; the discussion for this goes back to last year; he said that he could not point to a normal process because he did not think the County had this particular circumstance before.

Freeholder Zellman asked if this meant that the employee would be using his own vehicle rather than using a County vehicle; Mr. Eskilson said that this employee would not have access to a County vehicle 24/7, but there would be trips to Trenton and the employee would have access to fleet cars, otherwise the County would pay him (this employee) mileage on his own car.

There was a short discussion.

Freeholder Zellman asked if this impacted the County's insurance for that particular vehicle; Mr. Eskilson said that this should take the County's insurance down; he said that he was not sure if it would be that particular vehicle, but one vehicle would come off the back end and would be one less car on the insurance; he said it would probably be another vehicle as this one in particular was a newer vehicle.

There was a short discussion.

The Motion was passed unanimously.

15. **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

A. Other

Mr. Eskilson stated that he had no report at this time, but had one item under Contracts for Closed Session.

16. COUNTY COUNSEL

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

Additional Resolution for the Board's consideration

Mr. McConnell stated that he had an additional Resolution regarding the Note to be issued by the Sussex County Municipal Utilities Authority in the amount of \$5,496,000.00; there are a couple of additional documents that need to be signed by the Freeholder Director and the Clerk of the Board.

RESOLUTION RE: 164-2009 AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A CONTINUING DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT AND A COUNTY CERTIFICATE REQUIRED BY THE NOTE PURCHASE CONTRACT AND AS TO SIGNATURE, NO LITIGATION AND OFFICIAL STATEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH THE SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY PAULINS KILL BASIN WATER RECLAMATION FACILITIES AND THE ISSUANCE BY THE SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY OF WASTEWATER FACILITY NOTES AND REVENUE BONDS IN AN AMOUNT NOT EXCEEDING \$5,496,000.00

MOTION made by Freeholder Wirths to adopt this Resolution, seconded by Freeholder Crabb.

On Roll Call the vote was:

Freeholder Crabb	Yes
Freeholder Parrott	Yes
Freeholder Wirths	Yes
Freeholder Zellman	Yes
Freeholder Director Vetrano	Yes

17. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished Business.

18. NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business.

19. PUBLIC SESSION FROM THE FLOOR

(Please note: Everyone is asked to keep their comments to 10 minutes or less)

MOTION made at 5:54 p.m. by Freeholder Crabb to open the meeting to the Public, seconded by Freeholder Parrott and passed unanimously.

There was no one.

MOTION made at 5:55 p.m. by Freeholder Crabb to close the meeting to the Public, seconded by Freeholder Parrott and passed unanimously.

20. FREEHOLDERS' COMMENTS

Veteran's Committee

Freeholder Zellman said that the Veteran's Committee has met to discuss how to use the funds that remained after the construction of the Veteran's Monument in the Newton Square; she said that \$5,000.00 would be put into a reserve for maintenance over the next ten years; there was also money set aside for wreaths and bows to acknowledge significant times throughout the year; in addition, the Committee has been working with a professional landscaper to design a garden which would be representative of the six branches of the service; this would be of no cost to the County as it would be using some of the remaining funds; Freeholder Zellman said that once the plans were discussed with Brian Olesak, the plans would be presented to the Board.

Money \$mart Week

Freeholder Zellman said that Money \$mart Week was being planned for April 17 -23, 2009; she said that there would be events for teens at the YMCA, panel discussions with financial experts at Project Sufficiency, plus workshops in the morning at the Library; workshops would be held at the Administrative Center in the evening on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday; she added that she felt it would be quite interesting and would keep the Board apprised.

Youth in County Government Day

Freeholder Zellman said that Youth in County Government Day was April 22, 2009; invitations will be going out to the schools.

Six County Coalition Meeting

Freeholder Zellman said that the Six County Coalition Meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, April 1, 2009, 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at the Adam Todd; Sussex County is the host; she said there would also be a legislative update with New Jersey Association of Counties on the effect of the stimulus package on the Counties.

Human Services Liaison Meeting

Freeholder Zellman provided the following brief highlights of her Liaison Meeting with Human Services:

- **Homestead** – looking forward to maximizing the revenue at the end of 2009, which will hopefully be able to offset some expenses in other areas of County Government; over \$200,000.00 was collected last year from outstanding collections; in 2008 there were fewer collections left on the table than any other year.
- **Rehab program at Homestead** – will enable County and municipal employees who are out on Workers' Compensation to have their rehab at the Homestead.
- **Healthy Living Project** – Freeholder Zellman said that she attended the kick-off for the Healthy Living Project; she felt this program would be helpful for people experiencing a chronic illness.
- **Space constraints of Senior Services** – Freeholder Zellman said that she was aware that the space constraints Senior Services was experiencing was being discussed.

Mr. Eskilson said that Capital Projects was actually working on a broad space plan which involved moving quite a number of operations around.

- **Division of Social Services** – had 1,559 visitors to its office in January; emergency assistance cases are up 92%, which the next closest County is up 52%; also, Transit rides have gone up.

Northwest Bus Study

Freeholder Zellman mentioned that she had attended a meeting regarding the Northwest Bus Study, which was held at Senator's Oroho's office; Jim Gilligan from NJ Transit was present and spoke about a number of different options that are being explored in Sussex County that would incorporate with the circular Transit route; NJ Transit is perhaps linking up and hopefully, trying to incorporate more viable roads into Vernon, either going into Franklin or into Vernon, and maybe even linking up Warwick, New York; if it went to Franklin, the expenditure would be a \$250,000.00 cost to NJ Transit for the year; if it went to Vernon and Warwick, it would be \$650,000.00 in expenses for the year for NJ Transit.

Freeholder Zellman said that she put NJ Transit in touch with Tammie Horsfield at the Sussex County Chamber and Carol Novrit at the Sussex County Division of Social Services.

Meeting in Trenton regarding Route 23 bypass

Freeholder Zellman said that she spoke with Mayor Chris Parrott of Sussex Borough who went to Trenton with representatives from the Borough and Shop Rite to attend the meeting that she had arranged; she said that Mayor Parrott seemed very pleased with the outcome; plans for the Route 23 bypass are moving forward.

Freeholder Wirths asked what the timeframe would be; Freeholder Zellman said that it was in the design phase right now and thought that it might be 2010.

Meeting in Trenton

Freeholder Parrott said that he spoke with the Mayor of Sussex Borough who thanked Freeholder Zellman for setting up the meeting in Trenton; he added that the Mayor said the meeting went extremely well.

Farmland Preservation Program

Freeholder Parrott said that he had a visit from an individual who is in the Farmland Preservation Program; he said that one thing that was very enlightening was that this individual was very complimentary as to the way County Counsel continued to keep him apprised as to what was going on; Freeholder Parrott thanked County Counsel.

Article in NJ Herald regarding the County's Bond rating

Freeholder Parrott said that he felt that the staff, County Treasurer, and Freeholder Board worked to be conservative to insure that the taxpayers are afforded the best possible representation; he said that he appreciated everything that everyone did for the people of the County.

Comments on Capital Projects budget

Freeholder Wirths thanked the NJ Herald for its article; he said that he felt it was a glimmer of hope in this economic tsunami of bad news; he said that the Capital Projects budget was ready and would come to the Budget Committee for approval and then on to the Freeholder Board; Freeholder Wirths said that the reason the County gets such great bond ratings is because the County sets benchmarks and spending plans and adheres to the list of \$6.7 million, paying off more debt than is put out each year or an equal amount.

Update on Arts & Heritage Council Meeting

Freeholder Crabb said that he attended the recent Arts & Heritage Council meeting on February 16, 2009; he said that the County contributed \$15,000.00 to the Arts & Heritage Council; with those funds and other funds the Council received, the Council re-granted to 16 other organizations for a total amount of \$32,325.00; these other 16 organizations put on 250 separate events or performances, with a total attendance of 23,587 people; Freeholder Crabb said these 23,587 people put \$320,962.00 back into the Sussex County economy, adding that this was more than a 10 to 1 return on every dollar that Arts & Heritage re-grants to these other organizations.

Historical Markers

Freeholder Crabb said that he had been contacted by the Historical Marker Committee; he said the Committee has made its selections as to where historical markers will be placed during this budget year; there are five total markers to be placed throughout the County this year; Freeholder Crabb noted that these signs would reflect the Board of Chosen Freeholders on the bottom.

Kick-off for “Healthy Living Project”

Freeholder Crabb said that he attended the kick-off for the Senior Services “Healthy Living Project”, adding that he felt it was a great event.

Resolution in support of directing existing dollars from registration of pleasure boats/fees to the Lake Hopatcong Commission

Freeholder Vetrano referred to the copy of the Resolution from the Morris County League of Municipalities which supported directing existing dollars that came from the registration of pleasure boats and fees to the Lake Hopatcong Commission or the upkeep of the Lake; he said that this was legislation that was supported by the County’s legislative team; he asked the Board if it would like to do a Resolution in support of this.

Freeholder Zellman said that she attended both the Morris and Sussex County League of Municipalities’ Meetings when both Leagues voted to have a Resolution to endorse this; she said that at the Hopatcong Republican Club Meeting, there was a discussion regarding a meeting with the four mayors whose towns surrounded Lake Hopatcong; she noted that Roxbury and Jefferson did not seem to be in support of this action; Freeholder Zellman noted that all four municipalities had to support the concept.

There was a brief discussion; the Board agreed to have a Resolution for the March 11, 2009 Freeholder Meeting.

Bid opening for Farmer’s Market Building

Freeholder Vetrano said that a bid opening took place recently for the Farmer’s Market Building; Mr. McConnell added that this was still under review.

Tour of bridge projects/potential stimulus package projects

Freeholder Vetrano suggested that a tour of some of the successful bridge projects should be considered during the upcoming warmer weather; he added that perhaps the potential stimulus projects could be included in the tour.

21. EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION made at 6:06 p.m. by Freeholder Parrott to go into Executive Session for a discussion of the content and negotiations regarding a contract with Vernon Township, seconded by Freeholder Crabb and passed unanimously.

**RESOLUTION RE: REQUESTING EXECUTIVE SESSION
165-2009**

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.

MOTION made at 6:45 p.m. by Freeholder Wirths to come out of Executive Session and return to Open Session, seconded by Freeholder Parrott and passed unanimously.

MOTION made by Freeholder Crabb to return to Open Session, seconded by Freeholder Parrott and passed unanimously.

Action as a result of Executive Session

Freeholder Vetrano said that no action needed to be taken as a result of the Executive Session.

22. REMINDERS

Wednesday March 11, 2009 Regular Meeting 5:00 pm

23. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION made at 6:47 p.m. by Freeholder Crabb to adjourn, seconded by Freeholder Wirths and passed unanimously.

Elaine A. Morgan, Clerk

DATED: February 25, 2009