

**SALEM COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS
2017 REORGANIZATION MEETING
JANUARY 4, 2017
OLDE SALEM COURT HOUSE
MINUTES**

Tom Mason presented the Welcoming Statement.

The Salem County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard presented the American Flag in a Color Guard procession. President Protem led the assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed by the National Anthem sung by Brenda Zeck and Sarah Muhs.

Clerk of the Board Curt Harker, presiding pro tem, asked Reverend David Reppenning to deliver the invocation.

OATH OF OFFICE TO FREEHOLDERS ELECT

HONORABLE LEE R. WARE
by
Honorable Judge Benjamin C. Telsey, P.J. Cr.
Presiding

REMARKS
Honorable John Burzichelli, Assemblyman

6:00 P.M. RE-ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Curt Harker, Clerk of the Board
Presiding Protem

CALL TO ORDER
Clerk of the Board

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT STATEMENT
Adequate notice pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act has been given of this meeting

1. By forwarding notice thereof to South Jersey Times 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.

ROLL CALL
The Presiding Protem read the roll call and the following Freeholders were present: Freeholders Dale Cross, Melissa DeCastro, Benjamin Laury, Doug Painter, Robert Vanderslice, and Lee Ware.

ELECTION CERTIFICATES FROM THE COUNTY CLERK
The Presiding Protem presented the Election Certificates for Lee R. Ware elected for a three year term for Freeholder.

ELECTION OF THE FREEHOLDER DIRECTOR

The Presiding Protem took nominations from the floor for Freeholder Director. Freeholder Painter nominated Freeholder Vanderslice with Freeholder Cross voicing the second. No

other names were nominated. Nominations were closed on motion by Freeholder Laury which was seconded by Freeholder Painter. On roll call, the Freeholders approved the election of Freeholder Robert J. Vanderslice as Director with a 5/0 vote with Freeholder Vanderslice abstaining.

OATH OF OFFICE TO THE FREEHOLDER DIRECTOR

Honorable Assemblyman John J. Burzichelli
Presiding

ELECTION OF THE DEPUTY FREEHOLDER DIRECTOR

The Presiding Protem took nominations from the floor for Freeholder Deputy Director. Freeholder Cross nominated Freeholder Laury with Freeholder Painter voicing the second. No other names were nominated. Nominations were closed on motion by Freeholder Cross which was seconded by Freeholder Painter. On roll call, the Freeholders approved the election of Freeholder Benjamin H. Laury as Deputy Director with a 5/0 vote with Freeholder Laury abstaining.

OATH OF OFFICE TO THE FREEHOLDER DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Honorable Judge Jean S. Chetney, J.S.C.
Presiding

Brenda Zeck and Sarah Muhs did the honor of singing America the Beautiful

Freeholder Director Vanderslice assumed chairing the meeting and asked if there was a waiver of the rules for tonight's meeting.

The Clerk of the Board stated that there is no waiver of the rules for tonight's meeting.

RESOLUTIONS

2017-1

ADMINISTRATIVE

Resolution for the Adoption of the Rules to Govern the Salem County Board of Chosen Freeholders for the Year 2017

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

2017-2

ADMINISTRATIVE

Resolution for Compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act Law for the County of Salem

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

2017-3

ADMINISTRATIVE

Resolution Setting Job Classification Titles and Salary Ranges for 2017

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

2017-4

ADMINISTRATIVE

Resolution Awarding a Contract for Auditor Services for the County of Salem

Deputy Director Laury moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Painter 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 Ware against.

2017-5

ADMINISTRATIVE

Resolution Awarding a Contract for Bond Counsel Services for the County of Salem
(Archer & Greiner, P.C.)

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

2017-6

ADMINISTRATIVE

Resolution Awarding a Contract for Labor Counsel Services for the County of Salem
(Gilmore & Monahan, P.A.)

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

2017-7

ADMINISTRATIVE

Resolution Awarding a Contract for Engineer for the County of Salem (Alaimo Group - James McKelvie)

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

2017-8

ADMINISTRATIVE

Resolution Awarding a Contract for Planner for the County of Salem (Alaimo Group- Joseph S. Augustyn)

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

2017-9

ADMINISTRATIVE

Resolution Awarding a Contract for Nurse Practitioner Services for the Salem County Correctional Facility
(Catherine E. Sheridan)

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

2017-10

ADMINISTRATIVE

Resolution Awarding a Contract for Psychological and Psychiatric Services for the County of Salem
(CGF Health Systems, LLC)

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

2017-11

ADMINISTRATIVE

Resolution Appointing County Adjuster for the County of Salem (Michael M. Mulligan, Esq.)

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

2017-12

ADMINISTRATIVE

Resolution Appointing The Director Of Health and Human Services For The County Of Salem (Rita Shade)

Freeholder Painter moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder 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 Clerk of the Board read the following resolutions in bulk. 2017-13 thru 2017-23

2017-13

ADMINISTRATIVE

Resolution Appointing a Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator (Dale A. Cross)

2017-14
ADMINISTRATIVE
Resolution Appointing a Mental Health Administrator for the County of Salem (Becky Foraker)

2017-15
ADMINISTRATIVE
Resolution Appointing Public Agency Compliance Officer for 2017 for the County of Salem (James Johnston)

2017-16
ADMINISTRATIVE
Resolution Appointing Members To The Salem County Insurance Fund Commission

2017-17
ADMINISTRATIVE
Resolution for the Appointment of Members to the Salem County Advisory Council, Office on Aging

2017-18
ADMINISTRATIVE
Resolution for the Appointment of Members to the Salem County Advisory Council for the Office of the Disabled

2017-19
ADMINISTRATIVE
Resolution Appointing Members to the Salem County Agriculture Development Board

2017-20
ADMINISTRATIVE
Resolution Appointing Members to the Citizens Local Advisory Committee on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse

2017-21
ADMINISTRATIVE
Resolution Appointing Members to the Salem Community College Trustee Search Committee

2017-22
ADMINISTRATIVE
Resolution for the Appointment of Members to the Salem County Construction Board of Appeals

2017-23
ADMINISTRATIVE
Resolution Appointing Members to the Cultural and Heritage Commission

Deputy Director Laury made a motion to adopt Resolutions 13 through 23 with Freeholder Painter seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion to adopt Resolutions 13 through 23 carried by hand vote of 6/0.

The Clerk of the Board read the following resolutions in bulk. 2017-24 thru 2017-34

2017-24
ADMINISTRATIVE
Resolution Appointing Members to the Salem County Economic Development Council

2017-25
ADMINISTRATIVE
Resolution Appointing Members to the South Jersey Economic Development District for the County of Salem

2017-26
ADMINISTRATIVE
Resolution Appointing Members to the Human Relations Advisory Board for the County of Salem

2017-27
ADMINISTRATIVE
Resolution Appointing Medical Investigators for the County of Salem

2017-28
ADMINISTRATIVE
Resolution Appointing Pathologists for the County of Salem

2017-29
ADMINISTRATIVE
Resolution For The Appointment Of Members To The Salem County Mental Health Board

2017-30
ADMINISTRATIVE
Resolution Appointing Members to the Salem County Planning Board

2017-31
ADMINISTRATIVE
Resolution Appointing Members to the Shared Services Working Group

2017-32
ADMINISTRATIVE
Resolution Appointing Members to the Salem County Board of Social Services

2017-33
ADMINISTRATIVE
Resolution Appointing Members to the Salem County Tourism Advisory Council

2017-34
ADMINISTRATIVE
Resolution Appointing Representatives of the County of Salem to the South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization

Freeholder Cross made a motion to adopt Resolutions 24 through 34 with Freeholder Painter seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion to adopt Resolutions 24 through 34 carried by hand vote of 6/0.

The Clerk of the Board read the following resolutions in bulk. 2017-35 thru 2017-43

2017-35
ADMINISTRATIVE
Resolution for the Appointment of Members to the Salem County Veteran Advisory Board

2017-36
ADMINISTRATIVE
Resolution for the Appointment of Members to the Commission on Women

2017-37
ADMINISTRATIVE
Resolution for the Appointment of Members to the Cumberland/Salem/ Cape May Workforce Development Board (WDB)

2017-38
ADMINISTRATIVE
Resolution Appointing Members to the Salem County Youth Services Commission

2017-39
ADMINISTRATIVE
Resolution Appointing Members To The Salem County Transportation Advisory Council For Casino Revenues

2017-40
ADMINISTRATIVE
Resolution Appointing Freeholder Members To Various Committees And Commissions

2017-41
ADMINISTRATIVE

Resolution Appointing Freeholder Liaison To The Salem County Improvement Authority

2017-42

ADMINISTRATIVE

Resolution Appointing Freeholder Representatives to the County of Salem Pollution Control Financing Authority

2017-43

ADMINISTRATIVE

Resolution To Accept Benistar Pharmacy Benefits For Retirees Over Age 65

Deputy Director Laury made a motion to adopt Resolutions 35 through 43 with Freeholder Painter seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion to adopt Resolutions 35 through 43 carried by hand vote of 6/0.

The Clerk of the Board read the following resolutions in bulk. 2017-44 thru 2017-51

2017-44

ADMINISTRATIVE

Resolution To Accept Aetna Dental Benefits For 2017

2017-45

ADMINISTRATIVE

Resolution To Accept Amerihealth New Jersey Health Benefits For 2017

2017-46

ADMINISTRATIVE

Resolution To Accept Express Scripts (Medco Health Solutions, Inc.) Benefits For 2017

2017-47

ADMINISTRATIVE

Resolution Adopting a Cash Management Plan for the County of Salem

2017-48

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

2017-49

ADMINISTRATIVE

Resolution Approving Signatories for Required Bank Accounts for the County of Salem (Fulton Bank of New Jersey)

2017-50

ADMINISTRATIVE

Resolution Awarding A Contract For Physician At The Salem County Correctional Facility (Dr. John Amrien)

2017-51

ADMINISTRATIVE

Resolution Appointing Members To The Salem County Improvement Authority

Freeholder Cross made a motion to adopt Resolutions 44 through 51 with Freeholder DeCastro seconding his motion. Freeholder Painter stated he will be abstaining from Resolutions 47 & 48. Director Vanderslice announced that Pennsville National Bank is not listed as a bank the County utilizes on any resolutions. As there was no further discussion, the motion to adopt Resolutions 44 through 51 carried by hand vote of 6/0.

The Clerk of the Board read the following resolution individually:

2017-52

ADMINISTRATIVE

Resolution Adopting the 2017 Temporary Budget

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

Freeholder Cross, for; Freeholder DeCastro, for, Deputy Director Laury, for, Freeholder Painter, for, Director Vanderslice, for, and Freeholder Ware, for.

2017 COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

FH Committee	Chairperson	FH 1	FH 2
Administrative	Robert J. Vanderslice	Dale A. Cross	Douglass Painter
Education/Employment	Douglass H. Painter	Melissa L. DeCastro	Vacant
Health & Human Services	Robert J. Vanderslice	Douglass H. Painter	Vacant
Community Services	Melissa L. DeCastro	Robert J. Vanderslice	Lee R. Ware
Public Safety	Dale A. Cross	Benjamin H. Laury	Robert J. Vanderslice
Transportation, Agriculture	Lee R. Ware	Melissa L. DeCastro	Dale A. Cross
Public Works	Benjamin H. Laury	Lee R. Ware	Vacant

The following Minority Freeholder Report was read by Freeholder Lee R. Ware:

Distinguished guests, The Honorable Ben Telsey, Family, and Friends: Good Evening and Happy New Year to everyone. I stand here this evening giving a speech representing the minority party. This speech is really the easiest one I have ever given; I didn't have to get anyone's buy in since I am the lone minority member. There were no drawing straws this year as had been done in the past.

I would like to congratulate Julie Acton on her re-election and thank her for ten years of dedicated service to our residents. I would also like to congratulate Bob Vanderslice in being elected Director and Ben Laury being elected Deputy Director. As two born leaders, I'm sure you two will do a great job!

I have served in both the majority and minority roles, but my loyalty to serve the residents has never altered. I vow to always vote for what I feel is best for our residents and I understand the importance of listening to their concerns.

While I served in the majority, we guided this county in the direction that was best for Salem County, and as the lone minority member, I continue to provide my perspective, even if I am the only voice.

2016 was a very troubling and difficult year. It certainly was for me and my family. As you all know, I lost my dear wife in May, which has left a huge void in our lives.

I chose to run for re-election because I believe the people of this county need a voice in the wilderness, such as the elderly, the disabled, the veterans, the average working men and women, and our loyal county workers.

Last year, we did more surviving than governing. It took its toll on everyone and it didn't have to be that way. World Wars are caused because of lack of communication. There was no communication among the Freeholders, the Unions, the Farmers, and the County Workers.

Lack of communication created mistrust among our county workforce. This mistrust caused a petition to be circulated to reduce the Freeholder Board from 7 to 5, which overwhelmingly passed in November. As we figure out the mechanics of this year's election, it is suffice to say that the message was heard loud and dear. Business as usual isn't going to be tolerated anymore.

2017 is a year of uncharted waters with the Freeholder Board being reduced from 7 to 5 members, and the Bail Reform kicking in as of January 1st. We don't know what effect this will have on our law enforcement community. We are truly blessed to have the top two law enforcement leaders in the State

with Prosecutor Lenahan and Sheriff Miller. Superior public safety service is paramount to our residents and to those who visit our county.

My goals for 2017 are the same as they have always been: keep our residents safe, control taxes, fix the roads and bridges, serve the less fortunate, and preserve our special way of life here in Salem County. We, here in this county, are often called unique, and I couldn't agree more. Everyone knows each other in Salem County. There is not much difference between a "D" and an "R". In Salem County, a hand shake is still as good as a contract, and people care about each other. Politicians are just people elected by the people because they are entrusted to handle the people's business. Each elected official comes with the agenda of their party, and their own belief system that governs their actions.

As a longtime coach, I look forward to challenges and 2017 is going to be a huge challenge for all of us. I look forward to working with this Freeholder Board. As a public servant, you can't go wrong if you do the right thing instead of the political thing.

As I look around this room, I see good peoplepeople who want to make Salem County better. I also know that politics does not translate into good government, but that good government does translate into successful politics. We need to put the people first, not the agenda.

I leave you tonight expressing my gratitude for your prayers and encouragement last year. I thank my family for their ongoing support, and I thank the voters of Salem County for, once again, having the faith in me to handle their business. We didn't know what good government we had, until we lost it.

Let me end on this Franklin Roosevelt stated in giving advice to any politician making a speech:

"Be sincere, be brief, and be seated."

Thank you and God Bless!

The following Freeholder Director Report was read by Director Robert J. Vanderslice:

Good evening Everyone and Welcome.

I would like to thank Pastor Doug Smith for his prayers, his friendship, and his reminder to me when he first learned of the prospect of me becoming director . . . Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through Him who give me strength."

I would like to thank Assembly John Burzichelli for participating in this ceremony and for the fact that John and I were friends long before I became an elected official. The 3rd District Legislators, Senate President Steve Sweeny, Assembly John Burzichelli, and Assembly Adam Taliaferro have a genuine interest in Salem County and make themselves readily available to all of us.

I would like to ask all of the family members of the Freeholder board to stand (Freeholder's show their appreciation)

I want to especially thank my wife of 43 years for her support and her constant reminders of "you can do this . . . or "don't let others define who you are" . . . or "don't forget to take out the trash . . . wait!

Congratulations to Freeholder Lee Ware for being elected to serve another term. Freeholder Ware is serving his 17th year as Freeholder six of those years were as Director. Lee, I want you to know that all of us on this board respect your service to this great county and the wisdom you have accumulated over the years.

Lee, Dale, Ben, Doug, and Melissa . . . thank you for entrusting me with the role of Director. I am honored to be chosen to serve in this capacity. As I think of all who have served in this role, many who are sitting in this audience and even on this stage, I am reminded of the successes and challenges that have come before me.

And, I asked myself . . . Why Me?

So, I came up with the Top ten reasons I believe I was chosen to be Director . . . And, I want you to know that I put this together with the idea that we have got to stop taking ourselves so serious!

10. I missed the caucus meeting where the decision was made.
9. My wife's personality most closely resembled that of the previous director.
8. The other Freeholders were afraid if we made Ben Laury director, he would tell one of his stupid jokes at every meeting.
7. I was the only one who believed that our opponents chairman is NOT a member of the New Jersey mafia.
6. I believe that 6 o'clock meetings should start at 6 o'clock.
5. I don't kiss and hug everyone . . .
4. Two meetings a month just didn't work for me.
3. I was voted most likely to move for adjournment.
2. Wearing a suit to every meeting apparently made a huge impression!

And, the number one reason I was chosen to be Director . . .

1. In Middle School I got used to the "kick me" sign being put on my back.

Folks, in all seriousness I look forward to this opportunity and will use my experience as President & CEO of a successful Salem County bank, as a leader in a Salem County church (Sharptown), and as a person who believes you should never think more highly of yourself than you ought to think . . . I WILL serve to the best of my ability . . . so help me God. I will lean on His wisdom as I seek His guidance while making decisions that impact all of the Stakeholders in Salem County.

Every year on January 1st we are afforded the privilege of a new start, both personally and as a Freeholder Board. We all learn from mistakes we have made in the past and we relish the opportunity to start anew. And, we look forward to the ability we have been given to continue to build on the foundation that was laid in the previous year.

Let me remind you of a few of the successes we have seen during this very difficult economic cycle. Every member of this board had an integral part in these accomplishments:

1. We have and will continue to Reduce Debt.
2. Our Economic Development Council has built a strong foundation and has been working hard to put in place what is needed to show our county is the perfect place for business. We are now seeing some results and expect those to continue in the future.
3. We have greatly improved our infrastructure. Resurfacing roads and building curb ramps throughout the county. Improving bridges and dams. And, recognizing that the railroad is an integral part of Economic Development, have invested a great deal of human capital in the continuation of its improvement.
4. We could go on and on about the accomplishments in Veteran's Services, Public Safety, Health and Human Services, Public Works, Education and Employment, Transportation, Agriculture and Cultural Affairs, and Community Service but if I were to do that we would be here most of the night.

So, let me tell you all what I see . . .

- I see an increase in our transparency. Everything that we do should be available on our web-site.
- I see Town hall meetings where our residents can come together and tell us what's on their minds in a less formal setting.
- I also see town hall type meetings with our employees; to have a place where they can asked questions and make suggestions in a non-confrontational environment and can contribute to the process of problem solving and to the overall success of this county.

Folks, we are all in this together.

- I see an opportunity to build upon our Government 101 series and use those participants to form a task force and to use them as key communicators.
- I see challenges and opportunities. Challenges not so great as to hinder the collective reasoning of this Freeholder board and Opportunities we are already seizing and Opportunities that we have yet to realize but are prepared to exploit.
- I see the continuation of improving our roads and bridges, upgrading our county railroad system, and pursuing economic development that will create a greater sense of community . . .
- I see a place that we will be proud to call HOME!

Now, I am well aware that 2017 will be a year of change and challenge . . . And, that about an hour after the celebration has ended, the really hard work begins.

Let us commit to working together . . .

As John F. Kennedy once said, "Let us not seek the Republican answer or the Democratic answer, but the right answer. Let us not seek to fix the blame for the past. Let us accept our own responsibility for the future."

Let us collectively be mindful of these words written by Moses in the Old Testament . . . "The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

May God Bless you and your families throughout this coming year and May God bless Salem County, New Jersey.

Other Business:

Director Vanderslice stated that on the programs, the State of the County Address has been changed to February 2, 2017 at 5:30pm.

Director Vanderslice thanked everyone for their comments and announced the next meeting will be held on January 18, 2017, at 7:00 PM at the Olde Salem Courthouse located at 104 Market Street. Salem, New Jersey 08079. Workshop meeting will be held at 6:00pm.

Director Vanderslice called upon Pastor Doug Smith to give the Benediction.

Freeholder Painter made a motion to adjourn seconded by Deputy Director Laury and carried by hand vote 6/0 at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Curtis W. Harker
Clerk of the Board