

**ANNUAL RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING HELD ON  
FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 2009 AT 6:00 P.M.  
HISTORIC COURTROOM  
HISTORIC COURTHOUSE  
3 HIGH STREET, NEWTON, NEW JERSEY**

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**Item**

1. **Call to Order by the Clerk of the Board** at 6:00 p.m.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As the New Year unfolds and the County prepares to add another chapter to its long and rich history, the Board of Chosen Freeholders would like to thank you for attending its 2009 Annual Reorganization Meeting, and appreciates your interest in County Government and your community.

Best wishes to all for a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year!

At this time, I would like to call this Annual Re-Organization Meeting of the Board of Chosen Freeholders to order. (RAP GAVEL)

2. **Invocation and Moment of Silent Prayer by Reverend Ernest M. Kosa**
3. **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 on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2008, as per authorization of the Board, and per notice which was posted, faxed and mailed from the Administrative Offices of the County of Sussex, located in the Administrative Center, One Spring Street, Newton, New Jersey, to the following: New Jersey Herald, New Jersey Sunday Herald, The Star Ledger, the Daily Record, WNNJ Radio and WSUS Radio, 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. **Erma Gormley, County Clerk** - Determination Statement for November 4, 2008 Election.

Erma Gormley, County Clerk, gave the Determination Statement for the November 4, 2008 election.

6. **Phillip R. Crabb** to be sworn in as a member of the Sussex County Board of Chosen Freeholders by Judge Frederic G. Weber for a three-year term.

Freeholder Phillip R. Crabb was sworn in by Judge Frederic G. Weber.

Oath of Office will be placed on file and recorded in the Sussex County Clerk's Office.

7. **Director of Board of Chosen Freeholders**

Clerk of the Board states that the first order of business is the election and appointment of a Director for the Sussex County Board of Chosen Freeholders for the year 2009.

**RESOLUTION RE: APPOINTING THE DIRECTOR OF THE BOARD OF CHOSEN  
1-2009 FREEHOLDERS FOR THE YEAR 2009**

**MOTION** made by Freeholder Wirths to appoint Freeholder Vetrano as Freeholder Director, seconded by Freeholder Parrott.

On roll call, the vote was as follows:

Freeholder Crabb	Yes
Freeholder Parrott	Yes
Freeholder Wirths	Yes
Freeholder Zellman	Yes

Due to Freeholder Vetrano's absence, Oath of Office as Director of the Board of Chosen Freeholders will be administered prior to the first Regular Meeting in January, 2009, of the Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Elaine Morgan, Clerk of the Board, said she was asked to read the following comments for Freeholder Glen Vetrano:

"I would like to congratulate Freeholder Crabb on his election to the Sussex County Board of Chosen Freeholders. During the brief time he has served in his appointed role as Freeholder, he has exhibited a genuine concern for the well-being of our County residents and the determination and focus to help keep Sussex County on the path to maintaining its reputation as a great place to live, work, and raise a family. I look forward to serving with him on the Freeholder Board in 2009.

I would also like to thank Freeholder Wirths for his leadership as Freeholder Director during this past year. His dedication to serving the people of Sussex County and commitment to maintaining controlled County Government spending, while preserving the integrity of services to the public, is commendable. I look forward to again serving on the Board with Freeholder Wirths and am certain that he will continue to provide Sussex County with the highest quality of elected representation in the coming year.

I would like to thank my colleagues for their vote of confidence. I am honored and will accept the appointment as Freeholder Director for 2009 and will continue to approach my responsibilities as an elected public official with the integrity and accountability that our residents expect and deserve.

Despite the bleak economic conditions of the past year, 2008 was a year of accomplishments for Sussex County Government, from road and bridge projects to the numerous Shared Services Agreements entered into with our local municipalities, proving that varying levels of government can work together and achieve significant cost savings to pass down to the taxpayers. I thank all those involved for their commitment to the task at hand and their tireless efforts to see these projects, and others too numerous to mention, to fruition.

I look forward to working with all of the Members of the Freeholder Board in 2009, and to serving the people of Sussex County as their Freeholder Director. To those in attendance today, our County residents, and Sussex County Government employees, I wish you all a very Happy, and Healthy, New Year.

On a personal note, I would like to thank all of the people who have telephoned, sent cards, and offered their assistance during this very difficult time for me and my family. I sincerely appreciate everyone's concern and expressions of sympathy. Please continue to keep my sister-in-law and her five children in your thoughts and prayers.

Thank you.  
Glen Vetrano"

#### **8. Deputy Director of the Board of Chosen Freeholders**

**Due to the absence of Freeholder Vetrano, the Clerk of the Board asked for nominations for Deputy Director for the Board for the year 2009.**

Director states that there are times during the year the Director of the Board may be absent and it is the desire of the Board at this time to appoint a Deputy Director of the Board for the year 2009.

**RESOLUTION RE: APPOINTING THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE BOARD OF  
2-2009 CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS FOR THE YEAR 2009**

**MOTION** made by Freeholder Zellman to appoint Freeholder Parrott as Deputy Director, seconded by Freeholder Crabb.

On roll call, the vote was as follows:

Freeholder Crabb	Yes
Freeholder Parrott	Yes
Freeholder Wirths	Yes
Freeholder Zellman	Yes

Oath of Office will be administered to the Freeholder as Deputy Director of the Board of Chosen Freeholders by Judge Frederic G. Weber.

Freeholder Jeffrey M. Parrott was sworn in by Judge Frederic G. Weber.

**9. Recognition of Dignitaries Present** by Richard Zeoli, Chairman, Sussex County Republican Committee.

Richard Zeoli, Chairman, Sussex County Republican Committee, came forward and recognized the dignitaries who were present at the meeting.

**REMARKS:**

**Freeholder Crabb  
Freeholder Parrott  
Freeholder Wirths  
Freeholder Zellman**

Freeholder Parrott indicated he would hold the Freeholders' remarks until the end of the meeting.

**10. RESOLUTION RE: DATE AND TIME OF MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF  
3-2009 CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS**

**11. RESOLUTION RE: DESIGNATION OF OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER  
4-2009**

(BE IT RESOLVED that the New Jersey Herald is hereby designated as one of the official newspapers for the advertising of any public or legal notices by the County of Sussex)

**12. RESOLUTION RE: DESIGNATION OF OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER  
5-2009**

(BE IT RESOLVED that the New Jersey Sunday Herald is hereby designated as one of the official newspapers for the advertising of any public or legal notices by the County of Sussex)

**13. RESOLUTION RE: DESIGNATION OF OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER  
6-2009**

(BE IT RESOLVED that the Star Ledger is hereby designated as one of the official newspapers for the advertising of any public or legal notices by the County of Sussex)

**14. RESOLUTION RE: DESIGNATION OF NEWSPAPERS IN CONFORMANCE  
7-2009 WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT**

(BE IT RESOLVED that the New Jersey Herald, the New Jersey Sunday Herald, and The Star Ledger are hereby designated as Newspapers for the placement of notices in conformance with Chapter 231,P.L. 1975, commonly known as the "Open Public Meetings Act")

**15. RESOLUTION RE: BANKS AS DEPOSITORIES  
8-2009**

**16. RESOLUTION RE: FILING OF OATHS  
9-2009**

**MOTION** made by Freeholder Wirths to adopt Resolutions 10 – 16, seconded by Freeholder Zellman and passed unanimously.

**17. RESOLUTION RE: NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES  
10-2009**

(BE IT RESOLVED that Freeholder \_\_\_\_\_ be appointed as the Representative of this Board and Freeholder \_\_\_\_\_ as the Alternate Representative of this Board and \_\_\_\_\_ be appointed as the Second Alternate Representative to the New Jersey Association of Counties for the year 2009, and that the expenses of said member or alternate in attending meetings of said Association be paid by this Board)

Resolution appoints Freeholder Vetrano as the Representative of this Board and Freeholder Harold J. Wirths as the Alternate Representative of this Board and John H. Eskilson as the Second Alternate.

**18. RESOLUTION RE: NOTIFY APPOINTEES OF APPOINTMENTS  
11-2009**

(BE IT RESOLVED that the Clerk be and she is hereby authorized and directed to notify the persons heretofore appointed of their appointments and that they will be notified of the January meeting of their committee or commission and be eligible to attend)

**19. RESOLUTION RE: CLERK OF THE BOARD AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE  
12-2009 FEES FOR COPIES OF PUBLIC RECORDS**

First page to tenth page	\$0.75 per page
Eleventh page to twentieth page	\$0.50 per page
All pages over twenty	\$0.25 per page

**20. RESOLUTION RE: PAYMENT OF SALARIES  
13-2009**

**21. RESOLUTION RE: PAYMENT OF BILLS  
14-2009**

**22. RESOLUTION RE: FILING OF BONDS  
15-2009**

**23. RESOLUTION RE: FREEHOLDERS EXPENSES  
16-2009**

**24. RESOLUTION RE: DIRECTOR'S APPOINTMENTS FOR VARIOUS  
17-2009 DEPARTMENT LIAISONS AND COMMITTEES**

**25. RESOLUTION RE: HOLIDAY SCHEDULE FOR 2009**

**18-2009**

New Year's Day Observed  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  
Lincoln's Birthday  
President's Day  
Good Friday  
Memorial Day Observed  
Independence Day

Labor Day  
Columbus Day Observed  
Veterans' Day  
Thanksgiving Day  
Day after Thanksgiving  
Christmas Eve  
Christmas Day

26. **RESOLUTION RE: APPOINTMENT OF A FREEHOLDER REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SUSSEX COUNTY ARTS & HERITAGE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 2009** (Resolution appoints Freeholder Crabb to this Council)
27. **RESOLUTION RE: APPOINTMENTS OF THE FREEHOLDER DIRECTOR, FREEHOLDER REPRESENTATIVE AND A FREEHOLDER ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SUSSEX COUNTY PLANNING BOARD FOR THE YEAR 2009** (Resolution appoints Freeholders Vetrano, Wirths and Crabb to this Board)
28. **RESOLUTION RE: APPOINTMENT OF FREEHOLDER \_\_\_\_\_ AS THE SUSSEX COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE TO THE LAKE MUSCONETCONG REGIONAL PLANNING BOARD** (Resolution appoints Freeholder Zellman to this Board)
29. **RESOLUTION RE: APPOINTMENTS OF FREEHOLDER \_\_\_\_\_ AS THE FREEHOLDER REPRESENTATIVE AND \_\_\_\_\_ THE ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE NORTH JERSEY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AUTHORITY, INC. FOR THE YEAR 2009** (Resolution appoints Freeholder Zellman as Freeholder Representative and Tom Drabic as Alternate Representative to this Authority)
30. **RESOLUTION RE: APPOINTMENT OF THREE MEMBERS OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS AS MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL ESTIMATE OF THE TECHNICAL SCHOOL IN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX** (Resolution appoints Freeholders Crabb, Wirths and Vetrano)
31. **RESOLUTION RE: APPOINTMENT OF THREE MEMBERS OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS AS MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL ESTIMATE OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX** (Resolution appoints Freeholders Zellman, Parrott and Vetrano)
32. **RESOLUTION RE: REAPPOINTMENT OF THOMAS W. GILDERSLEEVE, AS PUBLIC AGENCY COMPLIANCE OFFICER IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2009, PURSUANT TO PUBLIC LAW 1975 c. 127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27)**
33. **RESOLUTION RE: REAPPOINTMENT OF \_\_\_\_\_ AS A MEMBER**

- 26-2009                    **OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY COMMUNITY TRANSIT CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR A TERM OF THREE (3) YEARS. TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2011** (Resolution reappoints Joseph Lashendock, Jr. to this Committee)
34.    **RESOLUTION RE: APPOINTMENT OF \_\_\_\_\_ AS A MEMBER OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY COMMUNITY TRANSIT CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR A TERM OF THREE (3) YEARS. TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2011** (Resolution appoints Harris Rimshnick to this Committee)
- 27-2009
35.    **RESOLUTION RE: REAPPOINTMENT OF \_\_\_\_\_ AS A MEMBER OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY HISTORIC MARKER COMMITTEE** (Resolution reappoints Patricia Frato to this Committee)
- 28-2009
36.    **RESOLUTION RE: REAPPOINTMENT OF \_\_\_\_\_ (Female, Consumer) AS A MEMBER OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR A TERM OF THREE (3) YEARS. TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2011** (Resolution reappoints Doris Lantz to this Council)
- 29-2009
37.    **RESOLUTION RE: APPOINTMENT OF \_\_\_\_\_ (Provider); \_\_\_\_\_ (Provider); \_\_\_\_\_ (Consumer); AND \_\_\_\_\_ (Consumer Advocate) AS MEMBERS OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR TERMS OF THREE (3) YEARS EACH. TERMS TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2011** (Resolution appoints Janet Wallach, Maureen Strelzik, Karen Magill and Mary Emilius to this Council)
- 30-2009
38.    **RESOLUTION RE: REAPPOINTMENT OF \_\_\_\_\_ AND \_\_\_\_\_ AS MEMBERS OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE FOR TERMS OF THREE (3) YEARS. TERMS TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2011** (Resolution reappoints Susan Longcor and Judy Drake to this Committee)
- 31-2009
39.    **RESOLUTION RE: APPOINTMENT OF \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ AND \_\_\_\_\_ AS MEMBERS OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR TERMS OF THREE (3) YEARS EACH. TERMS TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2011** (Resolution appoints Richard A. Vohden, Jr., Clifford R. Lundin and Lou Cherepy to this Committee)
- 32-2009
40.    **RESOLUTION RE: APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON AND VICE-CHAIRPERSON FOR THE SUSSEX COUNTY OPEN SPACE TRUST FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR 2009** (Resolution appoints Richard A. Vohden, Jr., as Chairperson and William Hookway as Vice-Chairperson)
- 33-2009
41.    **RESOLUTION RE: REAPPOINTMENT OF \_\_\_\_\_ AS A MEMBER OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY PLANNING BOARD. TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2011** (Resolution reappoints Linda Fountain to this Board)
- 34-2009

42. **RESOLUTION RE: REAPPOINTMENT OF \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ AND \_\_\_\_\_ AS MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF SENIOR SERVICES FOR TERMS OF THREE (3) YEARS EACH; SAID TERMS TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2011** (Resolution reappoints Deena Marie Smith, Ilse Stein, Kathryn Orr, Shirley Baldwin and Tom Caines to this Council)
43. **RESOLUTION RE: APPOINTMENT OF \_\_\_\_\_ AND \_\_\_\_\_ AS MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF SENIOR SERVICES FOR TERMS OF THREE (3) YEARS EACH; SAID TERMS TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2011** (Resolution appoints Anne Nedelka and Robert Panzer to this Council)
44. **RESOLUTION RE: REAPPOINTMENT OF \_\_\_\_\_ AS A MEMBER OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY SHADE TREE COMMISSION FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40:37-1. TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2013** (Resolution reappoints Stephen H. Losey to this Commission)
45. **RESOLUTION RE: REAPPOINTMENT OF \_\_\_\_\_ AS A MEMBER-AT-LARGE OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR A TERM OF THREE (3) YEARS. (ENVIRONMENTAL) TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2011** (Resolution reappoints James R. Wright to this Council)
46. **RESOLUTION RE: REAPPOINTMENT OF \_\_\_\_\_ AS THE MEMBER/FIRE PROTECTION SUBCODE OFFICIAL FOR THE SUSSEX COUNTY UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE BOARD OF APPEALS FOR A TERM OF FOUR (4) YEARS. TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2012** (Resolution reappoints Peter P. Andruskiewicz to this Board)
47. **RESOLUTION RE: REAPPOINTMENT OF \_\_\_\_\_ AS THE MEMBER/FIRE OFFICIAL FOR THE SUSSEX COUNTY UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE BOARD OF APPEALS FOR A TERM OF FOUR (4) YEARS. TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2012** (Resolution reappoints Franklin M. Steinberg to this Board)
48. **RESOLUTION RE: REAPPOINTMENT OF \_\_\_\_\_ AS THE SPECIAL MEMBER/BUILDER FOR THE SUSSEX COUNTY UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE BOARD OF APPEALS FOR A TERM OF FOUR (4) YEARS. TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2012** (Resolution reappoints Philip D. Deacon to this Board)
49. **RESOLUTION RE: REAPPOINTMENT OF \_\_\_\_\_ AS THE MEMBER/ENGINEER/ARCHITECT/BUILDING SUBCODE OFFICIAL FOR THE SUSSEX COUNTY UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE BOARD OF APPEALS FOR A TERM OF FOUR (4) YEARS. TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2012** (Resolution reappoints David C. Condon to this Board)
50. **RESOLUTION RE: REAPPOINTMENT OF \_\_\_\_\_ AS THE**

**43-2009** SPECIAL MEMBER/PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER FOR THE SUSSEX COUNTY UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE BOARD OF APPEALS FOR A TERM OF FOUR (4) YEARS. TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2012 (Resolution reappoints John C. Risko to this Board)

**51. RESOLUTION RE: REAPPOINTMENT OF \_\_\_\_\_ AND 44-2009 \_\_\_\_\_ AS MEMBERS-AT-LARGE OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR TERMS OF THREE (3) YEARS EACH. TERMS TO EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 2011 (Resolution reappoints John Nugent and Kathy Little to this Committee)**

**52. RESOLUTION RE: REAPPOINTMENT OF WILLIAM JOSEPH AS THE 45-2009 OFFICIAL TOWN CRIER FOR THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX FOR 2009**

**53. RESOLUTION RE: APPOINTMENT OF DONALD HOGAN AS ATTORNEY 46-2009 FOR THE SUSSEX COUNTY PLANNING BOARD**

**54. RESOLUTION RE: AWARD OF CONTRACT BASED ON PROPOSALS 47-2009 RECEIVED THROUGH THE COMPETITIVE CONTRACTING PROCESS PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.1 ET SEQ. FOR PROFESSIONAL LEGAL SERVICES IN THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS, NOTES AND RELATED MATTERS TO JOHN L. KRAFT, ESQ., OF THE LAW FIRM OF LOMURRO, DAVISON, EASTMAN & MUNOZ, P.A.**

**MOTION** made by Freeholder Wirths to adopt Resolutions 17 – 54, seconded by Freeholder Crabb.

On roll call, the vote was as follows:

Freeholder Crabb	Yes
Freeholder Parrott	Yes
Freeholder Wirths	Yes
Freeholder Zellman	Yes

**55. RESOLUTION RE: ESTABLISHING POLICY RELATIVE TO EMERGENCY 48-2009 PURCHASES OF GOODS AND SERVICES IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6 AND N.J.A.C. 5:34-6.1**

**56. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUSSEX COUNTY 49-2009 TREASURER TO PAY BILLS DURING THE MONTHS OF AUGUST AND DECEMBER WHEN THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS DOES NOT MEET ON THE SECOND AND FOURTH WEDNESDAYS OF THE MONTH**

**MOTION** made by Freeholder Wirths to adopt Resolutions 55 and 56, seconded by Freeholder Zellman and passed unanimously.

**57. DIRECTOR:** "Any appointments not being made today to the various Boards or Committees will be made at subsequent meetings and there are other appointments which are coming up during the year which will be made at that time."

**58. REMINDERS**

Wednesday	January 14, 2009	Regular Meeting	5:00 pm
Monday	January 19, 2009	Martin Luther King Jr. Day	Holiday
Wednesday	January 28, 2009	Regular Meeting	5:00 pm

## **FREEHOLDERS' COMMENTS**

### **Freeholder Susan M. Zellman**

Freeholder Zellman thanked everyone for attending the meeting; she congratulated Freeholder Crabb on his election; she also thanked Freeholder Wirths for his leadership during 2008.

Freeholder Zellman said in her campaign brochure eight years ago it said "a new commitment to working together for the benefit of all is upon us" and said that Freeholder commitment still remains today and continues to be even stronger than ever.

She feels her two liaison roles, transportation and human services, will be critical in the coming year. Freeholder Zellman said the Board's challenge in 2009 is to help raise resources, coordinate volunteers that provide services in times of crisis, and transportation needs including transit shuttle, bus and train service infrastructure and safety improvements remain in the forefront. Freeholder Zellman discussed some of the transportation projects that the County was involved in during 2008 and the ones that will be worked on in 2009.

Freeholder Zellman mentioned the Six County Coalition continues to provide benefits of shared services and shared best practices.

Freeholder Zellman said it is an honor to serve as a Sussex County Freeholder and to work with the staff during 2009.

### **Freeholder Harold J. Wirths**

Freeholder Wirths read the following quote that reminds him of working as Director, with his colleagues and the County's staff, "there is no limit to what a man can do or where he can go, if he doesn't mind who gets the credit". He said that is how this Board works with its great staff.

He said he is very proud of the restoration of the Historic Courthouse; he indicated that the No. 1 goal of the Board was shared services and the County has completed well over \$1,000,000.00 of shared services; Freeholder Wirths said Freeholder Crabb did a great job as liaison to shared services; he also said he is very proud of the merger of the Youth Shelter; it was very tough to eliminate 24 positions in County government; he talked about the upgrade in the County's credit rating with Standard and Poors; the County went self-insured on the prescription coverage and the County also went self-insured for its medical benefits.

Those were very tough decisions that the Board had to make and he was very happy that the Board backed him on those decisions.

Freeholder Wirths said he asked the Board to suspend the Open Space Tax (\$.01) and that immediately put \$2,000,000.00 back in taxpayer's pockets; the other Open Space Tax sunsets January 1, 2009, which is a \$4 million tax right back into the taxpayer's pockets. The County still preserved 18 farms this year, so the Board's commitment to Open Space is still there and he feels the \$.01 will be back one day. He will be back on the Budget Committee and the Capital Projects Committee for 2009.

Freeholder Wirths thanked the staff and his wife and daughters for their support in 2008.

### **Freeholder Phillip R. Crabb**

Freeholder Crabb thanked Judge Weber, Rev. Kosa, his family and his brother, Nelson, Mayor of Clear Lake, Iowa.

He said the Board will continue to find ways to streamline the budget, but at the same time, maintain essential services; he commented on the great staff of the County; Freeholder Crabb discussed the different projects the County is involved in with respect to shared services between counties and with municipalities.

Freeholder Crabb discussed the financial challenges facing the County in 2009 and indicated that the County is already looking to 2010; he promised that this Board will continue to raise the bar and to live by the philosophy that success should be easily measured.

He thanked everyone who voted for him and said he is humbled to have had the opportunity to work with this team on behalf of this great home of ours.

### **Freeholder Jeffrey M. Parrott**

Freeholder Parrott thanked everyone for coming to the meeting today; he thanked his family for their support; he said Freeholder Wirths was a great Director in 2008 and thanked him for his leadership; he thanked Freeholder Zellman for her work with transportation, Freeholder Crabb for his work with shared services and Freeholder Vetrano for his work with Farmland Preservation.

Freeholder Parrott thanked the administrative staff including the County Administrator, County Counsel and the Clerk of the Board; he also thanked all the County workers for their commitment, dedication and perseverance; in addition, he thanked the Constitutional Officers and the Legislators.

Freeholder Parrott said his goal is to make sure that individuals who wish to stay in Sussex County don't leave because of a deteriorating tax base; he feels if elected officials all work together, it can be done; he said he is committed to do the best for the people of Sussex County.

In closing he thanked Judge Weber for swearing him in and Rev. Kosa for the Invocation.

**MOTION** made by Freeholder Wirths to open the meeting to the Public, seconded by Freeholder Crabb and passed unanimously.

Senator Oroho came forward and thanked the Board for its hard work and thanked the Board for the example that it set and the accomplishments it made in 2008.

**MOTION** made by Freeholder Crabb to close the meeting to the Public, seconded by Freeholder Zellman and passed unanimously.

### **59. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** made at 6:58 pm by Freeholder Crabb to adjourn, seconded by Freeholder Zellman and passed unanimously.

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Elaine A. Morgan, Clerk

**Dated: January 2, 2009**