



MINUTES

HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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

October 1, 2024

I. 5:00 p.m. CONVENE:

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Resolution Entering into Executive Session.

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

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

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

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 reminded the public about Polytech's upcoming Open House on October 17, 2024. Prospective students will have the opportunity to visit Polytech campuses, meet with teachers and learn about the new full-time programs opening for the 2025-2026 school year. As liaison to the Planning and Land Use Department, Commissioner Rich shared that work is underway for the development of a county-wide Local Safety Action Plan (LSAP). Local Safety Action Plans are created to identify and prioritize transportation safety improvements to reduce fatal and serious injury crashes on county and municipal roadways. In Commissioner Van Doren absence, Commissioner Rich shared that the Health Department has been assisting the City of Lambertville, and Township of West Amwell with communications around the importance of testing home wells. The County Administrator has also been asked to coordinate with Senator Shirley Turner's office to arrange for the NJDEP to coordinate a public information session for residents that are reporting high PFAS levels within this residential community situated between West Amwell Township and the City of Lambertville.

Commissioner Lanza acknowledged Department of Public Safety Director, Brayden Fahey, who will be speaking later in the agenda regarding replacement of the Mobile Command Bus. Due to careful budget planning, the Commissioner Board is in a strong financial position to replace the current mobile command bus with no need to issue debt. Commissioner Lanza has also been in contact with Mr. Fahey regarding the ILA Longshoreman strike that started early this morning. This is a serious situation that will have ramifications on supply chains and the overall economy. Commissioner Lanza shared additional details regarding the Longshoreman strike and stated the Commissioner Board will continue to monitor the situation in conjunction with state and federal officials.

Deputy Director Soloway announced the County will be sponsoring two additional Veteran Headstone cleaning events in October. The next one will take place on Saturday, October 5, at the Milford Union Cemetery from 3:00–5:00 p.m. The second Veteran Headstone cleaning will be held on Saturday, October 26, at the Fairmount Rural Cemetery in Tewksbury Township from 10:00 a.m. until noon. A co-liaison to the Department of Economic Development and Tourism, Deputy Director Soloway reminded the public to check out the *Explore Hunterdon* website to learn about the various opportunities available for outdoor recreation this fall. Deputy Director Soloway reported she recently spoke to an assembly of 5th Grade students at Round Valley School, which continues to be one of the highlights of her job as a County Commissioner. In closing, she congratulated Director Kuhl for being honored by Prevention Resources for his efforts at reducing the stigma associated with seeking mental health care and battling addiction.

Director Kuhl shared several updates as liaison to the Hunterdon County Library. He reported there was a sharp increase in participation in this year's summer reading program. He added, the Makerspace continues to offer several exciting programs that focus on local youth and their families. Updates and modernization to the North County Branch Library are being reviewed for future capital planning by the Library Director and his team. In Commissioner Van Doren's absence, Director Kuhl shared that the recent waterway cleanup was a success. The cleanup consisted of 21 locations from Hamilton Township in Mercer County to the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area in Sussex County. Over 300 volunteers participated, and over 22 tons of garbage were collected. In closing, Director Kuhl shared another electronics waste cleanup day will be held this Saturday, October 5, 2024.

VII. PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITION

1. Recognizing the City of Lambertville upon receipt of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's *Our Water's Worth It* award.
Motion: By: John Lanza **Seconded:** Zachary Rich
Yes: Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway, John Lanza, Zachary Rich
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:** Shaun Van Doren
2. Recognizing October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.
Director Kuhl stated the County of Hunterdon annually recognizes October as Breast Cancer awareness month by illuminating the Historic Courthouse in Pink, as well as

hosting an annual staff led Breast Cancer Awareness Walk. This year the walk will take place from 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. on October 18, 2024. Dr. Jennifer Montes who is founder of Evolve Pink will serve as the key note speaker.

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

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

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

3. Recognizing October 13, 2024, as Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day. The County of Hunterdon will recognize Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness day by illuminating the Historic Courthouse in teal, pink and green on October 12th through the 14th.

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

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

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

VIII. **PUBLIC COMMENT, Limited to 2 minutes per person.**

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

No public comment.

IX. **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE, Brayden Fahey, Director & OEM Coordinator**

1. Approving requisition #R24-6453, with Fire And Safety Services LTD, for the purchase of a mobile command unit, in an amount not to exceed \$1,893,808.10.

Department of Public Safety Director and OEM Coordinator, Brayden Fahey, shared a PowerPoint presentation containing photos of the County's current Mobile Command Unit. Mr. Fahey reported the current Mobile Command Post is 23 years old and has been showing its age due to space and technology limitations as well as requiring HVAC replacements and frequent generator repairs, as well as transmission issues and other general mechanical issues. The command unit was state of the art for its time and has allowed public safety leaders to meet in a central location to direct and coordinate incident management activities. Mr. Fahey shared the replacement Mobile Command Post will include several technological updates, additional seating, multi-band radios, and an outdoor briefing area.

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

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

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

X. **PURCHASING, Ray Rule, QPA**

1. Approving a contract award for year two for County RFP 0056-2023, with Marsh & McLennan Agency, for Employee Benefits Consultancy and Brokerage Services.

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

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

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

2. Approving a contract award for three for County RFP 0093-2022, with Marsh & McLennan Agency, for Risk Manager/Insurance Broker Services-Property and Casualty.
Motion: By: Zachary Rich **Seconded:** Susan Soloway
Yes: Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway, John Lanza, Zachary Rich
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:** Shaun Van Doren

3. Approving Requisition #R24-6173, with Jammer Doors, for Overhead Door Replacements at the Route 12 Complex, in an amount not to exceed \$77,000.00.
Motion: By: John Lanza **Seconded:** Susan Soloway
Yes: Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway, John Lanza, Zachary Rich
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:** Shaun Van Doren

4. Approving contract amendment #1 for County RFP 0049-2021, with French & Parrello Associates, Professional Engineering services to inspect and design the remediation of a failing pond at Echo Hill Park, Clinton Township, in an amount not to exceed \$29,185.00.
Motion: By: Susan Soloway **Seconded:** John Lanza
Yes: Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway, John Lanza, Zachary Rich
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:** Shaun Van Doren

XI. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, Brad Myhre

1. Reaffirming the opposition of H.R. 3372, Which Would Establish a 10-Year Pilot Program for States to Test 91,000 Pound Trucks.
Motion: By: Susan Soloway **Seconded:** John Lanza
Yes: Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway, John Lanza, Zachary Rich
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:** Shaun Van Doren

2. Opposing the Governor's Costly Mandate to Electrify Heavy Duty Trucks.
Motion: By: Jeff Kuhl **Seconded:** Zachary Rich
Yes: Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway, John Lanza, Zachary Rich
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:** Shaun Van Doren

XII. CONSENT AGENDA

- Motion: By:** John Lanza **Seconded:** Susan Soloway
Yes: Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway, John Lanza, Zachary Rich
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:** Shaun Van Doren
1. Approving the Claims Register dated October 01, 2024.

 2. Approving the executive session and regular meeting minutes from September 17, 2024.

 3. Approving the hire and regular appointment of Latecia Browne- Troy as a

Keyboarding Clerk 1 in the Hunterdon County Library, contingent upon the successful outcome of post offer medical evaluation. (Filling a vacancy)

4. Acknowledging the action of Hunterdon County Prosecutor Renee M. Robeson to hire and appoint Georgia D. Reid to the unclassified title Assistant Prosecutor in the Hunterdon County Prosecutor's Office, contingent upon the successful outcome of post offer evaluations. (Filling a vacancy)
5. Approving the hire and regular appointment of Anastasia Soteropoulos as a Library Associate in the Hunterdon County Library, contingent upon the successful outcome of post offer medical evaluation. (Filling a vacancy)
6. Approving an amendment to Resolution 2024-742, the transfer of Nancy Hanna from the Division of Culture and Heritage to the Division of Planning and Land Use.
7. Approving an amendment to Resolution 2024-839, the hire and regular appointment of Karen Peterson as a part-time Library Associate in the Hunterdon County Library.
8. Approving a salary adjustment for Joseph Ernst, Public Safety Telecommunicator per the CWA Local 1036, Rank and File collective bargaining agreement for successfully completing one year of the Trainee period.
9. Approving the action to hereby grant Sean P. Tierney a regular appointment as a Communications Technician as of October 1, 2024, in the Hunterdon County Department of Public Safety, Communications Division.
10. Approving the action to hereby grant Albert D. Swisher a regular appointment as a Road Repairer 2 as of October 1, 2024, in the Hunterdon County Department of Public Works, Roads Division.
11. Approving the action to hereby grant Mathew T. Fazekas a regular appointment as a full time Road Repairer 2 as of October 1, 2024, in the Hunterdon County Department of Public Works, Roads Division.
12. Acknowledging the action of the Hunterdon County Board of Elections to hire temporary Early Voting Workers to staff Early Voting Sites.
13. Acknowledging the action of the Hunterdon County Board of Elections to hire temporary Early Voting Site Supervisors for Early Voting sites.
14. Approving the Acquisition of a portion of Block 25, Lot 7.19, Located in the Township of East Amwell, for the replacement of County Bridge E-243, in the amount not to exceed \$2,500.00.

15. Authorizing the Health Department, Division of Public Health Nursing, to apply for and accept a grant from the Hunterdon County Department of Human Services, Division of Senior, Disabilities and Veterans Services, for the "Brunch and Learn" program in the amount of \$3,500.00, to support monthly seminars designed to educate and empower seniors and individuals with disabilities in leading healthier and safer lives through knowledge and proactive actions.
16. Approving a request from Tewksbury First Aid & Rescue Squad to host a coin toss on October 19 or 20, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. with a rain date of October 26 or 27, 2024 at the intersection of Lamington Road (County Route 523) and County Route 517, in Oldwick.
17. Approving a time extension request for the project known as the Replacement of Bridge FC-80 located on Pine Hill / Camp Buck Road over South Branch Raritan River, in Clinton and Franklin Townships, County of Hunterdon.
18. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director of the Board of County Commissioners, to sign, on behalf of the County, a Contract for Housing Consultant Services for the Tri-County Continuum of Care with Monarch Housing Associates, Inc. for the period July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, with the option for renew for two additional one-year terms.
19. Authorizing the Commissioner Director to sign a Revised Standardized Board Resolution Form for Contract #DOAS24AAA007, with the New Jersey Division of Aging Services, reflecting the correct Director of the Board of County Commissioners and new Division Head of the Hunterdon County Division of Senior, Disabilities and Veterans Services.
20. Authorizing the Director of the Board of County Commissioners, to sign, on behalf of the County, a Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Mercer and the County of Hunterdon Concerning the Application and Subsequent Management of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) and FY 2021 Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Grant.
21. Approving a request from The Friends of the Hunterdon County Library to host their annual Book Sale at the Grange Building and the 4H Administration Building at the South County Park on Monday, April 7, 2025, through Wednesday, April 30, 2025, with all fees waived for this event.
22. Authorizing the Commissioner Director or Deputy Director to sign the application for a water lowering permit and all other documents related to the rehabilitation of Echo Hill pond located at 41 Lilac Drive, in the Township of Clinton, Block 91.01, Lots 13 & 12.05.

23. Approving a request from Hunterdon Central High School to hold a Cross-Country event at Deer Path Park on October 22, 2024, from 2:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. and waive all fees associated with this permit.
24. Authorizing the Department of Public Works to submit a grant application to the New Jersey Department of Transportation, for the Resurfacing of County Route 623 in the Township of Clinton and Town of Clinton, County of Hunterdon.
25. Authorizing the Department of Public Works to submit a grant application to the New Jersey Department of Transportation, for the Resurfacing of County Route 619 in the Townships of Holland and Alexandria and Borough of Milford, County of Hunterdon.
26. Authorizing the Department of Public Works to submit a grant application to the New Jersey Department of Transportation, for the Resurfacing of County Route 614 in the Township of Holland, County of Hunterdon.
27. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Waste Management summarizing the details of the transfer station sale and any other documents necessary to make an application to NJDEP for the transfer of the County's permit.
28. Approving an amendment to Resolution 2024-848, Authorizing an online County surplus auction through Alfred's Auctions LLC.
29. Authorizing the Deputy Clerk of the Board to sign titles of any vehicles and/or equipment to be sold at the Surplus Auction scheduled for Saturday, October 12, 2024, in the absence of the Clerk of the Board.

XIII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

No public comment.

XIV. ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

No additional Commissioner comments.

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION (Reconvene if necessary)

County Counsel, Katrina C. Doyle reported the Board needs to reconvene to discuss the Sick Incentive Policy, the Shared Service - Municipal Finance Program, Potential Purchase of Property in Flemington Borough, and a Health Benefits Update. County Counsel advised no action will be taken.

The Board reconvened in executive session at 6:11 p.m.

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

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

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

The Board adjourned from executive session at 6:35 p.m.

XVI. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 6:36 p.m. on a motion by Commissioner Lanza, seconded by Deputy Director Soloway, followed by a voice carry.