



MINUTES

HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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

September 2, 2025

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

II. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

1. Resolution Entering into Executive Session.

The Board entered Executive Session at 5:01 p.m.

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:**

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

IV. **MOMENT OF SILENCE**

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

VI. **COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

Commissioner Kuhl thanked everyone who helped make the 25th Anniversary of the 4-H and Agricultural Fair a success. The Board was honored to participate in the opening ceremonies, and Commissioner Kuhl enjoyed serving as a judge for the 4-H exhibits and competing in the annual *Fasted Milking Relay Race* on Friday evening. As liaison for Veterans Affairs, Commissioner Kuhl shared the county will be sponsoring its 2nd Annual Veterans Resource Fair on Thursday, October 16th, beginning at 11 a.m. will be sponsoring its 2nd Annual Veterans Resource Fair on Thursday, October 16th, beginning at 11 AM. The event will be co-hosted with Congressman Tom Kean and the Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce and will take place at Razberry's Banquet Center in Kingwood Township. In closing, Commissioner Kuhl shared after an extensive search, the County has identified a candidate for the position of Project Manager in the Department of Planning and Land Use.

Commissioner Soloway announced that *A Taste of Hunterdon*, presented by *Explore Hunterdon* in partnership with the James Beard Foundation is scheduled for September 16th at The Silo at the Farmhouse, and is officially sold out. The event will feature chefs from many of Hunterdon County's top restaurants. As co-liaison for Veterans Affairs along with Commissioner Kuhl, Commissioner Soloway shared the next Veterans Headstone Cleaning event is scheduled for Saturday, September 13th, and all volunteer stops are filled up. Lastly, Commissioner Soloway reminded everyone the collection deadline for the Women Veterans' Baby Shower is Friday, September 5th. All donations will directly support the New Jersey Healthcare System of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Commissioner Rich shared the full-time Hunterdon County Vocational School District's Ribbon Cutting and Open House event is scheduled for Tuesday, September 9th at 4:00 p.m. The new facility will provide six career and technical education programs; Culinary Arts & Hospitality, Electrical Technology, Welding Technology, Diesel & Power Sports Technology, HVAC/Plumbing Technology (September 2026), and Advanced Manufacturing & Aeronautical Sciences (September 2027). The project represents a remarkable partnership between the Hunterdon County Vocational School District and North Hunterdon High School, which generously provided the property for construction. Nearly 75% of the funding was secured through a State of New Jersey grant via the Securing Our Children's Future Bond Act, and the school was built without issuing any debt. Commissioner Rich invited the public to join the Board next Tuesday.

Deputy Director Van Doren shared several updates as liaison to the Department of Human Services. As part of the ongoing Travelscapes Series, the Senior Center will feature a presentation on Tuesday, September 16th at 11:30 a.m. On Thursday, September 18th at 2:00 p.m., the Hunterdon Parks and Recreation Division will present an educational session titled *Raptors* at the Senior Center. Registration can be completed by calling the Senior Center at 908-788-1359. Deputy Director Van Doren announced the Commissioner Board will be hosting another Shared Services Forum with local mayors on Saturday, September 20th. The Board looks forward to continuing the productive conversations and building stronger relationships with our local officials as part of the *New Era of Partnership* with our municipalities.

Director Lanza invited the public to attend next week's 9/11 remembrance ceremony, on behalf of Sheriff Fred Brown. The ceremony will take place outside the Hunterdon County Justice Center and will begin at 8:30 a.m. This year's guest speaker will be retired Detective John Mulligan, who brings a remarkable legacy of service, integrity, and dedication to our nation. Director Lanza announced the Commissioner Board's September 16th meeting will be held at the Clinton Township Municipal Court Building, 1370 State Route 31 North, Annandale, NJ 08801. He added, at that meeting, Sheriff Fred Brown, Public Safety Director Brayden Fahey, and County Counsel Katrina Doyle are expected to present their recommendations for the 2025 Municipal Law Enforcement Grant Program.

VII. PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITION

1. Recognizing the Scouts of Girl Scouts Troop 80744 upon earning the Bronze Award for their project Revitalizing Classroom Benches for Bernadette Morales Nature

Preserve.

Troop Leader Kate Waxman shared details about Junior Girl Scout Troop 80744's Bronze Award Project at the Bernadette Morales Nature Preserve in Raritan Township. Ms. Waxman shared the troops painted the bridge and benches, which were generously donated by the Department of Public Works. The girl scouts added they installed bird houses, a *worry box*, a place to write down your worries and leave them, and two *clipper boxes* at the preserve. The *clipper boxes* offer a simple, sustainable way for visitors to help keep the park tidy.

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. Recognizing and honoring the life and contributions of Irvin E. Hockenbury upon his lifelong commitment to agriculture, service to the community, and dedication to the public good.

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:**

3. Recognizing Alesiandra Nikezi for Exemplary Civic Responsibility and her Generous Donation.

Ms. Nikezi thanked the Board for the recognition and shared that veterans do not receive the thanks and recognition they deserve.

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

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

County Administrator Myhre shared a statement into the public record. On Monday, August 25, the County Purchasing Agent issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the procurement of Code Blue Warming Center Services. He added, "NJ Code Blue Warming Law" is not a single, unified statute, but rather a statewide mandate requiring counties to implement plans for providing emergency shelter to homeless individuals during periods of severe winter weather. The law also requires that counties coordinate with municipalities that have a documented homeless population of at least 10 individuals to ensure emergency warming centers are available. The overarching goal is to protect at-risk individuals who live outdoors from potentially life-threatening cold weather conditions. Over time, the warming center evolved into the current model, where a nonprofit provider delivers Code Blue Warming Center services in exchange for grant funding awarded to the County. Administrator Myhre shared the RFP issued on preserves this operational framework but includes one important update regarding the amenities permitted in a Code Blue Warming Center. This change stems from the County's recent experience with the 2025 Point-In-Time (PIT) count and a subsequent interpretation of HUD guidelines. Specifically, during the 2025 PIT count, individuals who stayed overnight at the Code Blue Warming Center were not classified as "unsheltered" because they were utilizing cots. Under HUD's current interpretation,

those using cots are considered “sheltered,” which led to an underrepresentation of Hunterdon County’s actual homeless population in the PIT data. To ensure Hunterdon County maintains the most accurate possible count of its homeless population, which directly impacts funding and service planning, it was necessary to revise the RFP accordingly. In closing, Administrator Myhre stated since the RFP is currently active and open for responses, County Counsel has advised that members of the Board should refrain from discussing or engaging in dialogue regarding the specific parameters of the RFP at tonight’s meeting. This is particularly important if any attendees or potential providers are present who may be preparing to submit a proposal in response.

Donna Drewes, a resident of Raritan Township, shared information she received from the NJ Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency, NJ Department of Community Affairs’ Office of Homelessness Prevention, Monarch Housing Associates, and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Ms. Drewes added, homeless individuals located in Code Blue Warming Center could be counted in the 2025 PIT count under two categories: those residing in Code Blue Centers with access to chairs/recliners were categorized as: Seated Unsheltered Homeless and those residing in Code Blue Centers that provided access to cots/beds were categorized as: Sheltered Homeless. She asked what the specific ramifications of having unsheltered (seated) versus sheltered (cots) are, since both categories comprise the total PIT Count of homeless people in the county.

Cecelia Hopkins, a resident of Raritan Township, shared there should be a change in the reporting categories for the annual Point in Time Count. Ms. Hopkins requested that the Board clarify and amend the RFP to allow the cots.

Kathleen Knight, a resident of Flemington Borough, shared that she is a retired nurse practitioner. Ms. Knight stated the human body takes a toll when not provided with adequate living arrangements. She shared that she was deeply disappointed when she read the RFP and asked the Board to reconsider the mandate of not allowing cots.

Jamie Evans, a resident of Readington Township, shared that a group of residents created a petition. The group attended recent events in the community and collected signatures from approximately 158 individuals. Shocked that overnight. Ms. Evans implored the Board to amend the RFP to allow cots.

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

1. Approving the Emergency Operations Plan for the Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Services, for the County of Hunterdon.
Mr. Andrew Camp thanked all those who assisted in the implementation of the updated Emergency Operations Plan. The plan outlines Hunterdon County Division of Emergency Management in cooperation with the Hunterdon County Emergency Management Council, municipalities, departments and other members of the community, endeavors to prevent/mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural and man-made disasters which threaten the lives, safety, or property of the citizens of Hunterdon County. The plan describes the basic strategies, assumptions, and mechanisms through which the Emergency Management Division will mobilize

resources and conduct activities to guide and support local emergency management efforts through response and recovery.

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

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

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

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

1. Approving requisition #R25-5403, with Storr Tractor Company, for the purchase of a mower, in an amount not to exceed \$61,415.51.

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 requisition #R25-5405, with Storr Tractor Company, for the purchase of a mower, in an amount not to exceed \$61,415.51.

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:**

3. Approving Requisition R25-5463, with Colorsource Inc., for sample ballots for the 2025 General Election, in an amount not to exceed \$55,000.00.

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

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

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

4. Approving Requisition R25-5516 with Software House International, for the Commissioners Conference Room Network Infrastructure Replacement, in an amount not to exceed \$73,898.25.

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:**

XI. **COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, Brad Myhre**

1. Authorizing a \$10,000.00 Economic Development Grant to the Township of East Amwell for the purposes of upgrading the Township's municipal website.

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

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

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

2. Approving the hire and unclassified appointment of Benjamin Sosidka as a Project Manager in the Hunterdon County Department of Administration .

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

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

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

3. Introduction of Hunterdon County Ordinance 2025-18; Permitting Compensation for the Division of Vehicle Services for Overtime Hours worked in the Department of Administrative Services.

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

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

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

The second reading and public hearing will take place on October 7, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. at County Administration Building, 71 Main Street, 2nd Floor, Flemington, NJ 08822.

XII. APPOINTMENTS

1. Approving the appointment of Dr. Lenore Cortina to a four-year term on the Hunterdon County Vocational School Board (Polytech) for a term to be effective November 01, 2025 through October 31, 2029, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:54-16.

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

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

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

2. Approving the appointment of Anthony Maglio to a four-year term on the Hunterdon County Vocational School Board (Polytech) for a term to be effective November 01, 2025 through October 31, 2029, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:54-16.

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:**

XIII. CONSENT AGENDA

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:**

1. Approving the Claims Register dated September 02, 2025.
2. Approving the executive session and regular meeting minutes from the August 19, 2025 meeting.
3. Approving the hire and regular appointment of Tanner J. Little as a County Park Ranger in the Hunterdon County Department of Administrative Services, Division of Parks and Recreation. (Filling a vacancy)
4. Approving the hire and regular appointment of Joseph M. Cherry as a County Park Ranger in the Hunterdon County Department of Administrative Services, Divisions of Parks and Recreation. (Filling a vacancy)

5. Acknowledging the action of Hunterdon County Sheriff, Frederick Brown to hire and appoint Joseph M. Mirabello, as a Secretary to the Sheriff in the Hunterdon County Sheriff's Office. (Filling a vacancy)
6. Approving the hire and regular appointment of Mary Nashed as a Library Associate in the Hunterdon County Library. (Filling a vacancy)
7. Acknowledging the action of the Hunterdon County Board of Elections to hire temporary Early Voting Workers to staff Early Voting sites.
8. Approving the provisional promotion of Jennifer R. Fuhri to the title of Keyboarding Clerk 4 in the Department of Public Works.
9. Approving the provisional promotion of Jacob Moors to the title of Road Repairer 1 in the Department of Public Works, Roads Division, per the CWA Local 1036, Rank and File collective bargaining agreement for obtaining his class A CDL.
10. Approves the status and title change of Tyler J. Castner from Seasonal Intern to County Park Ranger in the Hunterdon County Department of Administrative Services, Division of Parks and Recreation.
11. Approving the regular appointment of Gary Powell as a Senior County Park Ranger in the Department of Administrative Services, Division of Parks and Recreation. (No change in salary)
12. Authorizing the County Purchasing Agent to solicit proposals for the following services: Medical Director Services.
13. Authorizing the County Purchasing Agent to solicit proposals for the following services: Various Professional Engineering and Related Services for Hunterdon County for the Year 2026.
14. Authorizing the request for a withdrawal of the lowest bid proposal due to a mathematical error pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-23.3, for County Bid #2025-17.
15. Authorizing the Hunterdon County Health Department to apply for and accept funding from the New Jersey Department of Health's Childhood Lead Exposure Prevention Grant, in the amount of \$56,590.00 for the period July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 and to Authorizing the Director to sign the Northwest Region Childhood Lead Exposure Prevention Collaborative Agreement between Hunterdon, Morris, Sussex, and Warren Counties.
16. Approving a request from Fairmount Fire Company to host a coin toss on Saturday, October 11, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. with a rain date of October 12, 2025,

at the following location: Intersection of County Route 512 and County Route 517, in the Township of Tewksbury.

17. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director, to sign on behalf of the County, a grant application with the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Office of the Attorney General, for the Hunterdon County Prosecutor's Office (Gangs, Guns, and Narcotics Task Force), the Subrecipient for the grant SFY 2026 Operation Helping Hand Grant Program, in the amount of \$105,000.00, for the period of September 1, 2025 to August 31, 2026.
18. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director to sign on behalf of the County, the Section 5311 of the Federal Transit Act, a Grant Application, in the amount of \$328,533.50.
19. Authorizing the filing of an application to NJ TRANSIT on behalf of the County of Hunterdon for a grant under the Senior Citizen and Disabled Resident Transportation Assistance Act (SCDRTAP) in the amount of \$856,452.00 for the period January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026.
20. Authorizing an Agreement with the County of Morris for the Housing of Hunterdon County Youth Shelter placements at the Morris County Youth Shelter, for the period of June 1, 2025, through December 31, 2027.
21. Authorizing the Hunterdon County Division of Social Services, Division Head, to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board and its One-Stop Career Partners.
22. Approving a request from the Center for Educational Advancement to use the Steps of the Hunterdon County Historic Courthouse on Thursday, November 27, 2025.
23. Approving a request from Flemington Improvement District to use the Hunterdon County Historic Courthouse and Steps of the Historic Courthouse on the following dates: September 13, 2025, October 4, 2025, and October 23, 2025.
24. Approving two (2) Maintenance Easements for Bridges L-121 and L-122 located in Block 45, Lot 15 in the Township of Lebanon.
25. Approving Hunterdon County Policy 2025-01; Employee Retreat Rights.
26. Authorizing County Counsel to sign any and all documents related to the settlements of the National Opioids Settlement with Perdue, secondary manufacturers or any other party.
27. Authorizing County Counsel to sign a Side Letter of Agreement between the County of Hunterdon and CWA Local 1036 for the Department of Public Works.

XIV. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Ms. Marcia Karrow Chair of the Board of Trustees for the Hunterdon 300th, shared information about details and events happening in the upcoming months. Ms. Karrow shared Hunterdon County has the most historical tours and events scheduled. The theme for the 300th is "On the Threshold of Independence" and the goal is to educate the people of Hunterdon County. There are currently over 160 different events booked with their partners to celebrate and educate residents about the American Revolution. Ms. Karrow shared that these events include walking tours, cooking demonstrations, parades, firework shows, and talks. Ms. Karrow presented a 28-month calendar to the Board that includes the 160 previously mentioned events listed on the calendar. She gave a calendar to each member of the Commissioner Board and the County Administrator. County Counsel asked where the calendars could be purchased. Ms. Karrow advised ShopRite is selling calendars in their Clinton and Flemington stores, and they can also be purchased by contacting the Hunterdon 300th. Calendars are being sold for \$15.00 each and all proceeds are part of a fundraiser for next year.

The Board thanked Ms. Karrow.

XV. ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

XVI. EXECUTIVE SESSION (Reconvene if necessary)

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned at 6:30 p.m. on a motion by Deputy Director Van Doren, seconded by Commissioner Rich, followed by a voice carry.

Respectfully submitted and transcribed by:



Rebecca Grohgans, CLERK

Public Comment Attachment
Barbara Sachau – Raritan Township

chamber of commerce non profit should pay its own rent. do not believe in these tight economic times that the taxpayers should be forced into this donation. let them pay their own way from donations.

whose rent is paid \$8,000 a moth under 2410-25-0063

bsachau@gmail.com