



MINUTES

HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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

May 6, 2025

I. **5:00 p.m. CONVENE:**

II. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

1. Resolution Entering into Executive Session.

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

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

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

III. **5:30 p.m. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

IV. **MOMENT OF SILENCE**

V. **REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNSEL ON EXECUTIVE SESSION**

VI. **COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

Commissioner Soloway shared this past Saturday, she was joined by 30 volunteers at Readington Reformed Cemetery for the first Veteran headstone cleaning event of the year. She thanked the volunteers and shared that more than 1,400 headstones have been properly cleaned throughout Hunterdon County. Commissioner Soloway added, later on tonight's agenda is a proclamation honoring the 80th Anniversary of the End of World War II, also known as *VE-Day* which will be marked on May 8th. As co-liaison to the Department of Economic Development, Commissioner Soloway shared that she joined Director Lanza and County Clerk, Mary Melfi, for a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the opening of the Tasting Room at Federal Twist Winery. She encouraged everyone to visit Federal Twist's new tasting room if they have not already done so.

Commissioner Kuhl shared the *Beer Trail Tap Takeover* is scheduled for Sunday, June 8th at Descendants Brewing Company in Milford, which marks the official kickoff of the 2025 Beer Trail Passport program. He added it is the perfect way to kick off the 2025

trail season. As liaison to the Planning & Land Use Department, Commissioner Kuhl shared that the Department is making preparations to host an Agriculture/Legislative Picnic at the Grange Building at South County Park in September. The goal of this event is to bring together local farmers and state and federal legislators to discuss issues of importance to local agriculture interests. This event represents another positive step toward ensuring the long-term sustainability of agriculture in our County and supporting our farmers to the greatest extent possible.

Commissioner Rich thanked everyone involved in organizing and carrying out the 2025 Hunterdon County Teen Arts Festival that was held on April 30th. He gave a special thank you to the Executive Director, Natalie Zaman, for another successful event that continues to grow and features even more exhibitions and unique offerings for local school children. This year's Teen Arts Festival boasted an astounding 765 student attendees from sixteen Hunterdon County Schools. As a co-member of the Budget Committee, Commissioner Rich shared that he is pleased that the Board will be considering adoption of the FY25 County Budget. This year's budget is a demonstration of the Board's ongoing commitment to fiscal discipline and cuts the county tax rate to the lowest level in 11 years. In closing, Commissioner Rich stated he looks forward to supporting this year's budget.

Deputy Director Van Doren shared he is also pleased to support the FY25 County Budget. In addition to cutting the tax rate to the lowest level in 11 years and keeping Hunterdon County debt-free for the 11th consecutive year, the budget will also contain a record investment in capital improvements and two major grants. The budget will include a \$1 million grant fund to support the refurbishment of municipal parks, and a \$500,000 grant program to support municipal law enforcement entities, which Director Lanza outlined in his remarks when he was sworn in as Director of the Board. Deputy Director Van Doren added, this year's budget also continues to make investments in public health and safety through a combination of state grants and county matching dollars for expanded clinical services for seniors, veterans, and the underinsured. He shared that the third Shared Services Forum was held this past Saturday and featured presentations from the Human Services and Economic Development & Tourism Departments. In closing, Deputy Director Van Doren shared details regarding upcoming events at the Senior Center.

Director Lanza thanked Deputy Director Van Doren and Commissioner Rich for their thoughtful and diligent work in preparing the FY25 budget, and for highlighting some of the important funding priorities contained within the budget document. The budget, upon adoption, will cut the county tax rate to the lowest level in 11 years, while also making investments in improving county infrastructure, advancing career and technical education opportunities, and continuing to build upon the *New Era of Partnership* with all of our 26 municipalities. Director Lanza stated putting the taxpayers first and enacting policies that help to keep Hunterdon County the safest, healthiest, and best county, not only in New Jersey, but in the nation, to live, is of the utmost importance. He thanked the budget committee for their hard work. Director Lanza added, the 2025 Municipal Law Enforcement Grant Program application criteria is also to be considered later on tonight's agenda. In closing he thanked Susan Nekola and Marc Saluk for their presentations at Saturday's Shared Services Forum.

VII. PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITION

1. Recognizing ShopRite of Flemington associates, Lenny Peck, and Matt Dunlap, and the Colalillo family for their participation in the Partners of Caring initiative, raising awareness of hunger, making a meaningful impact, supporting food banks, and enriching the community.

Motion: By: Shaun Van Doren **Seconded:** Jeff Kuhl

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

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

2. Recognizing Noah Berg, of Annandale, upon winning the match at 80 kilo World Association Of Kickboxing (WAKO), the governing body for the sport of kickboxing, at the 2025 Arnold Sports Festival held in Columbus, Ohio.

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

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

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

3. Recognizing John Gaddy's Karate and Boxing Studio of High Bridge for its extraordinary contributions and lasting impact on the community since 1986.

Motion: By: Zachary Rich **Seconded:** Shaun Van Doren

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

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

4. Recognizing Hunterdon County Vocational School District's students upon their successful FCCLA Spring State Leadership State Conference Competition and upon winning the *Red Rose Chapter Award* for Programming Leadership and Excellence in Community Service.

Dr. Todd Bonsall thanked the Board for their support and for recognizing students of Hunterdon County Vocational School District.

Motion: To adopt Proclamations #4 and #5

By: Jeff Kuhl **Seconded:** Susan Soloway

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

No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:** [ABSENT_NAMES]

5. Recognizing Hunterdon County Vocational School District's Environmental Sustainability and Engineering Academy and Animal Science Program FFA Students for their participation in various Career Development Events, Horticulture Exposition, Public Speaking Events, and Agriscience Fair.

6. Commemorating the 80th Anniversary of the End of World War II in Europe, VE - Day, May 8, 1945.

Motion: By: Susan Soloway **Seconded:** Jeff Kuhl

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

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

7. Proclaiming May as Older American's Month in the County of Hunterdon.
Kevin Burghardt, Division Head of Seniors, Disability, and Veterans Services shared an updated and thanked the Board for recognizing Older American's Month.
Motion: By: Shaun Van Doren **Seconded:** Zachary Rich
Yes: John Lanza, Shaun Van Doren, Jeff Kuhl, Zachary Rich, Susan Soloway
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**
8. Recognizing One Voice of Hunterdon upon being honored with a national award in Washington, D.C. for their efforts in reducing access to prescription drugs and for being selected as the recipient of CADCA's prestigious Blue-Ribbon Coalition in Focus Award.
Leslie Gabel thanked the Board for recognizing One Voice of Hunterdon this evening. She shared the Prosecutor's Office and Partnership for Help worked in collaboration with One Voice of Hunterdon. In closing, Ms. Gabel thanked Sheriff Brown for assistance in setting up the prescription drop boxes across the County.
Motion: By: Jeff Kuhl **Seconded:** Zachary Rich
Yes: John Lanza, Shaun Van Doren, Jeff Kuhl, Zachary Rich, Susan Soloway
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**
9. Recognizing Norwescap upon celebrating its 60th Anniversary.
Motion: By: Jeff Kuhl **Seconded:** Susan Soloway
Yes: John Lanza, Shaun Van Doren, Jeff Kuhl, Zachary Rich, Susan Soloway
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**
10. Recognizing World War II Veteran and Hunterdon County resident, Joe Pitula, upon his 100th Birthday.
Motion: By: Susan Soloway **Seconded:** Shaun Van Doren
Yes: John Lanza, Shaun Van Doren, Jeff Kuhl, Zachary Rich, Susan Soloway
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**
11. Recognizing Federal Twist Vineyard on the occasion of the grand opening of their Tasting Room.
Motion: By: Susan Soloway **Seconded:** Zachary Rich
Yes: John Lanza, Shaun Van Doren, Jeff Kuhl, Zachary Rich, Susan Soloway
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**

VIII. **CULTURAL & HERITAGE COMMISSION GRANT PRESENTATION, Natalie Zaman, Executive Director**

Natalie Zaman, the Executive Director of Cultural & Heritage Commission, shared that the Commission awarded \$250,000.00 in grant funds to support art and history organizations and projects. Seventeen Local Hunterdon County Organizations will receive these grant awards. Grant recipients were asked to stand when their name/organization was announced.

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

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

Dan Aronson, professor at Raritan Valley Community College, invited the Commissioner

Board to a round-table discussion that will be held at RVCC. The topic of discussion will be investments at a lower cost at the community level and contractual ideas that will benefit all sides.

Director Lanza stated the Board would take the invitation under advisement and see if a member of the Board is available to attend.

Mr. David Ougraver, a resident of Lebanon Township and Board President of 1759 Vougut House, thanked the Commissioner Board for their support.

Guy Citron, shared he is here tonight because he is terrified. He stated that last week, President Trump issued an Executive Order which has given him the power to use the national military for local law enforcement. He added that Alina Habba, the attorney for the District of New Jersey, stated repeatedly that she will take down anyone who gets in the way of President Trump's agenda. Mr. Citron asked the Board what they are going to do to protect those who are terrified.

Rachel Mascitelli, a resident of Frenchtown, shared that she is scared. Ms. Mascitelli stated she has tried to schedule meetings with Congressman Kean since he was elected, and she asked Director Lanza what he was going to do to protect her. She added the federal administration is taking away rights, making restrictions, and taking away the constitution. She asked Director Lanza again what his plan was to protect them.

Brad, a resident of High Bridge, stated a number of residents would like to know what the Board is going to do to help protect them.

Director Lanza shared that the Commissioner Board made their decision and stated they do not support violation of the Constitution. Director Lanza advised this is a federal issue and the Commissioner Board is a Government Agency, and the Board has nothing to do with the enforcement of federal law.

X. HUMAN SERVICES UPDATE, Susan Nekola, Administrator

1. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director to execute a Non-Operating Mobility Management Agreement between the New Jersey Transit Corporation and the County pursuant to FTA FFY 2022 for the purpose of supporting the County's LINK Transportation System, in an amount not to exceed \$343,750.00 with New Jersey Transit allocating \$275,000.00 and a County match of \$68,750.00, for the period of January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

Motion: By: Shaun Van Doren **Seconded:** Zachary Rich

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

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

2. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director of the Board of County Commissioners to sign an Operating Assistance Agreement with NJ Transit for FTA Section 5311 Funding to operate the Hunterdon County Consolidated Transportation System, allocating \$321,659.00 with a County match of \$321,658.00, for the period January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

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

3. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director to sign a Contract Modification #1 with the Department of Military and Veteran's Affairs, for Contract #VL25T13 to increase the grant from the original amount of \$15,000.00 to the new award of \$17,300.00 to provide transportation services to Hunterdon County veterans through The LINK transportation system, for the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.

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

XI. **FINANCE, Andrew Bernath, CFO**

1. Authorizing the 2025 County Budget to be read by title only.

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

2. 2025 County Budget.

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

The public hearing opened.

There were no public comments.

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

3. Amending the 2025 County Budget.

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

4. Adoption of the 2025 County Budget.

Deputy Director Van Doren thanked County CFO, Andrew Bernath, and the rest of the County staff that helped prepare the 2025 County Budget.

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

5. Approving a sum in the amount of \$8,838,636.42 as the Amount to be Raised in 2025 for Open Space, Recreation, Farmland and Historic Preservation.
Motion: By: Jeff Kuhl **Seconded:** Zachary Rich
Yes: John Lanza, Shaun Van Doren, Jeff Kuhl, Zachary Rich, Susan Soloway
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**
6. Approving a sum in the amount of \$8,599,670.83 as the Amount to be Raised for the 2025 Operating Budget of the Hunterdon County Library.
Motion: By: Susan Soloway **Seconded:** Jeff Kuhl
Yes: John Lanza, Shaun Van Doren, Jeff Kuhl, Zachary Rich, Susan Soloway
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**
7. Introduction of Bond Ordinance 2025-05, providing for various 2025 Capital Improvements by and in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey; Appropriating \$3,276,500.00 therefor and authorizing the issuance of \$3,112,675.00 bonds or notes of the County to finance part of the costs thereof.
Motion: By: Susan Soloway **Seconded:** Shaun Van Doren
Yes: John Lanza, Shaun Van Doren, Jeff Kuhl, Zachary Rich, Susan Soloway
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**
Public Hearing and Adoption will be held at the June 3rd Board Meeting at 5:30 p.m.
8. Introduction of Bond Ordinance 2025-06, providing for various Roadway Improvements by and in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey; Appropriating \$5,850,000.00 therefor and authorizing the issuance of \$5,557,500.00 bonds or notes of the County to finance part of the costs thereof.
Motion: By: Zachary Rich **Seconded:** Shaun Van Doren
Yes: John Lanza, Shaun Van Doren, Jeff Kuhl, Zachary Rich, Susan Soloway
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**
Public Hearing and Adoption will be held at the June 3rd Board Meeting at 5:30 p.m.
9. Introduction of Bond Ordinance 2025-07, providing for various Bridge and Culvert Improvements by and in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey; Appropriating \$7,420,000.00 therefor and authorizing the issuance of \$7,049,000.00 bonds or notes of the County to finance part of the costs thereof.
Motion: By: Jeff Kuhl **Seconded:** Zachary Rich
Yes: John Lanza, Shaun Van Doren, Jeff Kuhl, Zachary Rich, Susan Soloway
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**
Public Hearing and Adoption will be held at the June 3rd Board Meeting at 5:30 p.m.
10. Introduction of Capital Ordinance 2025-08, providing acquisition of various Vehicles by, in and for the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey; and appropriating \$734,500.00 from the Capital Improvement Fund to pay for the cost thereof.
Motion: By: Zachary Rich **Seconded:** Shaun Van Doren
Yes: John Lanza, Shaun Van Doren, Jeff Kuhl, Zachary Rich, Susan Soloway

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

Public Hearing and Adoption will be held at the June 3rd Board Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

11. Introduction of Capital Ordinance 2025-09, providing for acquisition of various Heavy Equipment and Trucks, in and for the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey; and appropriating \$2,182,000.00 from the Capital Fund Balance to pay for the cost thereof.

Motion: By: Shaun Van Doren **Seconded:** Zachary Rich

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

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

Public Hearing and Adoption will be held at the June 3rd Board Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

12. Introduction of Capital Ordinance 2025-10, providing for acquisition of Furniture, Fixtures, Equipment and General Capital Improvements, in and for the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey; and appropriating \$951,500.00 from the Capital Improvement Fund to pay for the cost thereof.

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

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

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

Public Hearing and Adoption will be held at the June 3rd Board Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

13. Introduction of Capital Ordinance 2025-11, providing for Information Technology Improvements, in and for the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey; and appropriating \$2,215,000.00 from the Capital Improvement Fund to pay for the cost thereof.

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

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

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

Public Hearing and Adoption will be held at the June 3rd Board Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

14. Introduction of Capital Ordinance 2025-12, providing acquisition of Land/Properties and Development Easements for Open Space and Farmland Preservation Projects, Various General Capital Improvements and acquisition of Equipment and Vehicles by, in and for the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey; and appropriating \$4,588,000.00 from the Hunterdon County Open Space, Recreation, Farmland Preservation and Historic Trust Fund to pay for the cost thereof.

Motion: By: Zachary Rich **Seconded:** Shaun Van Doren

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

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

Public Hearing and Adoption will be held at the June 3rd Board Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

15. Introduction of Capital Ordinance 2025-13, providing for County-wide Library Improvements, in and for the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey; and appropriating \$690,000.00 from the Library Capital Improvement Fund to pay for the cost thereof.

Motion: By: Zachary Rich **Seconded:** Jeff Kuhl

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

No: None Abstain: None Absent:

Public Hearing and Adoption will be held at the June 3rd Board Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

16. Introduction of Capital Ordinance 2025-14, providing for Municipal Law Enforcement Improvements, in and for the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey; and appropriating \$500,000.00 from the Capital Improvement Fund to pay for the cost thereof.

Motion: By: Shaun Van Doren **Seconded:** Jeff Kuhl

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

No: None Abstain: None Absent:

Public Hearing and Adoption will be held at the June 3rd Board Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

XII. PLANNING & LAND USE

1. Approving a Municipal Grant to Tewksbury Township, for historic preservation and restoration of the Tewksbury Library, in an amount not to exceed \$101,000.00, on the recommendation of the Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee.

Motion: By: Shaun Van Doren **Seconded:** Zachary Rich

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

No: None Abstain: None Absent:

2. Approving an Open Space Acquisition Assistance Grant to Hunterdon Land Trust, for the acquisition of the Arbtsman property, Block 53, Lot 8 in Raritan Township, estimated 16 acres, in an amount not to exceed \$45,600.00, upon the recommendation of the Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee.

Motion: By: Jeff Kuhl **Seconded:** Susan Soloway

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

No: None Abstain: None Absent:

3. Approving an Open Space Acquisition Assistance Grant to Readington Township, for the acquisition of the Stavola property, Block 1, Lot 1 and Block 3, Lot 1 in Readington Township, estimated 64 acres, in an amount not to exceed \$305,235.00, upon the recommendation of the Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee.

Motion: By: Jeff Kuhl **Seconded:** Shaun Van Doren

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

No: None Abstain: None Absent:

XIII. PURCHASING, Ray Rule, QPA

1. Approving a contract award for County Bid 2025-03, with Rencor, Inc. for the Replacement of County Bridge FC-80 Pine Hill Road/Camp Buck Road Over South Branch Raritan River in the Townships of Franklin and Clinton, in an amount not to exceed \$4,578,607.66.

Motion: By: Susan Soloway **Seconded:** Jeff Kuhl

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

No: None Abstain: None Absent:

2. Approving Requisition #R25-2442, with SHI International Inc., for computers for the County Clerk's Office in an amount not to exceed \$48,743.08.
Motion: By: Susan Soloway **Seconded:** Zachary Rich
Yes: John Lanza, Shaun Van Doren, Jeff Kuhl, Zachary Rich, Susan Soloway
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**
3. Approving a contract award for County RFP 0011-2025, with Charles Nechtem Associates, Inc., for a professional services contract for the purpose of providing employee assistance program services for Hunterdon County employees in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00.
Motion: By: Shaun Van Doren **Seconded:** Jeff Kuhl
Yes: John Lanza, Shaun Van Doren, Jeff Kuhl, Zachary Rich, Susan Soloway
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**
4. Approving a contract award for County RFP 0046-2024, with Morgan Municipal Services, LLC, for professional engineering services for Engineering Services for the DPW Material Storage Bin Structures in an amount not to exceed \$73,600.00.
Motion: By: Susan Soloway **Seconded:** Jeff Kuhl
Yes: John Lanza, Shaun Van Doren, Jeff Kuhl, Susan Soloway
No: None **Abstain:** Zachary Rich **Absent:**

XIV. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, Brad Myhre

1. Approving the Municipal Law Enforcement Grant Application.
Motion: By: Zachary Rich **Seconded:** Jeff Kuhl
Yes: John Lanza, Shaun Van Doren, Jeff Kuhl, Zachary Rich, Susan Soloway
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**
2. Supporting the River Crossing YMCA, Flemington Community Pool Project.
Motion: By: Zachary Rich **Seconded:** Jeff Kuhl
Yes: John Lanza, Shaun Van Doren, Jeff Kuhl, Zachary Rich, Susan Soloway
No: None **Abstain:** None **Absent:**
3. Approving the Plans and Specifications for the Replacement of County Bridge Q-48, located on Kuhl Road, situated in Raritan Township, County of Hunterdon, as recommended by the Assistant County Engineer and authorizing the County Purchasing Agent to solicit bids for this project.
Motion: By: Shaun Van Doren **Seconded:** Zachary Rich
Yes: John Lanza, Shaun Van Doren, Zachary Rich, Susan Soloway
No: None **Abstain:** Jeff Kuhl **Absent:**

XV. APPOINTMENTS

1. Approving the appointment of Bette Ann Sinclair as a member of the Hunterdon County Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC), term to be effective immediately through May 5, 2028.
Motion: By: Shaun Van Doren **Seconded:** Susan Soloway

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

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

XVI. **CONSENT AGENDA**

Commissioner Rich advised he needed Resolution #39 to be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Motion: To approve the Consent Agenda excluding Resolution #39

By: Zachary Rich **Seconded:** Shaun Van Doren

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

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

1. Approving the Claims Register dated May 06, 2025.
2. Approving the executive session and regular meeting minutes from the April 15, 2025 meeting.
3. Acknowledging the action of the Prosecutor, Renee Robeson to hire and appoint Timothy J. Althamer as a County Investigator in the Hunterdon County Prosecutor's Office.
4. Acknowledging the action of the Hunterdon County Prosecutor, Renee Robeson, to hire and regularly appoint Cassidy E. Mast as a Keyboarding Clerk 1 in the Hunterdon County Prosecutor's Office. (Filling a vacancy)
5. Approving the hire and regular appointment of Robert Scott as an Analyst Trainee in the Hunterdon County Health Department, Division of Public Health Nursing. (Filling a vacancy)
6. Approving the hire and provisional appointment of Amy Belle Molina as an Assistant Mental Health Administrator in the Hunterdon County Department of Human Services, Division of Human Services. (Filling a vacancy)
7. Approving the hire and regular appointment of Nicholas Ferraro as a Laborer 1 in the Hunterdon County Department of Public Works, Bridge Division. (Filling a vacancy)
8. Approving the hire and provisional appointment of Joseph Greenleaf as an Assistant Public Works Inspector in the Hunterdon County Department of Public Works, Division of Engineering. (Filling a vacancy)
9. Approving the hire and regular appointment of Theresa Furnari as a Library Associate in the Hunterdon County Library. (Filling a vacancy)

10. Approving the hire and regular appointment of Nicole Deley as a Keyboarding Clerk 1 in the Hunterdon County Department of Human Services. (Filling a vacancy)
11. Acknowledging the action of the Hunterdon County Board of Elections to hire temporary Early Voting Workers to staff Early Voting sites.
12. Acknowledging the action of the Hunterdon County Board of Elections to hire temporary Early Voting Site Supervisors for Early Voting sites.
13. Approving the provisional promotion of Nicholas Cepparullo to the title of Senior Inspector, Mosquito Exterminator in the Department of Health, Vector Division.
14. Approving a salary adjustment for Andrew Bernath, Chief Financial Officer, in the Department of Finance.
15. Approving a salary adjustment for Michele Menditto, Emergency Response Specialist, in the Department of Health, Preparedness Division.
16. Approving the schedule adjustment for Brenden Lamb, Intern, in the Department of Planning and Land Use.
17. Approving the action to hereby grant Ryan Munley a regular appointment as a full-time Program Development Specialist, Community Service as of May 6, 2025, in the Hunterdon County Department of Human Services, Division of Senior, Disabilities, and Veterans Services. (No change in salary)
18. Approving the action to hereby grant Bryan P. Kinney a regular appointment as a full-time Senior Carpenter as of May 6, 2025, in the Hunterdon County Department of Administrative Services, Division of Buildings and Maintenance. (No change in salary)
19. Authorizing the County Purchasing Agent to solicit bids for the following project: Furnish and Deliver Calcium Chloride Solution for Snow and Ice Control for Roads and Bridges.
20. Authorizing the County Purchasing Agent to solicit bids for the following project: Furnish and Deliver Transit Concrete.
21. Authorizing the County Purchasing Agent to solicit bids for the following project: Household Hazardous Waste Clean Up Days.
22. Authorizing the Hunterdon County Health Department to apply for and accept an Overdose Fatality Review Team Grant (OFRT) in the amount of \$75,000.00 from the New Jersey Department of Health, for the period July 01, 2025, through June 30, 2026,

and authorizing the Director of the Board of County Commissioners to sign any documents associated with the grant.

23. Authorizing the Hunterdon County Health Department to apply for and accept the 2026 Right to Know (RTK) grant award in the amount of \$9,618.00 for the period July 01, 2025 through June 30, 2026, and authorizing the Director of the Board of County Commissioners to sign any documents associated with the grant.
24. Approving the Plans and Specifications for the Surface Treatment of County Route 617 in the Township of Franklin, County of Hunterdon, as recommended by the County Engineer, and authorizing the County Purchasing Agent to solicit bids for this project.
25. Approving the Specifications for the Painting of Various Hunterdon County Bridges throughout the County of Hunterdon, as recommended by the County Engineer, and authorizing the County Purchasing Agent to solicit bids for this project.
26. Approving the Plans and Specifications for the Replacement of County Bridge E-243, located on Van Lieus Road situated in East Amwell Township, County of Hunterdon, as recommended by the Assistant County Engineer and authorizing the County Purchasing Agent to solicit bids for this project.
27. Approving a request from the High Bridge Fire Department to host a coin toss on Saturday, May 17, 2025, from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at 95 W. Main Street, in the Borough of High Bridge.
28. Approving a request from Whitehouse Fire Company No. 1, Inc. to host a coin toss on June 13, 2025, from 12:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and June 14, 2025, from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. with rain dates of June 27, 2025, and June 28, 2025, at the following location: County Route 523 in front of 271 Main Street, Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889.
29. Approving a request from Fairmount Fire Company to host a coin toss on May 22, 2025, from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. with rain dates of JMay 23, 2025, at the intersection of County Route 512 and County Route 517, in Tewksbury Township.
30. Approving a request from Lebanon Borough Fire Company to host coin tosses on May 17, 2025, May 31, 2025, and June 28, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the intersection of Route 22 and County Route 639 (Cokesbury Road) in Lebanon Borough.
31. Approving a request from the Delaware Valley Riegel Ridge Jr. Terriers to host Coin Tosses on Sunday, May 18, 2025, and Sunday, June 22, 2025, with rain dates of Saturday, May 17, and Saturday, June 21, 2025, at the intersection of County Route 519 and Bridge Street in the Borough of Milford.

32. Approving a request from the Califon Recreation Committee to host a Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 26, 2025, from 10:45 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. utilizing County Route 512, and to hang a banner on the facings of the bridge beginning May 07, 2025 until May 31, 2025.
33. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director of the Board of County Commissioners to sign, on behalf of the county, an Interlocal Agreement for School Class III Law Enforcement Officers with East Amwell Board of Education.
34. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director of the Board of County Commissioners to sign, on behalf of the county, an Interlocal Agreement for School Class III Law Enforcement Officers with Delaware Valley Regional High School District Board of Education.
35. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director to sign Contract #26APKC, with the New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Disability Services, for the purpose of administering the Personal Assistance Services Program for Hunterdon County, for the period July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026, in the amount of \$23,166.00 (State funds).
36. Approving a request from Raritan River Music, to host the Raritan River Music Festival in the Hunterdon County Historic Courthouse on Saturday, May 31, 2025, and waive the fees associated with this facility.
37. Authorizing JCP&L, a First Energy company, to conduct Right of Way vegetation management practices in several Hunterdon County Parks.
38. Authorizing the Director of the Board of County Commissioners to sign a Non-Residential Gas Extension Contract between Elizabethtown Gas and the County of Hunterdon for the generator replacement at the County Route 12 Complex Tower.
39. Resolution of the County of Hunterdon requiring that a Project Labor Agreement be made part of public contracts where such an Agreement is determined to be in the best interest of the County of Hunterdon.

Motion: To approve Resolution #39

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

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

No: None **Abstain:** Zachary Rich **Absent:**

XVII. **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Nicholas Labelle, a resident of Union Township, thanked the Commissioner Board and stated he applauds the investments they make but asked what the reasoning was for the tax cuts. Director Lanza shared the breakdown of taxes for individuals. He shared

that there is a surplus, which is how the Board was able to lower the tax rate and they are trying to take the pressure off the municipalities. He added that the only school that the County supports is Polytech. The Commissioner Board is taking pressure off of homeowners as much as they can while still delivering the service.

XVIII. ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

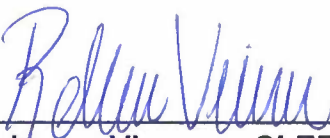
Commissioner Soloway shared that the Clerk to the Board, Rebecca, will be getting married this weekend and shared her best wishes. The Board wished her all the best.

XIX. EXECUTIVE SESSION (Reconvene if necessary)

XX. ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned at 7:10 p.m. on a motion by Commissioner Rich, seconded by Deputy Director Van Doren, followed by a voice carry.

Respectfully submitted and transcribed by:



Rebecca Viersma, CLERK

Public Comment Attachment
Barbara Sachau – Raritan Township

1. resolution 2 on open space (which should be protected land for nature) in raritan twp please do not turn it into another farm field or hunting murder site where no nj wildlife can live in peace.

2. resoltuionj on readington stavola blok 64 acres for \$305,235, please do not turn this into another farm field where no nature can exist as has been done by so many sites. they are not open space anymore. taxpayer dollars are not saving open wpace when it is in fact a farm field or a hunting preserve. it is altered with negative environmental actions. the biggtest loss of ilife for animals is when habitat is lost.

3. resolution l3, l4, l5, l6, l7 l8 are salariy increases and with tyaxes goig up as rapidly as tey are in nj. the taxpayers should be gien full information on the agenda as to what financial impact this has on taxpayers. dont be sneaky. taes have gone up very much in hunterdonj county over the iast ten years.

as to the claims register:

1. wjy do commissioners need an ez pass in huntgedon county.

2. taxpayer subsidization of the food pantry is ow up to \$15,000 quarterly, a substantial tax burden.

3. two shovels \$966.r48 - seems high

4. cant hte prosecutors office ever have meetings without refreshments. health impacts from these refreshments can lead to obesity \$750.92

5. \$3450 for memberships at nj associ of counytits - leahgue of municipalities is second membership bery expensive group. why cant one person go and report back.

6. telecommujicator lunch \$1240. aot of lunches for govt employees.

7. R\$783.44 for foiundation for nj hall of fame. why is this a necessity.

with taxes in nj so very high, cutting out so many unnecessary spendings could help keep taxes down.

b sachau

bsachau@gmail.com