# SALEM COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS 2013 REORGANIZATION MEETING JANUARY 2, 2013 OLDE SALEM COURT HOUSE MINUTES

The Salem County Sheriff's Department Honor Guard presented the American Flag in a Color Guard procession. Joseph Hannagan, Supervisor Veterans Interment led the assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed by the Star Spangled Banner sung by Ginny Manahan.

The President Protem asked Father Paul Harte to deliver the invocation.

Beginning at 5:45 PM, the Oaths of Office were given to the following:

Freeholder Elect Benjamin H. Laury was sworn in by County Clerk Gilda T. Gill

Freeholder Elect: Beth E. Timberman was sworn in by Assemblywoman Celeste M. Riley.

Earl R. Gage, Presiding Protem, introduced Assemblywoman Celeste M. Riley for opening remarks.

Earl R. Gage, Clerk of the Board, Presiding Protem, called the Reorganization Meeting to order.

The Presiding Protem read the following Opening Meetings Act statement:

Adequate notice pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act has been given of this meeting

- 1. By forwarding notice thereof to Today's Sunbeam and Elmer Times Co.
- 2. By posting notice thereof on the bulletin board in the Salem County Court House and County Administration Building.
- 3. By filing notice there in the Office of the Salem County Clerk and the Clerk of the Board all having been done at least 48 hours in advance.

The Presiding Protem read the roll call and the following Freeholders were present: Freeholders Julie Acton, Bruce Bobbitt, Dale Cross, Benjamin Laury, Beth Timberman and Robert Vanderslice. Freeholder Ware was not in attendance.

The Presiding Protem presented the Election Certificates for Charles M. Miller elected for a three year term for Sheriff, Beth E. Timberman elected for a three year term for Freeholder and Benjamin H. Laury for a three year term as Freeholder.

The Presiding Protem took nominations from the floor for Freeholder Director. Freeholder Laury nominated Freeholder Acton with Freeholder Vanderslice voicing the second. No other names were nominated. Nominations were closed on motion by Freeholder Cross which was seconded by Freeholder Laury. On roll call, the Freeholders unanimously approved the election of Freeholder Julie A. Acton as Director by a hand vote of 6/0.

County Clerk Gilda T. Gill administered the Oath of Office to Freeholder Julie A. Acton as Director of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of Salem County.

The Presiding Protem took nominations from the floor for Freeholder Deputy Director. Freeholder Laury nominated Freeholder Cross with Freeholder Vanderslice voicing the second. No other names were nominated. Nominations were closed on motion by Freeholder Vanderslice which was seconded by

Freeholder Timberman. On roll call, the Freeholders unanimously approved the election of Freeholder Cross as Deputy Director by a hand vote of 5/0/1 with Freeholder Cross abstaining.

Director Acton asked if there was a waiver of the rules for tonight's meeting. Clerk of the Board Gage stated no.

The following proposed Freeholder resolutions were read by the Clerk of the Board.

Michael Mulligan, Solicitor "Madam Director with regard to 4 and 14 in the resolutions that are in the packets for all the freeholders we have one year terms prescribed. Now by statute, executive director of emergency services and actually county council are three year terms so the members should be aware that by passing the resolution the text has to be amended to the three year terms for both those positions those are resolutions 4 and 14."

Director Acton "Thank you solicitor."

### RESOLUTIONS

R. 2013-1

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

RESOLUTION SETTING JOB CLASSIFICATION TITLES AND SALARY RANGES FOR 2013

Deputy Director Cross moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Laury seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-2

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

RESOLUTION FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE RULES TO GOVERN THE SALEM COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS FOR THE YEAR 2013

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-3 ADMINISTRATIVE

## RESOLUTION FOR COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETING LAW FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-4 ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPOINTING COUNTY COUNSEL AND AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT

Freeholder Vanderslice moved for adoption of this resolution, with Deputy Director Cross seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 4/2 with Freeholder Bobbitt and Timberman against.

R. 2013-5 ADMINISTRATIVE

## RESOLUTION APPOINTING AN ATTORNEY FOR THE OFFICE ON AGING ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Deputy Director Cross moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Laury seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-6

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

## RESOLUTION APPOINTING BOND COUNSEL AND AWARDING CONTRACT FOR SAID PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Deputy Director Cross moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 4/2 with Freeholder Bobbitt and Timberman against.

R. 2013-7 ADMINISTRATIVE

## RESOLUTION APPOINTING AUDITORS AND AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT

Freeholder Vanderslice moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Laury seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 4/2 with Freeholder Bobbitt and Timberman against.

R. 2013-8

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

# RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL/PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-9

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

RESOLUTION APPOINTING A COUNTY ENGINEER FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Deputy Director Cross seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-10

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

RESOLUTION AWARDING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT FOR A GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS STRATEGY CONSULTANT FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his

motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-11 ADMINISTRATIVE

## RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR GRANT WRITER SERVICES FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Deputy Director Cross seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-12 ADMINISTRATIVE

#### RESOLUTION APPOINTING A TRAFFIC SAFETY COORDINATOR

Freeholder Vanderslice moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Laury seconding his motion.

Freeholder Timberman "Yes I believe that in this time of fiscal responsibility we need to look at these types of positions that are basically patronage positions of which both parties have been guilty of and we need to start evaluating whether we need to have such positions that really don't add anything to the government. Thank you."

Director Acton "Thank you Freeholder Timberman for your comments."

As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 4/2 with Freeholder Bobbitt and Timberman against.

R. 2013-13

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

#### RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE SUPERVISOR OF VETERANS INTERMENT

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 5/1 Freeholder Timberman against.

R. 2013-14

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

# RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-15

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

#### RESOLUTION APPOINTING A DEPUTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

Freeholder Vanderslice moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Laury seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand

vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-16

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

RESOLUTION APPOINTING AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COORDINATOR

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Deputy Director Cross seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-17

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MENTAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-18

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

# RESOLUTION APPOINTING PUBLIC AGENCY COMPLIANCE OFFICER FOR 2013 FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Deputy Director Cross seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-19

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

# RESOLUTION APPOINTING AN ADMINISTRATOR OF YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Vanderslice moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Laury seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-20

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

RESOLUTION APPOINTING DEPUTY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Deputy Director Cross moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 5/1 with Freeholder Bobbitt against.

R. 2013-21 ADMINISTRATIVE

# RESOLUTION APPOINTING FREEHOLDER MEMBERS TO VARIOUS COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Deputy Director Cross seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand

vote of 6/0.

The following resolutions were read in bulk.

R. 2013-22 ADMINISTRATIVE

## RESOLUTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL, OFFICE ON AGING

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-23

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

# RESOLUTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR THE OFFICE OF THE DISABLED

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-24

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

## RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-25

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

## RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ALCOHOLISM & DRUG ABUSE

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-26

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

# RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRUSTEE SEARCH COMMITTEE

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-27

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

# RESOLUTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY CONSTRUCTION BOARD OF APPEALS

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his

motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-28

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE CULTURAL AND HERITAGE COMMISSION

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-29

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY DIVERSITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-30

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

## RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-31

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEDICAL INVESTIGATORS FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-32

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

RESOLUTION APPOINTING PATHOLOGISTS FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-33

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-34

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

RESOLUTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-35

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-36

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

RESOLUTION APPOINTING REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COUNTY OF SALEM TO THE SOUTH JERSEY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-37

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY TOURISM ADVISORY COUNCIL

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-38

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

RESOLUTION APPOINTING FREEHOLDER REPRESENTATIVES TO THE COUNTY OF SALEM POLLUTION CONTROL FINANCING AUTHORITY

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-39

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

# RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY REVOLVING LOAN FUND LOAN BOARD

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-40

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY RIGHT-OF-WAY COMMISSION

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand

vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-41

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY BOARD OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-42

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE SOUTH JERSEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-43

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR CASINO REVENUES

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-44

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

# RESOLUTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY VETERAN CEMETERY ADVISORY BOARD

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-45

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

RESOLUTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE COMMISSION ON WOMEN

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-46

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-47

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

FINANCE RESOLUTION DESIGNATING A CUSTODIAN OF FUNDS AND THE DEPOSITORIES FOR MUNICIPAL MONEYS, AND AUTHORIZING INVESTMENT

#### OF FUNDS AT INTEREST FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Deputy Director Cross seconding his motion.

Freeholder Vanderslice "Madam Director let it be noted that I will be abstaining on Resolution number 47 as I'm the President and CEO of one of those institutions."

Director Acton "Thank you very much Freeholder Vanderslice."

As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 5/0/1 with Freeholder Vanderslice abstaining.

R. 2013-48

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

RESOLUTION ADOPTING A CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Deputy Director Cross seconding his motion.

Freeholder Vanderslice "Madam Director I'll be abstaining on number 48 for the same reason."

Director Acton "Very good."

As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 5/0/1 with Freeholder Vanderslice abstaining.

R. 2013-49

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

RESOLUTION APPROVING SIGNATORIES FOR REQUIRED BANK ACCOUNTS

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Deputy Director Cross seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-50

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

RESOLUTION APPROVING SIGNATORIES FOR REQUIRED BANK ACCOUNTS

Freeholder Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Deputy Director Cross seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-51

**ADMINISTRATIVE** 

RESOLUTION APPROVING SIGNATORIES FOR BANK ACCOUNT

Deputy Director Cross moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Laury seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

R. 2013-52

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE**

#### RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2013 TEMPORARY BUDGET

Deputy Director Cross moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Laury seconding his motion.

Freeholder Timberman "Was the item that you indicated was going to be added was that added for the railroad."

Director Acton "Yes the \$60,000 yes it was. Thank you."

As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 6/0.

Clerk of the Board Gage read the following Committee Assignments:

## **2012 COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

FH Committee	Chairperson	FH 1	FH 2
Administrative	Julie Acton	Robert Vanderslice	Bruce Bobbitt
Public Services	Robert Vanderslice	Julie Acton	Lee Ware
Health Department	Bruce Bobbitt	Dale Cross	Julie Acton
Social Services	Beth Timberman	Bruce Bobbitt	Benjamin Laury
Public Safety	Dale Cross	Robert Vanderslice	Beth Timberman
Transportation, Agriculture & Cultural Affairs	Lee Ware	Beth Timberman	Benjamin Laury
Public Works	Benjamin Laury	Lee Ware	Dale Cross

The following Minority Freeholder Report was read by Freeholder Timberman:

Julie I must say you run a efficient reorganization we are going to be out of here in no time.

Distinguished Guests, Reverend Clergy, Fellow Members of the Chosen Board of Freeholders, my fellow citizens; I salute you and wish you a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Congratulations to Ben for his re-election and to Julie for her reappointment as Director.

It is with complete gratitude and reverent humility that I stand here before you tonight as a member of the Salem County Board of Chosen Freeholders. I sincerely thank the citizens of Salem County for electing me to my fourth term on this board. My years on the board have been both rewarding, and challenging. But most importantly, it has been my honor to serve the people of Salem County.

As I start my tenth year in office, I look back over my "tenure". The issues that faced this board in 2004 are different from the issues we face today. We had a generous budget surplus, we had a more robust economy, and we had choices over which "projects" we wanted to pursue. The storms of the century were still just "history", the employees were not worrying about layoffs, we had an excellent bond rating, and we were able to lower taxes.

But, the global economy shifted over the years, trickledown economics did not trickle, and little Salem County, always in last place as far as size, population, budget, and achievements, hit the same wall that bigger and better funded counties had already hit. We were the little engine that tried, and tried, and just could not make it up the inevitable hill to prosperity. And, this is the reality that we are in today. Having to DO with less. Whether we try to do the same amount, or more, is up to us, but we still have to "do."

#### That, my friends is the crux of my speech tonight.

We, as the Board of Chosen Freeholders, have each been elected to serve the people of Salem County. We come from different municipalities, occupations, and socioeconomic statuses. Elected by the people, we are expected to serve the people. The citizens of this County do not care if we are Republican, Democrat or Independent. They do not elect the party; they elect the person. They expect us to lay our differences down after General Election and work together, as a board for the best interests of the county.

As John F. Kennedy said during his Presidential Inaugural speech on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 1961, *"United there is little we cannot do. . . . . divided, there is little we can do."* 

Yes, we are challenged with difficult situations, which require difficult decisions. However, there was no more challenging times then during the Great Depression. As FDR addressed the nation with candor in his First Inaugural Speech given on March 4, 1933, he said, and I quote, "This is preeminently the time to speak the truth, the whole truth, frankly and boldly. Nor need we shrink from honestly facing conditions in our country today".

During the worst economic crisis ever to face our nation, people were out of work, bankrupt, and fearful of their own future. The fearless leader reminded all that as far as these conditions were concerned, they were only material things, and that we as a nation still had much to be thankful for. As President Roosevelt went on to say, "Happiness lies not in the mere possession of money; it lies in the joy of achievement, in the thrill of creative effort. The joy, the moral stimulation of work must not be forgotten in the mad chase of evanescent profits."

The President promised that those dark days would be worth it all if they taught us that our true destiny was not to be ministered unto but to minister to ourselves, to our fellow men.

And, today, under much the same failures of the same institutions, we still have our freedoms, our ability to live our lives mostly as we choose, not dictated by class, power or position, and we can exercise our most basic rights as a nation of individuals. Yet, we as the leaders of the county have the obligation to display discipline and direction in our actions. We must remember that we hold the power that keeps so many county residents employed as county workers. Where are we going, who are we trying to lead, and what is the goal in all of this? As we reorganize for this year, let us ask of ourselves;

Is it right for the people of Salem County? Is it right by me? And most importantly, is it right by God?

As a woman, giving the minority address is not unusual. Women have only had the right to vote since 1920. But, as a woman and mother, I have always had the right and privilege to pray. That right has never been denied as an American and my prayers to God have never fallen on deaf ears. So, I pray tonight that as county leaders, we will listen to the concerns of our people, we will hear the voices of our citizens who are poor and disabled, and those who are the unemployed, and we will hear the cries of our downtrodden.

This leadership must put aside short-term gains in order to find long term solutions. We were not placed here by the citizens to employ our friends and family. We are not

entrusted with making budgetary decisions that will benefit a few, at the expense of the many.

Like Congresswoman Barbara Jordan said, in her speech in 1976, we believe in equality for all and privileges for none. Inclusion not exclusion. We must insist that we join hands as a county, a community of people, restoring our belief in ourselves as people.

We cannot continue to govern in a vacuum. Look around us and see that so many in our county are unemployed, losing their homes, their families. Yet for most of us, these are not people that we know personally. Their poverty or their pain does not touch us. Transparency is an empty word that they do not even know or care about. Honesty, truth, and inclusion are the words that mean something. We vainly believe that our parties or our power will somehow make things happen and then we set up our own way of doing things. However, none of us sitting here tonight went to school for governing, leading or any other discipline of such knowledge. No, we only rely on our own experiences, values, and morals. And, this is where we must continue to challenge ourselves. We must ask more of each other, more of our fellow citizens, and more of ourselves. We have stopped some people from making an honest living. With the raise of a hand, we have cut them off from the pride of being able to pay their bills, put food on their table, and keep a roof over their heads. These are not light and easy decisions that we make and yet we sit here, all as part time officials, each taking a salary that is more than the total salary of some of the very employees that we laid off. We need to possess common sense and common decency, and show respect for common good. More is required of public officials than slogans, handshakes, and photo ops in the newspapers. We must provide the leadership and vision of the future and show the path that can take us there.

We are so pleased with the purchase and renovation of a former retail plaza that now houses county government offices. One more building off the tax rolls in a town which already houses most all of county government. And yet, we wonder why this town has lost its charm, its ability to take care of itself? Are we partly responsible?

We gather tonight in a grand old building that recently enjoyed a one million dollar renovation using federal and state matched funds. It is beautiful. And yet, this building is just a showplace, housing only the freeholder board's meetings twice a month. Is that what the public dollars were intended for?

Next door, we see a once grand old building, designed by a premiere Philadelphia architect by the name of Cummings. It is now dilapidated and disgraced in its old age. And yet, we just relocated our employees who provide some of the most vulnerable citizens' services, aging and disabled, back into that building. Can we do better than this? Is this what we feel they are deserving of?

#### I believe we can do better.

It is not the intent of government to micromanage employees. We are to vet and screen candidates for employment who are best suited for the position, regardless of political party, ability to contribute financially, or for personal relationships. It is our responsibility to know what qualifications these positions require and make sure that we are getting the best candidates to choose from. That may mean looking outside of our comfort zone, and perhaps even our county. It may also mean that we do not always agree with what they say or do, but we have the responsibility and ability to recognize that their expertise in the field in which they are working is most essential.

I believe we need to put aside our egos and listen more intently. We have not asked our employees how we can best reduce expenses, and what concessions they are willing to make. We assume to know their jobs and then we make decisions in a vacuum. And yet,

corporate America has been asking employees for input and ideas for well over two decades. Employees want to give their input and be part of the process. After all, most of them are the very voters that elected us to office in the first place.

We have not continually pushed the envelope in finding ways to do more with less. Discussions with other counties, municipalities, and even the state have stalled as the "Shared Services Concept" fell from favor.

We continue to recycle old ideas with the belief that what is old is new again. How many times can we issue prescription cards to our citizens only to find out that most of the time, they do not reduce the costs to underinsured or the uninsured? Why do we keep appointing members to boards that don't meet, or only meet in order to comply with statute, but really are an exercise in futility? We must make better use of our volunteer public servants.

Yes, I challenge all of the members of this freeholder board including myself, to do better than what we have done. New Jersey is an old state, and there are laws on the books that make no sense today. We need to challenge those that make no sense, and look for better uses of the ones that do. Working hand in hand with our state legislators will only improve these outcomes.

We all enjoy the good sense that God gave us and yet we do not employ it most of the time. We all say we are God fearing and God loving yet we do not ask for divine wisdom to be imparted on our decisions.

In this year ahead, I implore that we challenge our minds and abilities to do better than we have done in the past, and ask that we respect the differences in each other. I also implore that we recognize that the answers will not only come from our mouths but the mouths of our employees, our citizens, and mostly from thoughtful and reverent prayer. Only as a board of seven individuals working in unison will we get through the challenges that lie ahead of us.

Let us unite this evening in a sincere effort to work for the betterment of the county that we so dearly love, our own Salem County.

Thank you and God Bless.

The following Majority Freeholder Report was read by Director Acton:

Thank you Freeholder Timberman.

PASTOR FIELDS, FATHER PAUL ASSEMBLYWOMAN RILEY, COUNTY CLERK GILL, MY FELLOW FREEHOLDERS, HONORED GUESTS.

SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS TO FREEHOLDER BEN LAURY AND FREEHOLDER BETH TIMBERMAN ON YOUR RE-ELECTION. I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH BOTH OF YOU AGAIN.

WELCOME TO THE 2013 REORGANIZATION MEETING OF THE SALEM COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS. THIS YEAR OUR MEETING RETURNS TO THE HISTORIC AND BEAUTIFUL "OLD COURTHOUSE" OF SALEM COUNTY. THIS BUILDING IS A FITTING LOCATION FOR TONIGHTS MEETING BECAUSE IT SYMBOLIZES THE VERY ESSENCE OF SALEM COUNTY; OUR HISTORY, CULTURE AND HERITAGE.

TO MY COLLEAGUES, I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU; I KNOW THAT 2013 WILL BRING NEW CHALLENGES AND NEW DECISIONS. THERE ARE THREE D'S IN THE PROCESS OF GOOD GOVERNMENT; DISCUSSION, DEBATE AND DECISIONS.

WE ARE ALL COLLEAGUES; WE JUST SOMETIMES HAVE A DIFFERENT OPINION ABOUT WHICH ROAD TO TRAVEL.

A YEAR HAS PASSED SINCE THE VOTERS OF SALEM COUNTY VOTED A CHANGE IN THE BALANCE OF POWER OF THIS FREEHOLDER BOARD. AT THE 2012 REORGANIZATION MEETING, I WAS ELECTED BY MY PEERS TO SERVE AS FREEHOLDER DIRECTOR. I WAS DEEPLY HUMBLED AND HONORED BY THEIR CONFIDENCE. THIS YEAR MY PEERS HAVE ONCE AGAIN ASKED ME TO CONTINUE IN THAT SAME LEADERSHIP POSITION. FOR YOUR CONTINUED CONFIDENCE I SAY: "THANK YOU" I AM STILL HONORED AND HUMBLED. I WILL ALWAYS DO WHAT IS BEST FOR THE PEOPLE OF SALEM COUNTY.

SOME CALLED 2012 AN EXPERIMENT, IT ACTUALLY WAS A TRANSITION FROM BUSINESS AS USUAL TO A COUNTY GOVERNMENT CHOSE TO RESTORE CONFIDENCE IN PUBLIC OFFICIALS THROUGH REFORM.

SALEM COUNTY SAW MANY CHALLENGES IN 2012, SEVERE WEATHER, A WEAK ECONOMY, AND A CHALLENGING BUDGETARY PROCESS FOR SALEM COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

ON JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2012, SALEM COUNTY WAS FACING A TEN MILLION DOLLAR BUDGET DEFICIT, \$10 MILLION DOLLARS! IN WASHINGTON THAT'S JUST A DROP IN THE BUCKET, HOWEVER, IN NEW JERSEY'S SMALLEST COUNTY, 10 MILLION IS MORE THAT TEN PERCENT OF OUR ENTIRE BUDGET.

LET ME BE CLEAR, THIS SITUATION DID NOT OCCUR ON JANUARY  $1^{\rm ST}$ , 2012. IT WAS THE RESULT OF, AS THEY SAY, "THE PERFECT STORM". YEARS OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT BORROWING, COMPOUNDED BY AN UNEXPECTED RECESSION AND AN ECONOMY THAT HAS YET TO STABILIZE. NOT TO MENTION THE EVERY DAY INCREASES THAT WE ALL FACE IN OUR PERSONAL LIVES SUCH AS; HEALTH CARE, INSURANCE, FUEL, FOOD AND UTILITIES.

THE FACE OF SALEM COUNTY GOVERNMENT LOOKS A LITTLE DIFFERENT TODAY. IT WILL CONTINUE TO EVOLVE INTO AN EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT THAT ADDRESSES THE NEEDS OF ITS CONSTITUENCY.

THE DAYS ARE GONE WHERE WE ISSUE BONDS TO BUY THE THINGS THAT WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE.

WE WILL BORROW MONEY ONLY WHEN NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN AN ORDERLY AND EFFICIENT COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

IN ORDER TO UNDERSTAND WHICH ROAD WE MUST CHOOSE IN 2013, WE MUST TAKE A PEEK AT THE ROAD WE TRAVELED IN 2012.

AS THE SALEM COUNTY FREEHOLDERS DEVELOPED THE 2012 BUDGET WE USED THE "KITCHEN TABLE TEST" ON EVERY LINE ITEM. SIMPLY PUT, WE SAID THAT WE WOULDN'T SPEND MONEY WE DIDN'T HAVE.

WE FOCUSED ON WHAT SALEM COUNTY GOVERNMENT REALLY NEEDED NOT WHAT WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE AT CHRISTMAS TIME.

THE ROAD OF 2012 LED US TO SOME OF THESE DECISIONS:

- -REDUCED THE FREEHOLDERS SALARIES THAT WAS NOT A DIFFICULT DECISION
- -WE HAD REDUCTIONS IN DEPARTMENTAL OPERATING EXPENSES
- -REDUCED COUNTY MOTOR VEHICLE FLEET
- -ELIMINATED REDUNDANT ATTORNEY CONTRACTS
- -ELIMINATED UNNECESSARY CABLE TELEVISION SERVICE IN COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS.
- -ELIMINATED EXPENSIVE LEASE PAYMENTS FOR COUNTY OFFICES AND MOVED A SUBSTANTIAL PART OF SALEM COUNTY GOVERNMENT INTO MODERN A FACILITIES IN THE "FIFTH STREET COMPLEX", LOCATED IN THE COUNTY SEAT.
- -DISPOSED OF SERVICEABLE BUT UNUSED SURPLUS EQUIPMENT AND PROPERTY.
- -WE ASKED EMPLOYEES TO CONTRIBUTE MORE TOWARDS THEIR BENEFITS.
- -CONSOLIDATION AND SHARED SERVICES WHENEVER POSSIBLE.
- -PROTECT THE CORE FUNCTIONS OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT.
- -ELIMINATE UNNECESSARY SPENDING.
- ENACT A PAINFUL REDUCTION IN THE SIZE OF THE COUNTY WORKFORCE.
- SO THAT WAS A GLIMPSE AT THE SCENERY ALONG ROUTE 2012.

LETS GET OUR MAPS OUT (OR GPS IF YOU PREFER) TO TAKE A LOOK DOWN ROUTE 2013.

THE ROAD WILL ONCE AGAIN BE ROUGH AND FILLED WITH PERIL.

IN 2013, THE SALEM COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS WILL STEER COUNTY GOVERNMENT TOWARDS A THOROUGH AND EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT; A GOVERNMENT THAT ADDRESSES THE NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE OF SALEM COUNTY; A GOVERNMENT THAT ALSO PROTECTS THE TAXPAYERS OF SALEM COUNTY. THAT IS YOU, OUR FRIENDS, FAMILY AND NEIGHBORS. IT IS NO SECRET THAT TAXES ARE THE FUEL THAT DRIVES THE ECONOMIC ENGINE OF OUR COUNTY GOVERNMENT. JUST LIKE NATURAL RESOURCES WE MUST RESPECT THOSE TAXES AND NOT WASTE THEM.

ALONG ROUTE 2013 THE SCENERY WILL INCLUDE SOME NEW SIGHTS AND SOME FAMILIAR SIGHTS.

THIS FREEHOLDER BOARD WILL CONTINUE TO SEARCH FOR GREATER EFFICIENCIES IN 2013.

WE WILL, HOWEVER, BE MINDFUL THAT WE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING QUALITY PROGRAMS AND SERVICES TO OUR CONSTITUENTS. WE WILL ACCOMPLISH THIS WITH AN EYE ON EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT.

2013 WILL BRING CONTINUED SCRUTINY OF INEFFICIENT SEGMENTS OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING INDEPENDENT AUTHORITIES OF, BUT NOT IN, SALEM COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

ONE OUR SALEM COUNTY'S MOST VALUED RESOURCES IS OUR PUBLIC SECTOR WORKFORCE. IT IS TIME TO RENEGOTIATE SEVERAL OF THE CONTRACTS WITH OUR BARGAINING UNITS. WE WILL BARGAIN IN GOOD FAITH TO ENSURE THAT FAIR AND REASONABLE CONTRACTS OF MUTUAL BENEFIT ARE SETTLED THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS, NOT EXPENSIVE LITIGATION.

LOOKING DOWN ROUTE 2013 WE WILL ALSO SEE THE FOLLOWING:

-CONTINUED DEPLOYMENT OF TECHNOLOGY IN THE ADMINISTRATION TO ELIMINATE ANTIQUATED PAPERWORK PRACTICES.

-THE SALEM COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE WILL SEARCH FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO ENHANCE OUR EXISTING BUSINESSES AND INDUSTRIES BY DEVELOPING SYNERGYSTIC PARTNERSHIPS WITH NEW BUSINESSES.

-COMPLETE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF E-PROSECUTION WITHIN THE PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE.

-CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN COUNTY ROADWAYS IN GOOD AND INCLEMENT WEATHER.

-SEEK NEW AND INNOVATIVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SHARED AND CONSOLIDATED SERVICES.

-IN AN EFFORT TO FURTHER REDUCE OUR INSURANCE PREMIUMS, WE WILL REDEFINE AND IMPLEMENT JOB SAFETY PRACTICES TO ENSURE WORKPLACE SAFETY AS WELL AS COMPLIANCE WITH STATE AND FEDERAL SAFETY MONITORING AGENCIES.

-THE SALEM COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS WILL ONCE AGAIN CONDUCT REGULAR MEETINGS IN OUR MUNICIPALITIES. THIS YEAR, WE WILL INCREASE THE NUMBER OF THESE MEETINGS TO FOUR. WE WILL CONTINUE HAVING "OPEN TO THE PUBLIC" WORKSHOPS AND BUDGET MEETINGS.

AS YOU CAN SEE, 2012 WAS A CHALLENGING YEAR; THIS BOARD WAS UP TO THE CHALLENGE. 2013 WILL BE JUST AS CHALLENGING BUT THIS FREEHOLDER BOARD, I ASSURE YOU, WILL AGAIN BE UP TO THE TASK.

SALEM COUNTY IS THE LEAST POPULATED COUNTY IN NEW JERSEY. I THINK MOST RESIDENTS OF OUR COUNTY AGREE THAT WE ENJOY A SPECIAL QUALITY OF LIFE HERE THAT EXISTS IN FEW OTHER AREAS OF NEW JERSEY. SALEM COUNTY IS A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE, WORK AND PLAY... TEAMWORK WILL KEEP IT THAT WAY.

I PLEDGE TO YOU THAT I WILL DO MY BEST TO LEAD THIS GROUP OF FREEHOLDERS IN A DIRECTION THAT ESTABLISHES SALEM COUNTY AS NOT ONLY A LEADING COUNTY IN NEW JERSEY, BUT THE NATION AS WELL.

IN CLOSING, I MUST TAKE A MOMENT TO THANK MY PERSONAL SUPPORT GROUP; MY HUSBAND JOHN, SONS, JONATHAN AND JUSTIN, MY FAMILY AND SOMEONE VERY SPECIAL TO ME, MY MOTHER JEAN GROSS.

I THANK YOU, I COULDN'T SERVE THE PEOPLE OF SALEM COUNTY WITHOUT YOUR CONTINUED LOVE AND SUPPORT.

#### GOOD NIGHT. MAY GOD BLESS YOU AND MAY GOD BLESS SALEM COUNTY.

Director Acton, asked Reverend Dr. H. Holland Fields, Jr. to deliver the benediction.

Director Acton I want to really thank Father Hart and Reverend Fields for coming this is part of our Freeholder Board. We like to have prayer. This is a big part of doing government we like to be blessed so thank you very much.

Motion was made by Deputy Director Cross to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Freeholder Timberman. On roll call, the motion to adjourn the meeting was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 6:44 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Earl R. Gage Clerk of the Board