

**SALEM COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS  
WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 2, 2016  
6:00 PM**

The meeting was called to order by Director Acton who then led the assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Director Acton stated that adequate notice pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act has been given of this meeting.

On Roll Call, the following Freeholders were present with quorum met: Deputy Director Cross, DeCastro, Painter, Vanderslice, Ware and Director Acton.

**Presentation:**

Global Institute For Strategic Investment Regarding Salem Port Sustainability Plan – Whitney White

**Department Reports:**

• **Administrative**

1. **Veterans:**

Today the Freeholders, along with the Veterans and Public Works Committee named and dedicated Veterans Lane at the County Veterans Park and Memorial Cemetery.

“This is the final resting place for many heroic men and women, as well as their loved one. Officially naming this lane brings a sense of completeness to this War Park and Memorial Cemetery, one our Veterans and their families are worthy of receiving. Our Veterans Administrator, Joe Hannagan, continues to make beautifications so families and residents have a place for reflection. Our current military members and our Veterans, surviving and deceased, are owed gratitude and respect for serving this great country.”

We recently lost a valuable piece of our team in the passing of Mark Humphreys, his dedication and leadership in this project to keep the cemetery was invaluable.

2. Salem County Military Service Medal Ceremony will be held on Thursday, November 3, 6:00 PM at the Salem Community College in the Davidow Theater.

36 names will be read representing men and women who are slated to be honored for their military service, 12 of which are being recognized posthumously.

The Military Service Medal Ceremony is open to the public and held during the evening to provide an opportunity for our communities to come together and show appreciation to our veterans.

3. **Health Insurance comparative savings:**

Current Program Annual Cost for Active Employees = \$6,495,960.00

NJSHBP Annual Cost for Like Coverage for Active Employees = \$8,557,656.00

Savings = \$2,061,696 or approximately 31% compared to NJSHBP Rates

Just doing the math, if the County had stayed with the State Health Benefits, The County would be paying \$2.5 million more this year than what they are currently paying.

It depicts the cost difference and the percentage of savings for each tier of coverage on the Salem Co. AmeriHealth plan vs. like coverage through the NJ State Health Benefits Plan. It is a shining example of what has been achieved by the County of Salem leadership and what can potentially be enjoyed by the balance of the Salem Co. government entities. Average percentage savings among all employee tiers is 31% compared to NJ State Health Benefits Plan!

4. Jet.com grand opening/ribbon cutting will be scheduled in the next couple of weeks  
They are seeking employees that want to join their team.

Five Below are looking for employees

**5. NOTICE OF REMAINING 2016 FREEHOLDER WORKSHOP MEETINGS**

The Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Salem's remaining scheduled workshop meetings shall be held at 5:30PM beginning on Wednesday, November 16, 2016 for budget discussions. The remaining meetings for 2016 will be November 16, December 3, 21, and 30 at the Old Salem Court House 104 Market Street, Salem City NJ 08079.  
Government 101 class graduation is coming to the November 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

2016 End of the year close out process has started – information was sent to all department heads providing directives  
2017 Budget process has begun – departments have been asked to submit their requests for the CFO to review  
Open enrollment saw very little activity

**COB**

Currently working on those committee and commissions who expire end of December 31, 2016  
Starting to compile the workload and resolutions for Re-organization 2017 Meeting

• **Education/Employment**

**2. Salem Community College:**

An Ad Hoc committee for the formation of the Center for Business and Industry is being organized by Dr. Gorman. The committee will work on clearly defining the mission, create a business structure, establish broad goals and compose a budget. The first meeting is scheduled for November 15. It is expected that an appointment could be made for a director in the next 4 or 5 months.

County Military Medal Award Ceremony will be tomorrow November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6PM in Davidow Hall

**3. SCVTS/SCSSD:**

SCVTS, SCSSD and SCC joined together at the monthly meeting of the Inter Agency Council. Dr. Gorman and Mr. Swain presented information on the programs they offer. The goal was to provide a point of contact and familiarity of the programs the career and tech high school, the special services district and the college have to offer.

**4. Superintendent of Schools:**

Nothing to report

**5. Workforce Investment Board:**

The Department of Labor and Workforce Development has released the first Industry-Valued Credentials List. The release is available on our website at this link:

Industry-valued credentials must be:

Valued – recognized by employers in leading industry sectors within New Jersey and beyond;

Portable – reflecting skills that are valued by employers in different locations, or across multiple industries;

Stackable – offering skills that increase career opportunities for employees and job seekers through advanced training and education; and

Rewarding – likely to lead to higher wages, career advancement, and/or increased job security.

This initial list will be reviewed and updated quarterly by the state Credentials Review Board, a panel including staff from local One-Stop Career Centers and Workforce Development Boards as well as from the state Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Department of Education, Office of the Secretary of Higher Education and the State Employment and Training Commission

[http://lwd.state.nj.us/labor/lwdhome/press/2016/20161024\\_IndustryValuedCredentialList.html](http://lwd.state.nj.us/labor/lwdhome/press/2016/20161024_IndustryValuedCredentialList.html)

**6. Board of Social Services:**

October Education and Employment meeting was held at Board offices.

## **7. Chamber of Commerce:**

Next meeting for Ed. Employment is Wednesday Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> at Chamber office.

### **• Health & Human**

8. Our Office on Aging and Disabilities Services is partnering again with ARC this year to do a mentoring program – which is why you have shadows from your Freeholder Meeting Wednesday night. Earlier in the morning, our shadows met with various departments to learn about their work, and they had the chance to see a K-9 demonstration from the Sheriff's Department.
9. This is the open enrollment period for Medicare. The only two people in the county who are certified by the state to counsel on Medicare are employees in the Office on Aging and Disability Services. Since October 17<sup>th</sup> – two short weeks ago – these two staffers (Betty Myers and Cindy Knight) have met and/or spoken on the phone with more than 125 people.
10. Since the County waived fares for medical trips and extended the routes, we have five new riders for dialysis and we made 60 trips to Christiana Care medical facilities. Since lifting the fares to the nutrition site in Pittsgrove, attendance has increased from 10 seniors to 23.
11. Tonight was our Health Department's flu clinic at the 5<sup>th</sup> Street Complex (4 – 7 p.m.) Not counting tonight – nurses have given 1,229 flu shots. We have a flu clinic at Cedar Lane Auction later this month, and we are scheduling a special clinic for employees who work at the jail, EMS, and the Sheriff's Department. These clinics are directed by the Public Preparedness Division of the Health and Human Services Department – with the teamwork of all staffers in the department.
12. Our final NARCAN training of the year will be November 16 at Salem Community College. At our three previous training sessions, we had 66 attendees. These free trainings help residents understand the signs and symptoms of opiate overdose, rescue breathing, and how to administer Narcan. Attendees receive free NARCAN kits.
13. As of Oct. 31, the Environmental Division reviewed 188 septic plans, 160 real estate transfer reports on septic systems, and conducted 309 on-site septic inspections. Staff also reviewed and approved 92 applications for new wells.
14. The newest improvements to the Salem County Recreation Park in Oldmans Township were completed last week. They include the addition of park benches, trash receptacles and three exercise stations..bring to five the number of stations along the half-mile paved walkway. The Health and Human Services Department received a grant through the New Jersey Health Communities Network – and partnered with Roads and Bridges to do the work. The next phase includes plans for a meditation garden, rubberized playground surface, landscaping, and signage.

### **• Community Services**

1. NJAC- the bail reform resolution on the agenda for tonight
2. Women's Services- N/A checked in with the director.
3. Commission on Women- the breakfast will be April 1, 2017 at Centerton. There is a conversation to work in conjunction with the Vo-Tech with the programs and particularly the table center pieces.
4. Ranch Hope- ongoing conversation concerning transporting juveniles to Gloucester county. Meeting was held also with members of the sheriff department present and HR.
5. Board of Election- Chord was located and all set up and ready. Green Tech will have someone onsite the day of the election.
6. SCIA-sub-leasing the Finlaw building to the Salem school district. One student indicated they were having health problems, so an Indoor Air Quality test with the NJ Dept of Health standards for classrooms. There was some indication of the presence of mold, but seems slight
7. Surrogate- all going well.

8. Inter-Agency Council- spoke with them and asked if Ranch Hope had followed through with joining JETS. Still statements from several about wanting more transparency from certain agencies.

- **Public Safety**
- **Transportation, Agriculture & Cultural Affairs**

### **CULTURAL & HERITAGE**

- Grant Reviews are done. They will be reviewed again by the Cultural & Heritage Commissioners on Thursday and recommendations will be sent to Freeholders later this month.
  - 11 Applications for Art & 6 for History
  - Up from last year in BOTH areas
- ADA sensitivity training for regrantees and local history and art organizations will be held at Appel Farm on November 16 No fee Any non-profit is invited
- *Music Around the County* has announced its season of free concerts
  - TUNES FROM THE CRYPT on 10/28 ... eerie music for the whole family...was AMAZING 150 people in attendance
  - Next Concert
  - Pics & Pipes - Renowned organist Wayne Zimmerman will accompany the silent film...the Original 1925 movie...Phantom of the Opera.
  - November 12 7 PM at the Woodstown Presbyterian Church

### **TOURISM**

- Next *Discover Salem County Weekend* will be December 2-4
- Woodstown By Candlelight – Friday 12/2
- A full day of activities in Salem City Saturday, December 3 -Parade at 11 Am, House tours of Historic Salem followed by an evening tree lighting ceremony
- Sunday a concert in Carneys Point by the Salem County Brass!

Check [VisitSalemCountyNJ.com](http://VisitSalemCountyNJ.com) for full details!

- **Public Works**

Freeholder Vanderslice made a motion to adjourn the workshop meeting, seconded by Deputy Director Cross. The adjournment carried by hand vote of 7/0 at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Curtis Harker, Clerk of the Board