

**REGULAR MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2009**

**5:00 PM**

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Item**

1. **CALL TO ORDER BY DIRECTOR** at 5:05 p.m.

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

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 and Certificates

1. Proclamation declaring the week of October 18-24, 2009 as "National Save for Retirement Week".

**562-2009**

2. Proclamation declaring the month of October, 2009 as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month".

**563-2009**

3. Proclamation recognizing the 3,000 men and women who comprise the New Jersey National Guard 50<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade Combat Team for their selfless acts of patriotism and heroism.

**564-2009**

4. Certificate of Recognition for the Franklin-Ogdensburg Mineralogical Society in recognition of its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a non-profit society devoted to better understanding the minerals and mining history of the Franklin-Sterling area 1959-2009.

**565-2009**

5. Certificate of Recognition for Robert B. Nicholson III for being chosen by the Patriot's Path Council, Boy Scouts of America as the recipient of the Distinguished Citizen Award for 2009.

**566-2009**

6. Certificate of Recognition for Linda Phister "Sussex County Skylands Ride" for being chosen by NJCOST (New Jersey Council on Special

Transportation) as the outstanding and dedicated "2009 Administrative Employee of the Year".

**567-2009**

- 7. Certificate of Recognition for John Jackson "Sussex County Skylands Ride" for being chosen by NJCOST (New Jersey Council on Special Transportation) as the outstanding and dedicated "2009 Administrative Employee of the Year".

**568-2009**

**MOTION** made by Freeholder Wirths to approve these Proclamations and these Certificates, seconded by Freeholder Zellman and passed unanimously.

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Freeholder Vetrano asked the Board to amend the Agenda to allow for Item #13. Financial, and for Ray Sarinelli to provide a brief overview of the audit.

**13. FINANCIAL**

- A. RESOLUTION RE: CERTIFICATION OF REVIEW OF AUDIT BY GROUP  
**569-2009** AFFIDAVIT

**Comments from Ray Sarinelli, Nisivoccia & Company**

Ray Sarinelli came forward; he said there were a few comments and recommendations in this year's report; he said that a meeting was held with staff and a corrective action plan was developed for the Board's approval.

Mr. Sarinelli said that generally the last couple of years have been stable; there was improvement in the credit rating last year, up to a "AA" category; he said the challenge was going to be to stay at that level; financial statements for 2008 were fairly stable; the fund balance came in close to where it was last year; Mr. Sarinelli said that with declining revenue, the County was not re-generating a high enough level to get the new growth along with the Highlands Act that restricted some of the County's growth; the expense side seems to be relentless, particularly in the areas of pension and health insurance; he said he thought it was projected that the fund balance will probably be declining; this will have to be stabilized at some point over the next 3 to 5 years; the Trust Funds are stable and there are sufficient funds available.

The Board thanked Mr. Sarinelli for his comments.

**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

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Freeholder Vetrano asked that the Agenda be amended to allow for Item #11. C.

**11. RESOLUTIONS**

- C. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION TO GRANT TO ELIZABETHTOWN GAS COMPANY A CONDITIONAL WAIVER FROM COUNTY POLICY FOR ROAD OPENINGS FOR WORK WITHIN COUNTY ROUTES 517 AND 669  
**570-2009**

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

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The Meeting returned to the Agenda as listed.

B. Presentations

1. Presentation by Carol Novrit, Division of Social Services, giving the Board an update on the Office of Transit activities. (10 min.)

**Comments from Carol Novrit**

Carol Novrit came forward; she said that one of the challenges is the significant increase in ridership and significant increase in requests for rides; she reviewed the charts in her presentation; rides were up approximately 9,000 in a one year period, with up to 127,000 rides given for a period ending September 30, 2009; 16 drivers received safety awards this year, with the busses traveling over 600,000 miles of roads last year; there is an increase in requests for wheelchair rides.

Ms. Novrit discussed demand response service, which includes employment and life-saving medical rides, and student transportation to the Community College; there are 7,774 customers in the data base, with 45% being seniors; 20% is disabled and another 35% who ride for employment and other reasons; Ms. Novrit discussed changes that have been made over the past year to increase efficiency without an increase in resources; she reported that all of the financial reporting was up to date, as well as all of the programmatic reporting to New Jersey Transit; out-of-county trips have been reduced to allow for focusing on in-county rides.

Ms. Novrit discussed the "Secret Shopper Program" initiated in August; volunteers ride the busses and rate the bus service and the bus itself; she noted that Sussex County was only one of fifteen teams nationwide selected to go to the Easter Seals Project Action Team; also discussed was the possibility of developing a commuter service, 5 days a week, morning and afternoon, down to the Mt. Olive train station; Ms. Novrit discussed the future move to the Wheatsworth Road building and its advantages; the future expansion of transportation services to evenings and weekends through seeking sustainable grant dollars was highlighted.

The Board thanked Mrs. Novrit for her presentation.

2. Presentation by Linda Ward, Catholic Charities, giving the Board an update on the Adult Day Care activities. (10 min.)

**Comments from Linda Ward**

Linda Ward came forward; she said that adult day care services were designed to prevent premature isolation, institutionalization, support and maintain current functioning level, provide respite for family and caregivers, socialization and purpose to life, as well as nutritional meals; Ms. Ward said that their facility was the only Adult Day Care Center in Sussex County; capacity at the facility is 28 clients; transportation can also be provided; Ms. Ward highlighted staffing levels.

Ms. Ward said that the Catholic Family Services Board and Joe Duffy appointed her to oversee the Adult Day Care Center in February, 2009; some staffing changes were made; she said that one of the things the Catholic Family Services Board asked her to look at was making the Center more solvent; Catholic Family Services is the main provider of funding of the Center; she said that she needed to reach out to the community and to the Center's funding sources; Ms. Ward outlined several of the physical improvements to the facility such as the flooring and the kitchen; Ms. Ward invited the Board to stop by and tour the Center to see firsthand all of the positive things that are happening there.

The Board thanked Ms. Ward for her presentation.

**7. PUBLIC SESSION FROM THE FLOOR**

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

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

There was no one.

**MOTION** made at 5:56 p.m. by Freeholder Crabb to close the meeting to the Public, seconded by Freeholder Wirths and passed unanimously.

**8. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. RESOLUTION RE: PAYMENT OF BILLS  
**571-2009**
- B. RESOLUTION RE: APPROVING PARTICIPATION WITH THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY IN THE COUNTY PROSECUTOR INSURANCE FRAUD REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE'S INSURANCE FRAUD PROSECUTOR (Resolution authorizes this Application in the amount of \$126,865.00)
- C. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION TO PROVIDE FOR THE PURCHASE OF NETWORK HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE AND UPGRADE SUPPORT OF THE CISCO NETWORK SYSTEMS FOR THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX (Resolution authorizes this purchase from Transnet Corporation in the amount of \$55,459.36)
- D. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE MIDDLESEX REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION TO BECOME A MEMBER OF ITS COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM
- E. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION FOR THE FREEHOLDER DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE AN AWARD FOR THE 2009 COPS TECHNOLOGY GRANT #2009CKWX0562 WITH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TO PROVIDE \$950,000.00 IN FUNDING TO THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX SHERIFF'S OFFICE FOR THE PERIOD OF MARCH 11, 2009 TO MARCH 10, 2012
- F. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION FOR THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX TO SUBMIT THE AREA PLAN GRANT AGREEMENT 10-1394-AAA-C-3 WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES, DIVISION OF AGING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES (Resolution authorizes this Agreement in the amount of \$1,931,642.00, with \$7,698.00 in matching funds for calendar year 2010)
- G. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX AND THE SUSSEX COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY PURSUANT TO THE "SHARED SERVICES AND CONSOLIDATION ACT" (N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq.)

- H. **RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION FOR THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS TO ACCEPT AWARD OF THE FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2009 HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING AND FOR THE COUNTY CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO AMEND THE BUDGET AND CERTIFY THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS, AND FOR THE COUNTY PURCHASING AGENT TO FACILITATE PURCHASES (Resolution authorizes the acceptance of this award in the amount of \$460,451.10)**  
**578-2009**
- I. **RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF PURCHASE ORDERS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 ET SEQ. FOR VARIOUS SERVICES, WITH ACCUMULATED VALUE LESS THAN THE BID THRESHOLD, AS STATED BELOW (Resolution authorizes purchase orders for American Blade Mfg., LLC)**  
**579-2009**
- J. **RESOLUTION RE: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF ANY SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE BUDGET OF THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX RELATING TO THE SHARING AVAILABLE RESOURCES EFFICIENTLY (SHARE) TO PROVIDE COMPLETE FLEET AND EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE TO ALL PUBLIC ENTITIES FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$79,120.00**  
**580-2009**
- K. **RESOLUTION RE: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF ANY SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE BUDGET OF THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX RELATING TO THE SHARING AVAILABLE RESOURCES EFFICIENTLY (SHARE) TO PROVIDE CORE HEALTH SERVICES FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$48,170.00**  
**581-2009**
- L. **RESOLUTION RE: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF ANY SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE 2009 SUSSEX COUNTY BUDGET RELATING TO THE PUBLIC ARCHIVES AND RECORDS INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT (PARIS) FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$894,143.00**  
**582-2009**
- M. **RESOLUTION RE: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF ANY SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE 2009 BUDGET OF THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX RELATING TO THE "OVER THE LIMIT UNDER ARREST" FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$6,000.00**  
**583-2009**
- N. **RESOLUTION RE: RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF ANY SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE 2009 SUSSEX COUNTY BUDGET RELATING TO THE VETERANS' TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM, VL10TS2, JULY 1, 2009 TO JUNE 30, 2010 FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$9,000.00**  
**584-2009**

**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 Parrott to approve the Financial Consent Agenda, 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

**Resolution 8. J.**

Freeholder Parrott asked for an explanation of Resolution 8. J.

Mr. Eskilson replied that this was a grant that was applied for some time ago when the County started to do the service work for Lafayette and Andover Borough; the County applied for a grant to install a fleet maintenance software package that would allow the County to track inventory better, to better allocate costs so when inventory is taken from the shelf it can be tracked to a car or truck, to track work through any outside vendors, and to cost allocate the time of the mechanics on the various pieces of equipment to allocate this eventually back to department budgets.

**9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** Regular Meeting September 23, 2009

**MOTION** made by Freeholder Parrott to approve these Minutes, seconded by Freeholder Wirths and passed with Freeholder Vetrano and Freeholder Zellman abstaining.

**10. APPOINTMENTS AND/OR RESIGNATIONS**

There were no Appointments and/or Resignations.

**11. RESOLUTIONS**

- A. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUSSEX COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO INITIATE THE PROCESS FOR CLOSING THE SUSSEX COUNTY JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER PER THE GUIDELINES ESTABLISHED BY THE NJ JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION  
**585-2009**
  
- B. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION OF PUBLIC SALE OF COUNTY SURPLUS VEHICLES  
**586-2009**

**MOTION** made by Freeholder Crabb to adopt these Resolutions, seconded by Freeholder Wirths, and passed unanimously.

**Resolution 11. A.**

Freeholder Wirths stated that this process went very smoothly and has been talked about and going on for several years; this was a very big collaborative effort and it came very close to shutting down the entire operation as this was the recommendation of the Budget Committee; staff found a unique initiative to keep this going; it was a collaborative effort and tremendous cooperation between the Prosecutor and the judges; he said this was a win/win situation for everybody, except for the few who are losing their jobs; Freeholder Wirths said that he felt that whatever bracelet system is used to keep these children at home will be tremendously successful; he added that between this and the closing of the Youth Shelter the savings will amount to about \$2 million; Sussex County will have four beds at the Morris County Juvenile Detention Center for those juveniles who need to be incarcerated.

Freeholder Zellman said that she was extremely impressed with the staff and the atmosphere at the Morris County Juvenile Detention Center; Freeholder Parrott and Freeholder Vetrano expressed their positive comments regarding the bracelet program.

- C. RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION TO GRANT TO ELIZABETHTOWN

**(Adopted Earlier)** GAS COMPANY A CONDITIONAL WAIVER FROM COUNTY POLICY FOR ROAD OPENINGS FOR WORK WITHIN COUNTY ROUTES 517 AND 669

Approved earlier in the Meeting.

**12. AWARDS OF CONTRACTS/CHANGE ORDERS/BIDS**

A. Awards of Contract

1. **RESOLUTION RE: 587-2009** AUTHORIZING THE RETENTION AND COMPENSATION OF MICHAEL HOLENSTEIN OF HOLZHAUER AND HOLENSTEIN, LLC IN CONNECTION WITH THE REVIEW OF APPRAISALS OF THE CRISMAN BROTHERS, LLC #1 AND #2, CRISMAN ET AL, VAN WINGERDEN, GREEN AND KLEIN FARMS IN FREDON TOWNSHIP; THE CHARLES AND WILLIAM GORDON FARMS IN HAMPTON TOWNSHIP; THE DE VRIES FARM IN HAMPTON AND LAFAYETTE TOWNSHIPS; AND THE GOLDMAN FRANKFORD FARM PARTNERS FARM IN FRANKFORD TOWNSHIP FOR THE 2009 COUNTY FUNDING ROUND (Resolution authorizes this Agreement in the amount not to exceed \$6,900.00)
2. **RESOLUTION RE: 588-2009** AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR ONE CURRENT YEAR MODEL KUBOTA DIESEL TRACTOR, MODEL BX2660 OR EQUAL (Resolution awards this Contract to the lowest and only responsible bidder, Tri-State Rentals, Inc., in the approximate amount of \$19,475.00)
3. **RESOLUTION RE: 589-2009** AWARD OF CONTRACT BASED ON PROPOSALS RECEIVED THROUGH THE COMPETITIVE CONTRACTING PROCESS FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF A STUDY TO DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY AT THE SUSSEX COUNTY HOMESTEAD NURSING HOME (Resolution awards this Contract to Parente Randolph, LLC in the maximum amount of \$30,000.00)

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

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: CERTIFICATION OF REVIEW OF AUDIT BY GROUP**  
**(Adopted Earlier) AFFIDAVIT**

Approved earlier in the Meeting.

B.

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**FINAL ADOPTION – BOND ORDINANCE  
590-2009**

**Freeholder Director Vetrano:** "At our regular meeting held on September 9, 2009, we introduced for first reading the following Bond Ordinance which was advertised in the New Jersey Herald issue of September 14, 2009 and the Board held a Public Hearing on this Bond Ordinance at its meeting held on September 23, 2009:

**BOND ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR THE CONNECTION OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL TO THE TOWNSHIP OF SPARTA WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM BY THE SUSSEX COUNTY VOCATIONAL SCHOOL, APPROPRIATING \$500,000.00 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$500,000.00 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE COUNTY FOR FINANCING THE COST THEREOF**

**MOTION** that this Bond Ordinance be finally adopted made by Freeholder Wirths, 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

**MOTION** to authorize the Clerk to advertise this Bond Ordinance as finally adopted, and also post same on the bulletin board in the lobby of the County Administrative Center made by Freeholder Crabb, seconded by Freeholder Wirths and passed unanimously.

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C.

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**FINAL ADOPTION – BOND ORDINANCE  
591-2009**

**Freeholder Director Vetrano:** "At our regular meeting held on September 9, 2009, we introduced for first reading the following Bond Ordinance which was advertised in the New Jersey Herald issue of September 14, 2009 and the Board held a Public Hearing on this Bond Ordinance at its meeting held on September 23, 2009:

**BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 201 WHEATSWORTH ROAD, HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP, RENOVATION THEREOF AND ACQUISITION OF OFFICE FURNITURE THEREFOR FOR USE BY THE COUNTY, APPROPRIATING \$2,550,000.00 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,619,000.00 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE COUNTY TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF**

**MOTION** that this Bond Ordinance be finally adopted made by Freeholder Parrott, 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

**MOTION** to authorize the Clerk to advertise this Bond Ordinance as finally adopted, and also post same on the bulletin board in the lobby of the County Administrative Center made by Freeholder Wirths, seconded by Freeholder Zellman and passed unanimously.

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D.

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**FINAL ADOPTION – BOND ORDINANCE  
592-2009**

**Freeholder Director Vetrano:** "At our regular meeting held on September 9, 2009, we introduced for first reading the following Bond Ordinance which was advertised in the New Jersey Herald issue of September 14, 2009 and the Board held a Public Hearing on this Bond Ordinance at its meeting held on September 23, 2009:

**REFUNDING BOND ORDINANCE FUNDING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION BY THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY, TO RESTORE FUNDS FOR PAYROLL OBLIGATIONS FOR FEDERAL AND STATE TAX OBLIGATIONS THAT WERE MISAPPROPRIATED BY A PRIVATE PAYROLL SERVICE, APPROPRIATING \$2,500,000.00 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS OR NOTES OF THE COUNTY FOR FINANCING THE COST THEREOF**

**MOTION** that this Bond Ordinance be finally adopted made by Freeholder Wirths, 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

**MOTION** to authorize the Clerk to advertise this Bond Ordinance as finally adopted, and also post same on the bulletin board in the lobby of the County Administrative Center made by Freeholder Crabb, seconded by Freeholder Wirths and passed unanimously.

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**14. PERSONNEL**

A. Personnel Agenda

There were no items for the Personnel Agenda.

B. Resolutions

1. **RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION FOR THE COUNTY STAFF TO  
593-2009 PROCESS AN INVOLUNTARY DISABILITY  
RETIREMENT APPLICATION**

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

**15. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

A. Other

Mr. Eskilson stated that he had no report at this time; however, he did have one item for Executive Session regarding a matter of Collective Bargaining.

**16. COUNTY COUNSEL**

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

Mr. McConnell stated that he had no report at this time.

**17. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no Unfinished Business.

**18. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Receipt of 2008 Annual Report from the Department of Environmental and Public Health Services.

**MOTION** made by Freeholder Zellman to acknowledge receipt of the 2008 Annual Report from the Department of Environmental and Public Health Services, seconded by Freeholder Crabb and passed unanimously.

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

**MOTION** made at 6:27 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 6:28 p.m. by Freeholder Zellman to close the meeting to the Public, seconded by Freeholder Parrott and passed unanimously.

**20. FREEHOLDERS' COMMENTS**

**Route 206/Byram Township**

Freeholder Zellman reported that there was good news from the NJ Department of Transportation; the bids have been received on Route 206 and improvements in Byram Township were moving forward; she added that she asked Commissioner Dilts to let the County know when the groundbreaking will be.

**Veterans Monument Committee Meeting**

Freeholder Zellman said that a meeting was held today with the Veterans Monument Committee; work has begun for the groundbreaking for the garden; she presented a copy of a rendering of a garden depicting the six branches of the military service; each branch of the service will have a granite monument with an insignia and the flowers will be in the colors of the insignia; she said that a grant with matching funds was received and Elizabethtown Gas has committed to the \$1,000.00 match; Freeholder Zellman said that the Committee has sufficient funds and will not utilize any County dollars; the Committee has a maintenance fund of \$3,000.00 to cover maintenance for ten years; money is set aside for the sprinkler system and the Master Gardeners will be maintaining the gardens and doing the plantings.

**H1N1 Virus**

Freeholder Parrott said that on November 1, 2009, at the Sussex County Community College, H1N1 vaccinations will be administered; interested persons must call or register online; details will be in the NJ Herald.

### **Project Self-Sufficiency Breast Cancer Awareness**

Freeholder Wirths said that he and Freeholder Vetrano attended the Breast Cancer Awareness event at Project Self-Sufficiency; he said that it was rewarding to do the article for the NJ Herald.

### **Master Gardener Graduation**

Freeholder Wirths said that he attended the Master Gardener Graduation this morning; this was the largest class to date; he acknowledged the large amount of work the Master Gardeners do throughout the County and he said he thanked them on behalf of the Board.

### **Department of Central & Shared Services update**

Freeholder Crabb provided an update on the following:

- The necessary steps for the closure of the Juvenile Detention Center are underway.
- John Bazelwich from Fleet Management is interacting with the Detention staff to determine what their future fleet needs for the home bracelet program will be.
- The Wheatworth Road building planning group continues to focus on the November closing, keeping spending within the budget ceiling limit to develop project plans for office and work space designs.
- The County will be piloting a temporary snowplow drivers program for the upcoming snow season; this is in an effort to reduce the overall budget costs for filling full-time employment; six part-time, on-call drivers will be selected to be utilized for absenteeism and for overtime cost reduction; these drivers will be scheduled for a defensive driving class and on the road training from the County road division.

### **Sussex County Firemen's Parade**

Freeholder Crabb said that on October 3, 2009, he attended the Sussex County Firemen's Parade with Freeholder Wirths; he added that it was Hamburg Fire Department's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and that he would like to present the Department with an acknowledgement of this milestone.

### **Food Drives**

Freeholder Vetrano said that from now until closing, the Farmer's Market will be collecting food for local food pantries.

### **Senior Housing**

Freeholder Vetrano said that he visited the new Franklin Senior Housing Building at 1 Mill Street in Franklin; there are about 80 units; he said there was a request on the County's behalf regarding the propane tank; he asked for an update.

Mr. Eskilson said the possibility of disconnecting the propane and hooking into the Elizabethtown Gas line was still being looked into; the fence has been taken down to allow for the connect with the sidewalk.

Freeholder Vetrano said that this was a collaborative partnership with the builder; people can now walk up to the library.

### **100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration for Ellen Courtright**

Freeholder Vetrano said that he attended the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration for Ellen Courtright, a resident of the Homestead; he said that Mrs. Courtright was the first woman to work in the emergency room at Newton Memorial Hospital.

### **Meeting with Engineering staff**

Freeholder Vetrano said that he attended a meeting which was twofold; it was a Liaison Meeting and also a Capital Projects Meeting; the meeting was with Engineering staff, with Freeholder Wirths also in attendance.

Engineering staff had outlined all of the projects that Engineering is currently working on; Freeholder Vetrano said that it was his opinion that with the amount of work and projects currently on the table, the work could not be done with the staff Engineering has; he said that he felt it could cause some problems for the County because of the many deadlines involved.

Freeholder Wirths said that the list of projects was the clearest he has ever seen it; he agreed with Freeholder Vetrano that the deadlines were of concern.

Freeholder Zellman stated that Mary Kay Murphy of the NJTPA was working towards getting some money for the sub-regions for the counties to administer the programs, but was unsuccessful; she said additional pressure was being put on staff.

### **Comment on part-time, on-call snowplowing program**

Freeholder Vetrano said that he hoped that the part-time, on-call program for snowplowing would work; he added that Sussex County has always been known for its well-cared for roads during inclement weather.

Mr. Eskilson said that as of right now, the pool has increased to ten and it may be increased even further.

### **Wheatsworth Road property**

Freeholder Vetrano said that he felt the County was finally resolving its space issues with the purchase of the Wheatsworth Road property.

### **Rental subsidy issue**

Mr. Eskilson referred to a fax from Linda Pinto in which she expressed concern over a change in the rental subsidy policy of the State towards the Knoll Shared Housing Project in Frankford Township, as well as in Sparta; he explained that the rental subsidies provided by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs were assigned to the building so that Knoll Heights could retain that building in its affordable form; when people came and went, the rental subsidies from the State remained; this is now changing to the rental subsidy being assigned to the individual occupying the unit, so that if the individual leaves, the subsidy leaves with that person; since there are no additional subsidies available at this point, that puts the liability of that project, certainly with respect to affordability, in clear jeopardy; when that project was agreed to and constructed, the numbers worked only with the subsidy; Mr. Eskilson added that this was a huge problem and Linda Pinto is enlisting the support of State Legislators to try to intervene with the Department of Community Affairs to see if there is any ability to change that policy and decision to bring the rental subsidies back to the building and not the individual.

Freeholder Wirths said that he read this and he did not think it was a change; he stated that he had read the memos that went back and forth with the Legislators and the State was saying that it was always a 15 year timeline.

There was a brief discussion.

## **21. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION** made at 6:44 p.m. by Freeholder Parrott to go into Executive Session for purposes of bargaining with the PBA Sheriff's and PBA Corrections Units, seconded by Freeholder Wirths and passed unanimously.

**RESOLUTION RE: REQUESTING EXECUTIVE SESSION  
594-2009**

- 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 7:03 p.m. by Freeholder Parrott to come out of Executive Session and return to Open Session, seconded by Freeholder Zellman and passed unanimously.

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

**MOTION** made by Freeholder Wirths to give the County Administrator direction as discussed in Executive Session with regard to Collective Bargaining, seconded by Freeholder Parrott and passed unanimously.

**22. REMINDERS**

Wednesday	October 14, 2009	League of Mun.	6:30 pm
		Dinner at Lafayette House	
Wednesday	October 28, 2009	Regular Meeting	5:00 pm

**23. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** made at 7:05 p.m. by Freeholder Crabb to adjourn, seconded by Freeholder Wirths and passed unanimously.

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Elaine A. Morgan, Clerk

**DATED: October 14, 2009**