



MINUTES

HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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

April 16, 2024

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

Commissioner Rich announced there is an upcoming kickoff meeting with members of the Local Safety Action Plan Committee. The committee creates a framework for focusing safety activities towards addressing the most pressing needs and matching safety problems with effective solutions. The North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority is assisting with providing the funding and the necessary consultant to help with the development of the Local Action Plan which will benefit all of Hunterdon County. As liaison the Hunterdon County Polytech, Commissioner Rich shared that Polytech will host an *EXCITE Camp* that will be held from July 8 - 12 from 8:00 a.m. until noon. The camp is designed for students entering grades 6th through 9th to explore different careers in the real world including: animal science, construction trades, graphic design, law enforcement, studio and digital arts.

Commissioner Van Doren shared immediately after last week's earthquake, the engineering division visually inspected all fracture critical bridges within a 7-mile radius of the epicenter. He reported no damage was found during these inspections. Commissioner Van Doren reported the Department of Public Works did need to close a stone arch culvert on Welsh Road in the Township of Tewksbury due to partial collapse. It is unknown if the damage was caused solely by the earthquake. Plans are underway to repair the bridge. Commissioner Van Doren announced the annual

Hunterdon County Shade Tree Commission's Arbor Day celebration will be held at Deer Path Park on Friday, March 26 beginning at 11:00 a.m. As liaison to the Department of Human Services, Commissioner Van Doren stated the Senior Center has started Bocce again, those interested can contact the Senior Center to register.

Commissioner Lanza reported last Thursday, April 11, the Board awarded ten Hunterdon County first responded agencies with checks, in the total amount of \$213,400.00, from monies made available through the County Nonprofit Grant Program. He shared the amounts each of the agencies received. The grant funding awarded will go toward addressing a variety of important needs for our first responders including obtaining personal protective gear and acquiring new equipment. Commissioner Lanza added the dedicated first responders risk their lives every day, and he is grateful that the Board could help to provide needed funding to help assist them in carrying out their important roles. Commissioner Lanza recognized Hunterdon County Prosecutor Renee Robeson, who was in attendance in honor of National Crime Victims' Rights Week. This year's theme is a call-to-action for us all to create safe environments for crime victims to share what happened to them. By doing so, we're able to offer support, options for life-saving services, and, most importantly, hope.

Deputy Director Soloway shared that the County will be hosting a Veteran's headstone cleaning event at St. John Cemetery in Lambertville, on May 4, beginning at 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. To RSVP email veterans@co.hunterdon.nj.us or call 908-788-1361. Deputy Director Soloway added the county will also be co-hosting a Veteran's Resource Fair with Congressman Tom Kean, Jr. The event will take place on Monday, May 20, at 1:00 p.m. at the Route 12 County Complex.

Director Kuhl expressed his support for the introduction of the Fiscal Year 2024 budget. The budget not only funds important direct grant investments in municipal parks and infrastructure but will reduce the county tax rate to the 2015 level. He thanked Commissioner Lanza and Van Doren who serve on the budget committee. Director Kuhl stated the Board will unveil the \$1 million-dollar municipal infrastructure grant program for the 26 municipalities. Director Kuhl added he is confident that these monies will be helpful toward offsetting the cost of roadway work, improvements to facilities, acquisition of pedestrian safety equipment, and helping our town tackle dangerous Ash trees on municipally owned properties.

VII. HUNTERDON COUNTY PROSECUTOR UPDATE, Prosecutor Renee Robeson

1. Proclaiming the week of April 21 – 27, 2024, as Crime Victims' Rights Week in the County of Hunterdon.

Prosecutor Renee Robeson shared details regarding National Crime Victims' Rights Week and stated this year's theme is *How would you help?* Prosecutor Robeson thanked the Board for recognizing National Crime Victims' Rights Week and for approving the Historic Courthouse to be illuminated blue in recognition of this week.

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

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

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

VIII. PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITION

1. Recognizing Michael Saus upon achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.
Michael Saus informed the Board about his scout project that he completed at Horseshoe Bend Park.
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:**

2. Recognizing April 14 through April 20, 2024 as Public Safety Telecommunicators Week in the County of Hunterdon.
Patrick Horsch from the Department of Public Safety thanked the Commissioner Board and County Administration for recognizing the hard work and diligence of the telecommunicators. The telecommunicators are the first and most critical contact our residents have with emergency services. Mr. Horsch shared details of the hard work the County telecommunicators contribute and thanked everyone for their continued support. The Board thanked Mr. Horsch and Director Kuhl stated he looks forward to presenting this proclamation later this week at the Communications Center.
Motion: By: John Lanza **Seconded:** Susan Soloway
Yes: Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway, John Lanza, Zachary Rich, Shaun Van Doren
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**

3. Recognizing Volunteer Guardianship's Hometown Heroes, Kent Davis and Christopher J. Phelan.
Motion: By: Susan Soloway **Seconded:** John Lanza
Yes: Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway, John Lanza, Zachary Rich, Shaun Van Doren
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**

4. Proclaiming Friday, April 26, 2024, as the 152nd Anniversary Celebration of Arbor Day in the County of Hunterdon.
Commissioner Van Doren stated the Arbor Day celebration will take place at Deer Path Park on Friday, April 26th. He added this is 152nd Anniversary of Arbor Day and the County encourages residents and municipalities to celebrate and protect the trees and woodlands. Commissioner Van Doren invited Hunterdon County Shade Tree Commission members, Mr. Bill Wild and Mr. Hans Hanbicki, for a picture with the proclamation.
Motion: By: Susan Soloway **Seconded:** Zachary Rich
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)
Sheriff Brown reminded everyone about the County's Shredding Day event scheduled for Saturday, April 20th at the Route 12 complex.

- X. **HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE, Karen DeMarco, Director**
Karen DeMarco, Director of the Health Department, and Andrew Camp, Deputy Emergency Coordinator, shared a power point presentation provided an update highlighting the activities of the County's Hazardous Materials Response Team. Ms.

DeMarco stated the teams provides critical emergency response to toxic substance releases and spill instances county-wide. The team serves the mission of both the Department of Health and the Department of Public Safety, as they function to protect the health and safety of fellow emergency responders, residents, and the lands and waterways of Hunterdon County. Ms. DeMarco advised the team is coordinated by Mr. Andrew Camp. Ms. Karen DeMarco and Mr. Andrew Camp provided an overview to the Board.

XI. PLANNING & LAND USE

1. Authorizing the acceptance of the Hunterdon County Growth Management Plan for the County of Hunterdon.

Motion: By: Zachary Rich **Seconded:** John Lanza

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

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

2. Approving a Municipal Grant to the Borough of Frenchtown, in an amount not to exceed \$44,845.84, to be used to retire a portion of the debt related to the acquisition of the Frenchtown Greenbelt / Nishasackwick Watershed property, at the recommendation of the Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee.

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:**

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

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:**

1. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director to execute a provider services contract with Prevention Resources, Inc. for the provision of community-based services known as Mental Health Stigma 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 \$22,500.00 (\$7,500.00 per County fiscal year).
2. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director to execute a provider services contract with Prevention Resources, Inc. for the provision of community-based services known as the Unifying Families 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 \$150,000.00 (\$50,000.00 per County fiscal year).
3. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director to execute a provider services contract with Prevention Resources, Inc. for the provision of community-based services known as the Recovery Center 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 \$103,500.00 (\$34,500.00 per County fiscal year).

4. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director to execute a provider services contract with Prevention Resources, Inc. for the provision of community-based services known as Law Enforcement Adolescent Program (L.E.A.P.) 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 \$45,000.00 (\$15,000.00 per County fiscal year).
5. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director to execute a provider services contract with Prevention Resources, Inc. for the provision of community-based services known as the Prevention Education 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 the Director or Deputy Director to execute a provider services contract with Prevention Resources, Inc. for the provision of community-based services known as the Early Intervention 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 \$94,500.00 (\$31,500.00 per County fiscal year).
7. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director to execute a provider services contract with the Progressive Center for Independent Living, Inc. for the provision of community-based services known as the Recreational Experiences and Community Connections Program 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 \$85,500.00 (\$28,500.00 per County fiscal year).
8. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director to execute a provider services contract with Good News Home, Inc. for the provision of community-based services known as Butterfly Sober Living House 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 \$231,000.00, available through the American Rescue Plan Act.

XIII. PURCHASING, Ray Rule, QPA

1. Approving a contract award for County Bid 2024-03, with Green Rock Recycling LLC, for Furnish and Deliver Maintenance and Repair Materials for Roads and Bridges, in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00.
Motion: By: Zachary Rich **Seconded:** Susan Soloway
Yes: Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway, John Lanza, Zachary Rich, Shaun Van Doren

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

2. Approving a contract award for County Bid 2024-03, with Stavola Construction Materials, Inc., for Furnish and Deliver Maintenance and Repair Materials for Roads and Bridges, in an amount not to exceed \$380,010.00.

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:**

3. Approving a contract award for County Bid 2024-03, with Trap Rock Industries LLC, to Furnish and Deliver Maintenance and Repair Materials for Roads and Bridges, in an amount not to exceed \$75,400.00.

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:**

4. Approving a contract award for County Bid 2024-04, with Mecco Inc., for Resurfacing of County Route 601 in the Township of West Amwell, in an amount not to exceed \$1,081,203.50.

Motion: By: Shaun Van Doren **Seconded:** Susan Soloway

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

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

5. Approving Requisition #R24-2598, with Carousel Industries of North America, for 9-1-1 call taking equipment, in an amount not to exceed \$84,467.52.

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:**

6. Approving a contract award for County Bid 2024-03, with Gibraltar Rock Inc., for Furnish and Deliver Maintenance and Repair Materials for Roads and Bridges, in an amount not to exceed \$116,157.50.

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:**

7. Approving a contract award for County Bid 2024-05, with KM Construction Corporation, for Resurfacing and Safety Improvements for County Route 579 in the Townships of Delaware, Raritan and East Amwell, in an amount not to exceed \$2,567,914.84.

Commissioner Van Doren asked Ray Rule, Purchasing Agent, if this was a new vendor the county would be working with and where they were from. Mr. Rule advised it was, and they are located in Irvington, New Jersey.

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:**

8. Authorizing the County Purchasing Agent to solicit bids for the following project:
Emergency Services Training Center Phase II.
Motion: By: John Lanza **Seconded:** Jeff Kuhl
Yes: Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway, John Lanza, Zachary Rich, Shaun Van Doren
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**

XIV. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, Brad Myhre

1. Confirming the action of the Director of the Board of County Commissioners, to submit a Local Efficiency Achievement Program (LEAP) grant letter of support, on behalf of the Township of Delaware and Borough of Stockton for a fire department merger.
Commissioner Lanza thanked Commissioner Director Kuhl and County Administration for their promptness sending this letter of support.
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. Authorizing the Commissioner Director to send a letter to Congressman Tom Kean, and U.S. Senators Booker and Menendez, reaffirming the Commissioner Board's opposition to H.R. 3372 and H.R. 2948, which would authorize heavier trucks on nations roadways.
Motion: By: Shaun Van Doren **Seconded:** Susan Soloway
Yes: Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway, John Lanza, Zachary Rich, Shaun Van Doren
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**

XV. APPOINTMENTS

1. Approving the appointment of Matthew Mawn to the Human Services Advisory Council, term to be effective April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2027.
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:**
2. Approving the appointment of Matthew Mawn to the Mental Health Board, term to be effective April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2027.
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:**

XVI. CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Lanza advised he needed Resolution #2 to be removed from the consent agenda.
Approving the consent agenda without Resolution #2.
Motion: By: John Lanza **Seconded:** Zachary Rich
Yes: Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway, John Lanza, Zachary Rich, Shaun Van Doren

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

Approving Resolution #2 listed under the consent agenda.

Motion: By: Shaun Van Doren **Seconded:** Susan Soloway

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

No: None **Abstain:** John Lanza **Absent:**

1. Approving the Claims Register dated April 16, 2024.
2. Approving the Executive Session and Regular Meeting Minutes from April 02, 2024.
3. Approving the hire and regular appointment of Scott Zarro as a Weights and Measures Apprentice in the Department of Health, Division of Weights and Measures, contingent upon the successful outcome of post offer medical evaluations. (Filling a vacancy)
4. Approving the hire and regular appointment of Jeffrey Wassel as an Analyst Trainee in the Division of Social Services contingent upon the successful outcome of post offer medical evaluations. (Filling a vacancy)
5. Confirming the action of Appointing Authority Brad Myhre to hereby grant Sabrina Herron a regular appointment as a full-time Senior Registered Environmental Health Specialist Public Health as of April 16, 2024 in the Hunterdon County Department of Health, Division of Environmental Health Services.
6. Confirming the action of Appointing Authority Brad Myhre to hereby grant Lisa Bruzzio a regular appointment as a full time Senior Registered Environmental Health Specialist Public Health as of April 16, 2024 in the Hunterdon County Department of Health, Division of Environmental Health Services.
7. Confirming the action of Appointing Authority Brad Myhre to hereby grant Ryan Preston a regular appointment as a full time General Supervisor Parks as of April 16, 2024 in the Hunterdon County Department of Administrative Services, Division of Parks and Recreation.
8. Approving the status change of Holly Hoff to part-time Supervising Advocate Victim Witness in the Hunterdon County Office of the Prosecutor.
9. Acknowledging the action of Appointing Authority Brad Myhre to approve the provisional promotion of Talia Silva to the title Human Service Specialist 1 in the Hunterdon County Department of Human Services, Division of Social Services. (Filling a vacancy)
10. Approving the provisional promotion of Rebecca Viersma to the title Deputy Clerk in the Office of the Board of County Commissioners.

11. Approving an Amendment to Resolution 2024-287, base salary contractual increases per the negotiated side letter of agreement with the Communication Workers of America Local 1036 Supervisory and Non-supervisory.
12. Authorizing the County Purchasing Agent to initiate competitive contracting for the following project: Bike Trail Plan for the Department of Planning and Land Use.
13. Authorizing the execution of an agreement with the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council to become a member for the period of October 01, 2021 through September 30, 2026.
14. Approving a request from First Energy to supply vegetation management to Hunterdon County Parks, South Branch Reservation, and Echo Hill Park.
15. Approving a request from Ready Set Go Adventures to host a bicycling event on the Columbia and Landsdown trails on Saturday, May 11, 2024, from approximately 10:00 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.
16. Approving a request from the Hunterdon County Bar Association to host their Law Day Celebration at Deer Path Park on Wednesday, May 1, 2024, from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. with all fees waived for this location.
17. Approving a request from Main Street Marathon to hold the annual Clinton County Run on the Lansdown Trail on Saturday, April 27, 2024, between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
18. Approving the Assistant County Engineer's recommendation to rescind the 14 ton weight limit for County Bridge ED-262, located on Dunkard Church Road, in the Townships of East Amwell and Delaware, Hunterdon County, and adopt an unrestricted weight limit, to be effective immediately.
19. Approving a request from Milford Fire Company to host a Coin Toss on April 20, 2024, with a rain date of April 27, 2024, at the following locations: 21 Water Street, 11 Frenchtown Road, and at the Intersection of Bridge Street and Railroad Avenue.
20. Approving a request from Fairmount Fire Company to host a Coin Toss on May 10, 2024, with a rain date of May 17, 2024, at the intersection of County Route 512 and County Route 517 in the Township of Tewksbury.
21. Approving a request from the Township of Readington, to host a Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 27, 2024 utilizing County Route 523, in the Township of Readington.

22. Acknowledging the action of Commissioner Director, Jeff Kuhl, to send a letter, on behalf of the Board, to High Bridge Borough supporting the Borough's FY 2025 Congressional Appropriation Request.
23. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director of the Board of County Commissioners to sign a Contract Modification Form #1 for the County Innovation Contract #24-675-ADA-0, increasing the reimbursable ceiling from \$35,708.00 to \$42,850.00 State funds, for the period of October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024.
24. Authorizing the Director to sign and accept, on behalf of the Board of Elections, an ADA Compliance Grant Expenses Award in the amount of \$6,582.67 for a 2024 Directional Signage Project to ensure ADA compliance.
25. Approving an Amendment to Resolution 2023-840, Farmland Preservation Contract of the Barnes Farm in the Township of Kingwood.
26. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director of the Board to sign, on behalf of the County, NRCS Form CPA-1267 and any other required documents necessary for the closing of the Barnes Farm Preservation located at Block 6, Lot 23.02 in the Township of Kingwood, County of Hunterdon.
27. Approving a request from the Borough of Flemington to host a Police Officer Swearing-In Ceremony in the Hunterdon County Historic Courthouse on Wednesday, May 1, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. and all fees waived for this location.
28. Approving a request from Raritan River Music, to host the Raritan River Music Festival in the Hunterdon County Historic Courthouse on Saturday, May 18, 2024, and waive the fees associated with this facility.

XVII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

No public comment.

XVIII. ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

XIX. EXECUTIVE SESSION (Reconvene if necessary)

XX. ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned at 6:25 p.m. on a motion by Commissioner Lanza, seconded by Commissioner Van Doren, followed by a voice carry.