



HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Meeting Room

71 Main Street, Building 1, Second Floor Flemington, New Jersey 08822

March 7, 2023

5:00 p.m. CONVENE:

"This meeting is being held in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Adequate notice has been given by posting throughout the year a copy of the Revised Annual Meeting Notice on Bulletin Boards on the First and Second Floor of the Main Street County Complex, Building #1, Flemington, New Jersey, a public place reserved for such announcements. A copy was mailed on or before January 5, 2023, to the Hunterdon County Democrat, Star Ledger, Trenton Times, Courier News, TAPinto (online) and the Express Times, newspapers designated to receive such notices and by filing a copy with the Hunterdon County Clerk."

EXECUTIVE SESSION

5:30 p.m. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNSEL ON EXECUTIVE SESSION

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Soloway reported on the recent New Jersey Women in Law Enforcement Conference that was held last week, where over 450 Law Enforcement Officers attended the two-day training; majority of the attendance was women, and Officer Ann Marie Carrizales shared her story during the conference. The conference highlights women in law enforcement who have obtained the rank of Lieutenant or higher during the previous year. Hunterdon County Prosecutor's Office Lieutenant Kristen Larsen was one of this year's award recipients and Ms. Soloway congratulated Lieutenant Larsen and thanked all female detectives and officers throughout the Prosecutor's and Sheriff's Office in Hunterdon County. Commissioner Soloway also thanked Commissioner Lanza and Public Safety Director, Brayden Fahey, for hosting an upcoming train derailment response plan briefing set for this Friday and that Chief of Detectives, Tim Drew, will be in attendance as well.

Commissioner Van Doren shared the recent Hazardous Household Waste disposal event that took place last Saturday; about 600 cars participated and 10 cubic feet of items were collected, including 6,921 linear feet of fluorescent bulbs, 415 car batteries, 12.5 tons of hazardous household materials, like flammable liquids, solid and liquid corrosive acids and bases, and much more. The next Hazardous Household Waste Day is scheduled for August 26, 2023, and will be held at the Route 12 County Complex from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 11th, will be the County's free Electronic Waste Event from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Route 12 County Complex, where residents can dispose of desktop printers, fax machines, computers, computer monitors, televisions, and more. Commissioner Van Doren mentioned that Health Department Director, Karen DeMarco, will be presenting later in the agenda on the Public Health Infrastructure grant that was awarded to the

County from the New Jersey Association of City and County Health Officials.

Commissioner Lanza reported on the information session for this Friday that is being hosted by himself, and Public Safety Director Brayden Fahey with OEM Officials and municipal leaders from seven municipalities with jurisdiction in which the Norfolk Southern Lehigh Line traverses, where there is a great deal of interest in the briefing. The Hunterdon County Train Derailment Plan was developed in 2017 in response to concerns about highly flammable materials and Hunterdon County OEM is working with area first responders, who want to be proactive in having an action plan, should an accident occur within the County. Because of the recent train derailment in East Palestine, Ohio, Commissioner Lanza wanted to be sure that local governing body members and OEM officials in the jurisdiction near the Norfolk South Lehigh Line are aware of the plan and its components. Commissioner Lanza highlighted the Office of Emergency Management and their ongoing work to recoup federal aid monies for Covid-19 and Tropical Storm Ida. Commissioner Lanza thanked our OEM Department and Andrew Russano, Jr., for their hard work in securing these important reimbursement funds on behalf of the taxpayers.

Deputy Director Kuhl gave updated information on the updates from Cultural and Heritage Commission, regarding the hearing loops available for loan to County arts and history non-profits, three grant funded Technical Assistance Workshops, and thanked Executive Director, Natalie Zaman for her leadership on these initiatives. Deputy Director Kuhl reported on the Human Services Department and their recent Oscar themed luncheon that took place last Friday at the Senior Center. During the month of February, the Senior Center saw 50 new members, and there are several other programming events planned throughout the month of March and April. Deputy Director Kuhl thanked Patty Leidner for her years of service with the County and mentioned she has been a great leader at GIS and will be honoring her later in the agenda.

Director Rich shared his excitement with Commissioner Van Doren on the recent news about the Public Health Infrastructure grant, and thanked the Health Department and all involved for their work on this grant. Director Rich mentioned the upcoming presentation from Parks Division Head, Dan Bush, which will be later in the agenda, with updates on Deer Path Park, as well as the Summer Concert series, and other topics. Director Rich advised of the recent closing that occurred with the New Jersey Conservation Foundation, on the 71-acre Nishisakawick Preserve in Frenchtown. The Open Space acquisition was a partnership between the County of Hunterdon and New Jersey Green Acres, this land acquisition will provide space for passive recreation, and habitat for native plants and wildlife. Last Friday, the Employee Appreciation Committee hosted their employee appreciation recognition, which recipients were selected by their peers and the EAC did a great job highlighting the accomplishments of their peers. Director Rich acknowledged Human Services Director, Meagan O'Reilly, and the work her and the department are doing, especially for the Senior Center. The IT Department has migrated from an outdated platform to a modern, easier to navigate platform, and the County has migrated to a cloud email system. The IT Department has also been working on strengthening the County's security posture by deploying data encryption, air gapped and offsite backup storage with upgraded end point security software. These are just some of the many accomplishments that the IT Department and IT Director, Jim McAllister, have done throughout 2022. Director Rich thanked Mr. McAllister and the IT Department for the hard work and dedication.

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITION

See Page 3/7/2023- PROCLAMATION

PROCLAMATION 2023-08 – ADOPTED, Recognizing Patricia Leidner for her years of service with the County of Hunterdon.

MOVED: Mr. Lanza

SECONDED: Ms. Soloway

ROLL CALL (AYES): Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Kuhl, Mr. Rich

PUBLIC COMMENT, Limited to 2 minutes per person.

(Comments exceeding 2 minutes will be entertained later in the agenda)

Maryann Matthis, Cherry Street in Lebanon Borough, has concerns about the truck traffic on Cherry Street, still after the County road was opened. Ms. Matthis suggested the State Police to do traffic monitoring as well, due to speeding on the road.

Director Rich asked Administrator Myhre if there is anything that the County can do, and Administrator Myhre will reach out to the Perryville State Police Barracks regarding this matter. County Engineer Tom Mathews mentioned there are a few ways that the County can assist with this as well, including limited truck weight signs, and contacting Clinton Township for their police to monitor the traffic as well, and other ways to help eliminate the truck traffic from Cherry Street.

DIVISION OF PARKS UPDATE, Dan Bush, Division Head

Mr. Bush updated the Board and public about the recent projects that have been going on in the County parks, Arboretum, and at the Heron Glen Golf Course.

See Page 3/7/2023- RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2023-178 – RESOLVED, Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director to sign on behalf of the County agreements to provide music for the 47th Annual "Music Under the Stars" Summer Concert Series at Deer Path Park in the Township of Readington for various dates from June 2023, through August 2023, from 7 p.m., to 9 p.m., with the rain location at Hunterdon Central High School.

MOVED: Ms. Soloway

SECONDED: Mr. Kuhl

ROLL CALL (AYES): Ms. Soloway, Mr. Kuhl, Mr. Lanza, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Rich

HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE, Karen DeMarco, Director

Ms. DeMarco informed the Board of where the monies will be disturbed too once the funds are received.

See Page 3/7/2023- RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2023-179 – RESOLVED, Accepting on behalf of the Hunterdon County Health Department, the New Jersey Association of County and City Health Officials (NJACCHO) Enhancing Public Health Infrastructure Local Health Department Grant Award in the amount of \$1,209,564.00, for the period of October 01, 2022, through June 30, 2023, and authorizing the Director or Deputy Director to sign any documents associated with this grant award on behalf of the County of Hunterdon.

MOVED: Mr. Van Doren

SECONDED: Mr. Kuhl

ROLL CALL (AYES): Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Kuhl, Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Rich

Commissioner Van Doren wanted to confirm the dates of the grant; Ms. DeMarco confirmed that the date is through June 30, 2024, not 2023.

HUMAN SERVICES UPDATE, Meagan O'Reilly, Director

Ms. O'Reilly presented the resolution and informed the Board of the importance of this memorandum or understanding and how it will benefit the County.

See Page 3/7/2023- RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2023-180 – RESOLVED, Authorizing the Hunterdon County Division of Housing Director to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Children and Families for the Administration of Foster Youth to Independence Initiative.

MOVED: Mr. Kuhl

SECONDED: Ms. Soloway

ROLL CALL (AYES): Mr. Kuhl, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Lanza, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Rich

Administrator Myhre confirmed that the letter from NJACCHO is incorrect, and that Ms. DeMarco has an updated letter. County Counsel Katrina Campbell noted that the Board can vote on the amended resolution now and it will be documented in the meeting minutes and revised resolution will be done

Commissioner Van Doren moved the amended resolution for the NJACCHO grant to reflect the dates of October 1, 2022, through June 30, 2024, and Deputy Director Kuhl seconded that motion.

GRANTS, Michael Franchini, Deputy CFO

See Page 3/7/2023- RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2023-181 – RESOLVED, Authorizing the Commissioner Director or Deputy Director to sign and accept on behalf of the County, a Stop Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Grant Application, for the Hunterdon County Victim Witness Assistance Victim Services Project, with the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of Administration, Office of the Attorney General, in the amount of \$13,450.00 (Federal Funds: \$8,535.00, County Match: \$4,915.00) for the period of July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, for the Office of the Hunterdon County Prosecutor.

MOVED: Ms. Soloway

SECONDED: Mr. Lanza

ROLL CALL (AYES): Ms. Soloway, Mr. Lanza, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Kuhl, Mr. Rich

FINANCE UPDATE, Andrew Bernath, CFO

Mr. Bernath mentioned that budget conversations are still happening, and that Bond Ordinance 2023-01 public hearing has been moved to the March 21st meeting, due to an issue with publication.

PLANNING & LAND USE, Natalie Zaman, Cultural & Heritage Director

See Page 3/7/2023- RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2023-182 – RESOLVED, Approving the amendment to the New Jersey State Council on the Arts Local Arts Program Grant Awards for 2023.

MOVED: Mr. Kuhl

SECONDED: Mr. Van Doren

ROLL CALL (AYES): Mr. Kuhl, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Rich

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, Brad Myhre

See Page 3/7/2023- RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2023-183 – RESOLVED, Approving the Support of Legislation, S-3534 Prohibiting Foreign Ownership of Farmland, as sponsored by New Jersey State Senator Douglas J. Steinhardt

MOVED: Ms. Soloway

SECONDED: Mr. Van Doren

ROLL CALL (AYES): Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Lanza, Mr. Kuhl, Mr. Rich

Commissioner Soloway commented on the county devices ban of TikTok social media app that was approved at the last meeting, and this action is needed to protect our County from threats from other governments. Senator Steinhardt reported that at the beginning of 2021 foreign investors held a stake in approximately 37.6 million acres of U.S. agricultural land, according to the United States Department of Agriculture. Commissioner Soloway stated that New Jersey needs to act now to protect our farmland from foreign actors, like China and other nations that are hostile to American security and interests, and that the Board is calling on state legislature to enact this legislation.

Director Rich mentioned that this legislation could not be timelier, and it is concerning that there are reports that China has stated purpose of owning a wide variety of tangible assets around the world, including agricultural land. A Wall Street Journal report in 2021, reported that \$1.8 billion of American farmland. It is clear that this interest is needed to protect our food sources, and farms in Hunterdon County, and this bill is a critical and necessary response to that threat.

APPOINTMENTS

See Page 3/7/2023- RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2023-184 - RESOLVED, Approving the appointment of John Giotis to the Human Services Advisory Council with a term effective immediately through March 1, 2026.

MOVED: Mr. Lanza

SECONDED: Mr. Kuhl

ROLL CALL (AYES): Mr. Lanza, Mr. Kuhl, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Rich

See Page 3/7/2023- RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2023-185 – RESOLVED, Approving the reappointment of John Sherlock as a member of the Construction Board of Appeals for a term effective January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2026.

MOVED: Mr. Van Doren

SECONDED: Ms. Soloway

ROLL CALL (AYES): Mr. Van Doren, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Lanza, Mr. Kuhl, Mr. Rich

CONSENT AGENDA

“All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Hunterdon and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.”

The claims register needed to be removed and voted on separately due to check numbers 10322 and 10324.

RESOLUTION - Approving the executive session and regular meeting minutes from February 21, 2023.

MOVED: Mr. Lanza

SECONDED: Ms. Soloway

ROLL CALL (AYES): Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Kuhl, Mr. Rich

See Page 3/7/2023- RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2023-187 – RESOLVED, Approving a request from the Lebanon Township Volunteer Fire Department to host a coin toss on Sunday, May 28, 2023, at the intersection of County Route 513 and County Route 628 from 8 a.m., to 4 p.m.

MOVED: Mr. Lanza

SECONDED: Ms. Soloway

ROLL CALL (AYES): Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Kuhl, Mr. Rich

See Page 3/7/2023-

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2023-188 – RESOLVED, Approving a request from the Califon Recreation Committee to host a Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 29, 2023, from 10:30 a.m., to 12:00 p.m., on School Street, down Main Street/ County Route 512, and ending at Califon Island Park, and approving a banner to be displayed on the bridge located on Main Street from April 23, 2023, through May 31, 2023.

MOVED: Mr. Lanza

SECONDED: Ms. Soloway

ROLL CALL (AYES): Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Kuhl, Mr. Rich

See Page 3/7/2023-

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2023-189 – RESOLVED, Approving the hire and regular appointment of Steven Hawkins as a Laborer in the Hunterdon County Department of Public Works, Roads Division.

MOVED: Mr. Lanza

SECONDED: Ms. Soloway

ROLL CALL (AYES): Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Kuhl, Mr. Rich

See Page 3/7/2023-

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2023-190 – RESOLVED, Approving the hire and regular appointment of Richard Everitt as a Laborer in the Hunterdon County Department of Public Works, Bridge Division.

MOVED: Mr. Lanza

SECONDED: Ms. Soloway

ROLL CALL (AYES): Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Kuhl, Mr. Rich

See Page 3/7/2023-

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2023-191 – RESOLVED, Approving the promotion of Rebecca Deakin to the unclassified title of Division Head in the Hunterdon County Department of Planning and Land Use.

MOVED: Mr. Lanza

SECONDED: Ms. Soloway

ROLL CALL (AYES): Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Kuhl, Mr. Rich

See Page 3/7/2023-

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2023-192 - RESOLVED, Approving the provisional promotion of Laura Velazquez Casillas to the title of Senior Library Assistance at the Hunterdon County Library.

MOVED: Mr. Lanza

SECONDED: Ms. Soloway

ROLL CALL (AYES): Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Kuhl, Mr. Rich

See Page 3/7/2023-

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2023-193 – RESOLVED, Approving the provisional promotion of Joan Sabo to the title of Supervising Library Assistant at the Hunterdon County Library.

MOVED: Mr. Lanza

SECONDED: Ms. Soloway

ROLL CALL (AYES): Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Kuhl, Mr. Rich

See Page 3/7/2023-

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2023-194 – RESOLVED, Acknowledging the action of the Hunterdon County Prosecutor to appoint Lloyd Martin as a County Investigator in the Hunterdon County Office of the Prosecutor.

MOVED: Mr. Lanza

SECONDED: Ms. Soloway

ROLL CALL (AYES): Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Kuhl, Mr. Rich

See Page 3/7/2023-

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2023-195 – RESOLVED, Approving the base pay contractual increase for Joel Van Horn, Principal Mail Clerk, in the Department of Administrative Services, Division of Central Printing and Mail, per the negotiated side letter of agreement with the Communication Workers of America Local 1036 Nonsupervisory Unit.

MOVED: Mr. Lanza

SECONDED: Ms. Soloway

ROLL CALL (AYES): Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Kuhl, Mr. Rich

See Page 3/7/2023-

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2023-196 – RESOLVED, Approving the agreement between the Board of Education for the East Amwell School District and the County of Hunterdon and the Hunterdon County Sheriff Department for an interlocal agreement for School Class III Law Enforcement Officers.

MOVED: Mr. Lanza

SECONDED: Ms. Soloway

ROLL CALL (AYES): Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Kuhl, Mr. Rich

See Page 3/7/2023-

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2023-197 – RESOLVED, Authorizing the Commissioner Director, or Deputy Director, and the Division of Housing Director to sign on behalf of the County, a Civil Rights Form-5077CR, for the year of 2023.

MOVED: Mr. Lanza

SECONDED: Ms. Soloway

ROLL CALL (AYES): Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Kuhl, Mr. Rich

See Page 3/7/2023-

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2023-198 – RESOLVED, Approving a request from First Energy to perform a Right-of- Way Vegetation Management at 411 Main Street, located in Three Bridges.

MOVED: Mr. Lanza

SECONDED: Ms. Soloway

ROLL CALL (AYES): Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Kuhl, Mr. Rich

See Page 3/7/2023-

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2023-199 - RESOLVED, Approving a request from PSE&G to conduct Right-of-Way vegetation management practices on Block 25, Lot 2 at the Cushetunk Mountain Preserve in the Township of Readington.

MOVED: Mr. Lanza

SECONDED: Ms. Soloway

ROLL CALL (AYES): Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Kuhl, Mr. Rich

See Page 3/7/2023-

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2023-200 – RESOLVED, Approving a request from JCP&L to conduct a Right of Way vegetation management practices on Block 38, Lot 9 & 11, and Block 34, Lot 26, at the Sourland Mountain Preserve in the Township of East Amwell.

MOVED: Mr. Lanza

SECONDED: Ms. Soloway

ROLL CALL (AYES): Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Kuhl, Mr. Rich

See Page 3/7/2023-

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2023-201 – RESOLVED, Approving a request from the Special Olympics New Jersey to host a walking event at Deer Path Park and utilizing the Cedars Pavilion, on Saturday, June 24, 2023, from 9 a.m., to 2 p.m., and waving all County fees for this event.

MOVED: Mr. Lanza

SECONDED: Ms. Soloway

ROLL CALL (AYES): Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Kuhl, Mr. Rich

See Page 3/7/2023- RESOLUTION
RESOLUTION 2023-202 – RESOLVED, Authorizing the County Counsel of the County of Hunterdon to execute, on behalf of the County, a Side Letter of Agreement between the County of Hunterdon and CWA Local 1036, for the Department of Administrative Services, Division of Parks and Recreation.
MOVED: Mr. Lanza
SECONDED: Ms. Soloway
ROLL CALL (AYES): Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Kuhl, Mr. Rich

Voting of the claims register with check numbers 10322 and 10324.

See Page 3/7/2023- RESOLUTION
CLAIMS REGISTER 2023-186 – RESOLVED, Approving the claims register dated March 07, 2023.
MOVED: Mr. Lanza
SECONDED: Ms. Soloway
ROLL CALL (AYES): Mr. Lanza, Ms. Soloway, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Kuhl
ABSTAIN: Mr. Rich

ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Commissioner Van Doren excused himself from the meeting at 6:27 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Reconvene if necessary)

The Board reconvened in executive session at 6:28 p.m. on a motion by Commissioner Lanza, seconded by Commissioner Soloway, followed by a voice carry.

ADJOURNMENT
The Board adjourned at 7:00 pm on a motion by Commissioner Lanza and seconded by Commissioner Soloway.

Respectfully submitted by:

Andrew C. Russano, Clerk to the Board

Transcribed by:

Lindsay Heller, Deputy Clerk to the Board

**RESOLUTION
ENTERING INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231 P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS the County is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, as follows:

- 1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of the specified subject matter.
- 2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

PERSONNEL:

- Remote Work in Engineering (Rice Notice sent)
- Personnel Discussion for the Clerk of the Board

LEGAL:

- Contractual – FOP

I, Andrew C. Russano, Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners, County of Hunterdon, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution is a true, complete, and accurate copy of a resolution adopted by the Hunterdon County Board of County Commissioners at a meeting held on March 07, 2023.

ROLL CALL	MOVED	SECONDED	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Zachary T. Rich, Director			x			
Jeff Kuhl, Deputy Director			x			
John E. Lanza, Commissioner		x				
Susan J. Soloway, Commissioner	x					
Shaun C. Van Doren, Commissioner						

ADOPTED March 21, 2023

Andrew C. Russano, CLERK