



MINUTES

HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Holland Township Municipal Building
61 Church Road,
Milford, New Jersey 08848

March 19, 2024

- I. **5:00 p.m. CONVENE:**
- II. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**
- III. **5:30 p.m. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Boy Scout Troop #187**
- IV. **MOMENT OF SILENCE**
- V. **REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNSEL ON EXECUTIVE SESSION**
- VI. **COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

Commissioner Van Doren highlighted a grant application that was approved at the Board's last meeting authorizing the Health Department to provide free dental services to underserved populations. If awarded, the Health Department will partner with local dentists to provide dental services as outlined in the grant. The Health Department's Solid Waste Division recently hosted its first electronics recycling event this past Saturday. Commissioner Van Doren stated 650 residents attended the event. He added the first Household Hazardous Waste Cleanup Day is scheduled for this Saturday at the Route 12 County Complex. As liaison to the Department of Public Works, Commissioner Van Doren reminded everyone the ribbon cutting to celebrate the recently refurbished Historic Covered Bridge in Delaware Township is taking place Friday, at 11:00 a.m.

Commissioner Lanza announced that Hunterdon County will be receiving a federal grant in the amount of \$3,192,000.00 toward construction of Phases 2 and 3 of the Emergency Services Training Center. He thanked Congressman Tom Kean and U.S. Senator Cory Booker for their bipartisan work on securing this important money for the county. As a co-member of the Budget Committee, Commissioner Lanza announced the work is nearly complete on the FY24 county budget. It is anticipated to be introduced at the April 2, 2024 Board meeting. The proposed budget document will

include funding for two municipal grant programs Commissioner Director Kuhl outlined in his speech at the reorganization meeting. Commissioner Lanza highlighted the county's continued support for the historic Riegel ridge Community Center in Holland Township.

Commissioner Rich shared information regarding upcoming meetings being led by the Hunterdon County Planning and Land Use Department. The Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee will be meeting at on March 25, 2024. County committees and boards are always looking for new volunteer members, those interested can contact the Clerk of the Board's office for an application. Commissioner Rich stated the Planning and Land Use Department will be hosting a hearing on the Growth Management Plan on April 4, 2024 beginning at 8:15 a.m. The Growth Management Plan is an element of the County's Master Plan and plays a role in impacting how investment and resources are allocated in the future. As liaison to Hunterdon County Polytech, Commissioner Rich reported they will be participating in the Del-Val District Arts Festival on Tuesday, March 26 and on March 11, Polytech's local chapter of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), hosted their very first showcase, and it was a huge success.

Deputy Director Soloway shared that this past Saturday, Director Kuhl and herself attended the New Jersey Makers Day at the Main Branch Library. The event was well attended and included unique events and exhibitions that were offered across all three library branches. She recommended everyone should check out the recently refurbished Main Branch Library if you have not already done so. As co-liaison to the Department of Economic Development and Tourism, Deputy Director Soloway announced that Influencer and Celebrity Chef, Aaron McCargo, Jr. will be visiting the County on Friday. Deputy Director Soloway shared information regarding her participation in *Read Across America*. She added, speaking with the young people and explaining what the county commissioners do, is one of the highlights of her public service.

Director Kuhl reiterated the New Jersey Makers Day event was a success and added over 1,500 people attended. Director Kuhl stated Commissioner Rich and himself spoke about the Board's concerns with the proposed Affordable Housing legislation that was being considered in Trenton. Unfortunately, the New Jersey State Senate passed the affordable housing overhaul along party lines. The bill is expected to be signed by Governor Murphy, and among other provisions it will codify a formula that will ultimately mandate new affordable housing obligations on our communities. He advised he will be speaking with the Department of Planning and Land Use staff to get a better understanding of how this legislation will be implemented by the Department of Community Affairs and its impact on Hunterdon County. Lastly, Director Kuhl thanked Holland Township for hosting the Commissioner Board and congratulated them on the occasion of the township's 150th anniversary.

VII. RECOGNIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF HOLLAND UPON THEIR 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF INCORPORATION

1. Recognizing the Township of Holland upon their 150th Anniversary of Incorporation. Holland Township Mayor, Dan Bush, shared a brief history of Holland Township and

played a short video for all attendees.

Motion: By: John Lanza **Seconded:** Susan Soloway

Yes: Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway, John Lanza, Zachary Rich, Shaun Van Doren

No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**

Assemblyman John DiMaio presented a joint Resolution to Holland Township from Senator Doug Steinhardt, Assemblyman Erik Peterson and himself. He congratulated the Township.

Nick Henry, a representative of Congressman Tom Kean Jr. presented a copy of the congressional record to Holland Township Mayor, Dan Bush. He added Holland Township is a beautiful place.

VIII. **PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITION**

1. Recognizing ShopRite of Flemington Associates, Brianna Luster and Joanne Gibson, the Partners In Caring fundraising program leaders.

Commissioner Van Doren thanked the Calalillo family for their service to the Hunterdon County community and for helping fight hunger.

Motion: By: Shaun Van Doren **Seconded:** John Lanza

Yes: Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway, John Lanza, Zachary Rich, Shaun Van Doren

No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**

IX. **PUBLIC COMMENT, Limited to 2 minutes per person.** **(Comments exceeding 2 minutes will be entertained later in the agenda)**

X. **PARKS & RECREATION, Dan Bush**

1. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director of the Board of Commissioners to sign agreements with Hunterdon Symphony, Captain Jack (Billy Joel) Tribute Band, Best of the Eagles Tribute Band, Jakes Rockin Country Band, and The Hunterdon Choral Alliance for the 48th Annual *Music under the Stars*, Summer Concert Series at Deer Path Park, in Readington Township.

Motion: By: Susan Soloway **Seconded:** Zachary Rich

Yes: Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway, John Lanza, Zachary Rich, Shaun Van Doren

No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**

2. Public Hearing and Adoption on Ordinance #2024-01; Setting the Heron Glen rates for 2024.

Motion: Open Public Hearing **By:** John Lanza **Seconded:** Shaun Van Doren

Yes: Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway, John Lanza, Zachary Rich, Shaun Van Doren

No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**

The public hearing opened.

There were no comments.

Motion: Close Public Hearing **By:** Shaun Van Doren **Seconded:** John Lanza

Yes: Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway, John Lanza, Zachary Rich, Shaun Van Doren

No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**

The public hearing closed.

Motion: Adopt Ordinance 2024-01 **By:** John Lanza **Seconded:** Shaun Van Doren
Yes: Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway, John Lanza, Zachary Rich, Shaun Van Doren
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**

XI. PLANNING & LAND USE

1. Authorizing the County Administrator, or the Deputy Administrator, to accept the Highlands Council Award Letter for additional funding through the Highlands Council for completion of the Hunterdon County Historic Preservation Plan.
Motion: **By:** Zachary Rich **Seconded:** John Lanza
Yes: Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway, John Lanza, Zachary Rich, Shaun Van Doren
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**

XII. HUMAN SERVICES UPDATE, Meagan Q. O'Reilly, Director

Motion: **By:** Shaun Van Doren **Seconded:** Zachary Rich
Yes: Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway, John Lanza, Zachary Rich, Shaun Van Doren
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**

1. Authorizing Contract Modification #1 with Prevention Resources, Inc. for the provision of community-based services, specifically Hope One Peer Specialist services, pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in the Department of Human Services 2023 Request for Proposals 0015-2023, for the period of October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024. Funding for the term shall be in the amount of \$20,000.00, State funds offered through the NJ Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services Innovation Grant.
2. Authorizing a provider services contract with Flemington Area Food Pantry for the provision of community-based services known as the Nutrition and Health Program pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth by the Department of Human Services 2024 Request for Proposals 0065-2023, for the period of January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2026. Funding for the term shall be in the amount of \$150,000.00 (\$50,000.00 per County fiscal year).
3. Authorizing a provider services contract with Flemington Area Food Pantry for the provision of community-based services known as the Senior Health Annex Program pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth by the Department of Human Services 2024 Request for Proposals 0065-2023, for the period of January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2026. Funding for the term shall be in the amount of \$30,000.00 (\$10,000.00 per County fiscal year).
4. Authorizing a provider services contract with Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, for the provision of community-based services known as Mental Health

and Substance Use Treatment Program pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in the Department of Human Services 2023 Request for Proposals 0045-2023, for the period of January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2025. Funding for the term shall be in the amount of \$69,000.00, available through the American Rescue Plan Act.

5. Authorizing a provider services contract with Abilities of Northwest Jersey, Inc. for the provision of community-based services known as Case Management/Career Support and Exploration for Youth with Disabilities Program pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in the Department of Human Services 2024 Request for Proposals 0065-2023, for the period of January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2026. Funding for the term shall be in the amount of \$75,000.00 (\$25,000.00 per County fiscal year).
6. Authorizing a provider services contract with The Arc of Hunterdon for the provision of community-based services known as Family Support Case Management pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in the Department of Human Services 2024 Request for Proposals 0065-2023, for the period of January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2026. Funding for the term shall be in the amount of \$168,600.00 (\$56,200.00 per County fiscal year).
7. Authorizing a provider services contract with Freedom House for the provision of community-based services known as Outpatient Services pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth the Department of Human Services 2024 Request for Proposals 0065-2023, for the period of January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2026. Funding for the term shall be in the amount of \$30,000.00 (\$10,000.00 per County fiscal year).

XIII. PURCHASING, Ray Rule, QPA

1. Approving Requisition #R3-08216, with PMC Associates, for 11new 9-1-1 Dispatch Console Replacements, in an amount not to exceed \$649,214.36. These enhanced consoles will add four positions for surge capacity during major events, are adjustable to allow operators to work while either sitting or standing and have individual climate controls and task lighting operations.
Motion: By: John Lanza **Seconded:** Susan Soloway
Yes: Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway, John Lanza, Zachary Rich, Shaun Van Doren
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**
2. Approving requisition #R24-2127, with Paramus Ford Inc., for the purchase of a super cab pickup truck, in an amount not to exceed \$52,459.20. This vehicle is being funded through the Weights and Measures Trust Account.
Motion: By: Shaun Van Doren **Seconded:** Zachary Rich
Yes: Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway, John Lanza, Zachary Rich, Shaun Van Doren
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**

XIV. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, Brad Myhre

1. Approving the American Rescue Funds Non-Profit Grant awards as recommended by HFA Certified Public Accountants and Advisors.
Mr. Joseph Sarno, from HFA Certified Public Accountants and Advisors, introduced \$1 million in grants to non-profits. He added over 42 applications were received, totaling \$2.8 million in asks. The Commissioner Board thanked Mr. Sarno for the work put into this grant process.

Motion: By: John Lanza **Seconded:** Shaun Van Doren

Yes: Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway, John Lanza, Zachary Rich, Shaun Van Doren

No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**

2. Resolution affirming the action of Commissioner Director Jeff Kuhl to send letter to members of the 15th, 16th, and 23rd Legislative Districts opposing Assembly Bill No. 4 and Senate Bill No. 50.

Motion: By: Susan Soloway **Seconded:** John Lanza

Yes: Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway, John Lanza, Zachary Rich, Shaun Van Doren

No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**

XV. **CONSENT AGENDA**

Commissioner Van Doren advised he needed Resolution #2 listed under the Consent Agenda to be removed.

Motion: To approve the Consent Agenda excluding Resolution #2

By: Susan Soloway **Seconded:** Zachary Rich

Yes: Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway, John Lanza, Zachary Rich, Shaun Van Doren

No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**

Motion: To approve Resolution #2 listed under the Consent Agenda

By: Susan Soloway **Seconded:** John Lanza

Yes: Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway, John Lanza, Zachary Rich

No: None **Abstain:** Shaun Van Doren **Absent:**

1. Approving the Claims Register dated March 19, 2024.
2. Approving the Executive Session and Regular Meeting Minutes from March 05, 2024.
3. Approving the hire and provisional appointment of Yamuna Arulmani as a Senior Account Clerk in the Hunterdon County Finance Department contingent upon the successful outcome of post offer medical evaluations. Filling a vacancy.
4. Approving the hire and provisional appointment of Jake Martorano as a Mechanic in the Hunterdon County Department of Administrative Services, Division of Vehicle Services contingent upon the successful outcome of post offer medical evaluations. Filling a vacancy.
5. Acknowledging the action of Hunterdon County Prosecutor Renee Robeson to hire and appoint Torry Boggs as an Advocate Trainee Victim Witness Program in the

Hunterdon County Office of the Prosecutor contingent upon the successful outcome of post offer evaluations. Filling a vacancy.

6. Approving the hire and regular appointment of Michael Kenny as a Maintenance Repairer in the Hunterdon County Department of Administrative Services, Division of Buildings and Maintenance, contingent upon the successful outcome of post offer medical evaluations. Filling a vacancy.
7. Approving the action to hereby grant Nicholas Siani a regular appointment as a full time Public Health Investigator as of March 19, 2024, in the Hunterdon County Department of Health, Division of Environmental Health Services.
8. Approving the appointment of Marvin Fields as a member of the Hunterdon County Board of Elections effective March 1, 2024.
9. Acknowledging the titles and salaries of the members of the Hunterdon County Board of Elections as established at the Board's annual reorganization meeting effective March 1, 2024.
10. Approving a request from High Bridge Fire Department, to host a coin toss on April 13, 2024, and October 12, 2024, from 7:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at the South Branch Emergency Services Building located at 95 West Main Street, in the Borough of High Bridge.
11. Approving a request from Whitehouse Rescue Squad, to host coin tosses on April 6 & 7, 2024 with a rain date of April 13 & 14 and October 5 & 6, 2024 with rain dates of October 12 & 13 at County Route 523 in front of the Whitehouse Rescue Squad from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.
12. Approving a request from Tewksbury First Aid & Rescue Squad to host a Coin Toss on April 6 or 7, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. with a rain date of April 20 or 21, 2024, at the intersection of Lamington Road (County Route 523) and County Route 517 in Oldwick.
13. Approving the Assistant County Engineer's recommendation to rescind the 5 ton weight limit for County Bridge Y-43, located on Curly Lane, in the City of Lambertville, Hunterdon County, and adopt an unrestricted weight limit, to be effective immediately.
14. Approving the Assistant County Engineer's recommendation to rescind the 8 ton weight limit for County Bridge Q-109, located on Dayton Road, in the Township of Raritan, Hunterdon County, and adopt an unrestricted weight limit, to be effective immediately.

15. Approving the Assistant County Engineer's recommendation to rescind the 7 ton weight limit for County Bridge Q-28, located on Old Croton Road, in the Township of Raritan, Hunterdon County, and adopt an unrestricted weight limit, to be effective immediately.
16. Approving the Assistant County Engineer's recommendation to rescind the 5 ton weight limit for County Bridge FC-62, located on Hamden Road, in the Townships of Franklin and Clinton, Hunterdon County, and adopt an unrestricted weight limit, to be effective immediately.
17. Approving the First Energy request to supply vegetation management to several First Energy easements in Hunterdon County Parks.
18. Approving SWAT Volunteer Agreements and Mutual Assistance Agreements with the Town of Clinton and Township of Readington.
19. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director of the Board of County Commissioners to sign and accept 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 \$14,755.00, for the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.
20. Authorizing ongoing research by the State of NJ Division of Agriculture in the study of insect control for Japanese Knotweed at the Melick's Bridge section of the South Branch Reservation in 2024.
21. Approving a Parks courtesy permit to the National Association of Competitive Mounted Orienteering (NACMO) to host a unique equestrian mounted orienteering event at Deer Path Park on April 14, 2024, from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.
22. Authorizing the Special Olympics NJ to hold a walking event at Deer Path Park utilizing the Overlook Pavilion at no charge on June 22, 2024, from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.
23. Approving an amendment to Resolution 2024-62, Green Acres Application for South County Park, to reflect updates to the proposed design and in response to Green Acres' suggestions regarding playground configuration.
24. Confirming compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and authorizing adoption and implementation of the policies set forth in the document entitled Hunterdon County's Title VI Program.
25. Authorizing the Hunterdon County Division Head of Social Services, Lisa Piazza

Long, to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board, and it's One Stop Career Partners, to develop an expanded One-Stop Career Center.

26. Approving an amendment to Resolution 2024-01.
27. Authorizing the Board of County Commissioners to write a letter of support on behalf of the Lebanon Township Fire Department for the department's FEMA AFG Grant Application.
28. Authorizing the Health Department to apply for and accept the Strengthening Local Public Health Capacity Program 2025 Grant in the amount of \$29,990.00 for the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

XVI. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

XVII. ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Van Doren added he had the pleasure of visiting the Senior Center earlier in the day. He encouraged seniors to attend and participate in the classes the Senior Center offers. Commissioner Van Doren thanked Human Services Administrator, Meagan O'Reilly.

Commissioner Director Kuhl thanked Holland Township for hosting them this evening. Commissioner Lanza noted the passing of Tony Bertelli. He stated Tony was a great friend and he will be missed.

XVIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION (Reconvene if necessary)

XIX. ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned at 6:18 p.m. on a motion by Commissioner Lanza, seconded by Commissioner Rich, followed by a voice carry.