



MINUTES

HUNTERDON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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

April 7, 2026

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

II. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

1. Resolution Entering into Executive Session.

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

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

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

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, the liaison to the Cultural & Heritage Commission reported that the 2026 Hunterdon County Teen Arts Festival will take place on April 29, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Hunterdon County Library Main Branch and the Route 12 Complex in Raritan Township, offering students ages 13–19 opportunities to showcase artistic talents and receive professional feedback under the theme of America's 250th Anniversary, with appreciation extended to sponsors and staff. As liaison to the Hunterdon County Library, Commissioner Rich recognized the success of New Jersey Makers Day held on March 28, which drew approximately 1,600 attendees across three branches with support from staff, volunteers, and partner organizations, as well as the installation of new furniture at the North County Branch to enhance seating and community use following over 166,000 visits in 2025. Additionally, he shared Hunterdon County Polytech students in the Principles of Teaching program earned gold medals at the FCCLA State Leadership Conference and will advance to nationals, while the FCCLA chapter received the Red Rose Chapter Award; individual honors were also noted, with plans for formal recognition at a future Board meeting.

Commissioner Van Doren reported that the Health Department successfully hosted Electronics Recycling Day on March 14 and Household Hazardous Waste Cleanup Day on March 21, collecting approximately 33 tons of electronics and 41.6 tons of hazardous waste, he commended staff for their efforts; and reminded residents of the next cleanup event on June 20. An update was provided on a confirmed case of HPAI H5N1 in a backyard chicken flock, noting no additional illnesses and emphasizing proper food safety and precautions when handling poultry. Commissioner Van Doren provided updates from the Department of Human Services including the Senior Center's spring programming with outdoor activities such as Bocce and Cornhole, registration for the annual Senior Art Show with a summer exhibit at the Historic Courthouse, and an upcoming educational presentation on April 17 in recognition of America's 250th anniversary. Lastly, appreciation was extended to organizers of the Municipal Shared Services Breakfast on March 27, with positive feedback noted for the continued success of the "New Era of Partnership" initiative.

Commissioner Soloway shared she attended a Liberty Pole raising ceremony on March 28 at the Kingwood Township Municipal Building alongside County Clerk Mary Melfi and local officials, noting its historical significance as a symbol of liberty during the American Revolution and that it is one of seven such events planned for the County's 250th anniversary celebrations. Commissioner Soloway also attended the Shared Services Breakfast on March 27 and noted strong support was expressed for the Explore Hunterdon tourism campaign and Film Ready designation; additionally, Lambertville, Clinton, and Flemington were recognized by WorldAtlas.com for their notable Main Streets, and the County continues to assist municipalities interested in Film Ready certification amid growth in New Jersey's film industry. Finally, Commissioner Soloway announced two veterans' headstone cleaning events were scheduled for May 2 in Flemington and June 6 in Readington, with additional details to follow.

Deputy Director Kuhl reported he attended an Advanced Manufacturing event on March 25 at the Hunterdon County Vocational School District's North Campus in support of the upcoming Advanced Manufacturing & Aeronautical Sciences program, which will provide students with hands-on technical training, college credit opportunities, and career-readiness support through a Youth Transitions grant, while fostering partnerships with industry to strengthen workforce development. As liaison to the Department of Planning and Land Use, Deputy Director Kuhl noted ongoing collaboration with Public Safety to promote awareness of safely sharing the road with farm equipment, emphasizing the need for driver caution amid increased spring agricultural activity and reports of unsafe driving behaviors. In closing, Deputy Director Kuhl noted that a resolution is on tonight's agenda to appoint Commissioner Van Doren as special liaison to the Hunterdon County 250th Committee, recognizing his commitment to historical preservation and education.

VII. PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITION

1. Recognizing William Perry, a dedicated member of Scouts BSA Troop 62, upon achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

Mr. William Perry a member of Boy Scout Troop 62 shared additional details regarding his Eagle Scout project at Horseshoe Bend Park.

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

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

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

2. Honoring the 50th Anniversary of the Woman's Club of Tewksbury Township.
Ms. Rori Pipling thanked the Commissioner Board for honoring the Woman's Club.

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

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

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

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

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

No public comments.

IX. **PLANNING & LAND USE**

1. Authorizing final cost share approval for the acquisition of a development easement on the property owned by 23LR LLC, designated as Block 25, Lots 16.05 and 16.06 in the Township of Delaware, totaling approximately 22.6 acres.

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

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

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

2. Approving a Municipal Grant to Holland Township, for historic preservation and restoration of the Rigel Ridge Grandstands, in an amount not to exceed \$29,448.07, on the recommendation of the Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee.

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

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

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

3. Approving an Open Space Acquisition Assistance Grant to D&R Greenway, for the acquisition of the Buttonwood Corner properties in East Amwell Township, estimated 29 acres, in an amount not to exceed \$88,250.00, upon the recommendation of the Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee.

4. Approving an Open Space Acquisition Assistance Grant to D&R Greenway, for the acquisition of the Cattail Brook Extension properties in East Amwell Township, estimated 30.3 acres, in an amount not to exceed \$68,250.00, upon the recommendation of the Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee.

5. Approving an Open Space Acquisition Assistance Grant to D&R Greenway, for the acquisition of the PKMJ, LLC properties in East Amwell Township, estimated 77 acres, in an amount not to exceed \$177,000.00, upon the recommendation of the Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee.

6. Approving an Open Space Acquisition Assistance Grant to D&R Greenway, for the acquisition of the Sourland Farm LLC properties in East Amwell Township, estimated 92 acres, in an amount not to exceed \$370,000.00, upon the recommendation of the Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee.

Motion: To approve Resolutions #3 - 6

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

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

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

7. Approving an Open Space Acquisition Assistance Grant to Readington Township, for the acquisition of the Fimbel property in Readington Township, estimated 31 acres, in an amount not to exceed \$136,000.00, upon the recommendation of the Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee.
8. Approving an Open Space Acquisition Assistance Grant to Readington Township, for the acquisition of the Wachendorf Woodlot property in Readington Township, estimated 5 acres, in an amount not to exceed \$107,500.00, upon the recommendation of the Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee.

Motion: To approve Resolutions #7 & 8

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

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

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

X. PURCHASING, Ray Rule, QPA

1. Approving a contract award for County Bid 2026-03, with Gibraltar Rock Inc. to Furnish and Deliver Maintenance and Repair Materials for Roads and Bridges, in an amount not to exceed \$123,425.00.
2. Approving a contract award for County Bid 2026-03, with Green Rock Recycling LLC to Furnish and Deliver Maintenance and Repair Materials for Roads and Bridges, in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00.
3. Approving a contract award for County Bid 2026-03, with Herman's Trucking Inc. to Furnish and Deliver Maintenance and Repair Materials for Roads and Bridges, in an amount not to exceed \$54,250.00.
4. Approving a contract award for County Bid 2026-03, with Trap Rock Industries LLC to Furnish and Deliver Maintenance and Repair Materials for Roads and Bridges, in an amount not to exceed \$413,850.00.

Motion: To approve Resolutions #1 - 4

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

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

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

5. Approving a contract award for County Bid 2026-04, with Meco Inc., for the Resurfacing of County Route 650 in the Township of Raritan, in an amount not to exceed \$1,353,993.50.

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

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

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

6. Approving a Professional Services Agreement with the Musconetcong Watershed Association, for professional planning services for the Hunterdon County Watershed Management Plan Development Phase II for the Musconetcong Watershed, in an amount not to exceed \$146,255.34.

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

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

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

XI. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, Brad Myhre

1. Authorizing County Counsel to sign a Memorandum of Agreement between the County of Hunterdon and CWA Local 1036.

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

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

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

2. Appointing Commissioner Shaun C. Van Doren as Special Liaison to the Hunterdon County 250th Celebration Committee.

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

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

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

XII. CONSENT AGENDA

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

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

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

1. Approving the Claims Register dated April 7, 2026.
2. Approving the executive session and regular meeting minutes from the March 17, 2026 meeting.
3. Approving the hire and regular appointment of Mary Feeney as a Librarian 1 in the Hunterdon County Library. (Filling a vacancy)
4. Approving the hire and regular appointment of Lucas Harris as a Human Services Aide in the Hunterdon County Department of Human Services, Division of Social Services. (Filling a vacancy)
5. Approves the hire and temporary appointment of Chinmay Kashyap as an Intern in the Hunterdon County Clerk's Office.
6. Approving that Cynthia McDowall, a full-time Family Service Worker in the Hunterdon County Department of Human Services, Division of Social Services, be granted a temporary/interim retroactive salary adjustment in accordance with the collective

bargaining agreement with CWA Local 1036 for temporarily filling the role of Human Services Specialist 3.

7. Approving the action to hereby grant Nicholas H. Cepparulo a regular appointment as a full-time Senior Inspector Mosquito Control as of April 7, 2026, in the Hunterdon County Health Department, Vector Control Division. (No change in salary)
8. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director and Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners to sign an Interlocal Public Health Services Agreement with the Township of Holland.
9. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director and Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners to sign an Interlocal Public Health Services Agreement with the Borough of Hampton.
10. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director and Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners to sign an Interlocal Public Health Services Agreement with the Township of Delaware.
11. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director to sign a Shared Service Agreement with Franklin Township for Storage of Municipal Records in the Hunterdon County Records Facility located at 314 State Route 12, Bldg 5C, Flemington NJ 08822.
12. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director to sign Change Order #1-FINAL for 2025 Application of Traffic Lines Throughout Hunterdon County, in a decrease of \$28,369.77.
13. Accepting the project known as the 2025 Application of Traffic Lines on Various County Roads Throughout County of Hunterdon, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 2A:44-132, and authorizing the final payment in the amount of \$308,845.47 be made to Denville Line Painting.
14. Requesting a time extension with the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), for the project known as the Roadway Reconfiguration & Bridge Rehabilitation, Woodsville Road at State Route 31 & County Bridge WE-74, Woodsville Road over Peter's Brook, in the Townships of East Amwell & West Amwell, County of Hunterdon.
15. Approving a request from the High Bridge Fire Department to host a coin toss on April 11, 2026, at South Branch Emergency Services, 95 West Main Street (County Route 513), in the Borough of High Bridge.
16. Approving a request from the Milford Fire Company to host a coin toss on Saturday, April 11, 2026, on County Route 519, in the Borough of Milford.

17. Approving a request from Ready Set Go Adventures to host a bicycling event utilizing various County Roads on Sunday, May 3, 2026.
18. Approving a State Equipment Use Agreement between the County of Hunterdon, Division of Mosquito & Vector Control and the New Jersey State Mosquito Control Commission, and authorizing the Division Head or designee to sign said agreement.
19. Authorizing the Commissioner Director or Deputy Director to sign a Refundable Customer Contribution with Jersey Central Power & Light for the Hunterdon County Arboretum.
20. Approving the administration of 2026 New Jersey State Council on the Arts Local Arts Program mini-grant awards, upon the recommendation of the Cultural & Heritage Commission.
21. Approving and accepting the donation of two memorial trees and benches in honor of Jacqueline Kear and Bernard H. Kear for planting and locating at Deer Path Park, upon a recommendation from the Hunterdon County Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee.
22. Authorizing the New Jersey Watershed Ambassadors to receive a permit from the Division of Parks and Recreation for Echo Hill Park to conduct a stream monitoring assessment on April 9, 2026.
23. Authorizing the Division of Senior, Disabilities and Veteran Services (DSDVS) to submit the WIC/Senior Farmers Market Nutrition grant applications through the Department of Human Services System for Administering Grants Electronically (SAGE) System, in the amount of \$2,250.00 State funds for the period May 1, 2026 through September 30, 2026.
24. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director to execute a Provider Services Agreement with Turning Point Inc., for the provision of community-based services pertaining to opioid prevention, treatment, and recovery strategies known as Anderson House Recovery Case Management and Supportive Housing and Anderson House Supportive Housing Vehicle, pursuant to the Department of Human Services RFP 0038-25, for the period of January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026 in an amount not-to-exceed of \$95,196.00.
25. Approving an amendment to Resolution 2025-1108, Vehicle Lease Agreement with New Jersey Transit for use in the Consolidated Transportation System, the LINK, correcting the Model Year of the vehicle.
26. Authorizing the Director or Deputy Director to execute an Amended Lease Agreement with Zeng Brothers LLC to reduce the farm lease by three acres.

27. Authorizing the Commissioner Director to sign and send a grant letter of support on behalf of the Borough of Stockton for a NJ Historic Trust Capital grant.

XIII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mr. Guy Citron, a resident of Tewksbury Township, spoke about protecting civil rights in Hunterdon County, citing recent remarks made by Assemblyman Erik Peterson at a March 23rd rally in Trenton as an example of harmful rhetoric affecting immigrant communities. He stated Peterson's framing of "real Americans" is divisive and rooted in ethnic and racial hierarchy rather than constructive policy discussion. Mr. Citron also challenged Peterson's claims of election fraud involving non-citizens as unfounded and damaging to public trust in democracy. Additionally, he objected to Assemblyman Peterson blaming immigrants for issues such as healthcare access, education, and cost of living, arguing that such rhetoric scapegoats vulnerable groups instead of addressing real problems. He urged the board to actively confront statements that could harm civil rights, emphasizing that inaction is not the same as protection. Mr. Citron asked the Board the following questions:

1. Is it the position of this board that some Americans are more "real" than others?
2. Is it the position of this board that there was voter fraud in Hunterdon County in the last election?
3. Is it the position of this board that immigrants are to blame for local challenges related to affordability, healthcare, and school resources?

Ms. Judy Roth, a resident of Raritan Township, raised questions regarding the agreement between the County and the Union that was approved earlier on the agenda. Deputy Director Kuhl stated that the agreement had been negotiated and accepted by all parties prior to being placed on the agenda for approval. Administrator Myhre explained that the new healthcare plan is "equal to or better than" the previous plan, noting that while the County changed how the plan is delivered—resulting in slightly more administrative responsibility for employees through the HRA—this approach allowed the County to mitigate rising costs. He added that state healthcare cost increases were nearly 30%.

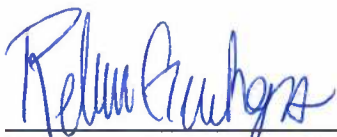
XIV. ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION (Reconvene if necessary)

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned at 6:07 pm on a motion by Commissioner Van Doren, seconded by Commissioner Rich, followed by a voice carry.

Respectfully submitted and transcribed by:



Rebecca Grohgan, CLERK