



Board of County Commissioners

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

March 17, 2021 6:00 PM

Salem County Olde Courthouse, 104 Market Street, Salem, New Jersey

- **CALL TO ORDER:** Director Laury called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
- **INVOCATION:** Director Laury offered the Invocation.
- **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
- **STATEMENT REGARDING OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT:** Read by Stacy L. Pennington, Clerk of the Board.

Adequate notice pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act has been given of this meeting:
 By forwarding notice to the South Jersey Times and Elmer Times Co.; and
 By posting notice on the bulletin board in the Salem County Courthouse and the Fifth Street Office Complex; and
 By filing notice in the Offices of the Salem County Clerk and the Clerk of the Board all having been done at least 48 hours in advance.

- **ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL:** COB, Stacy Pennington, took attendance.

Commissioner	Present	Absent
Director Benjamin Laury	X	
Deputy Director Scott Griscom	X	
Commissioner Ed Ramsay	X	
Commissioner Gordon Ostrum	X	
Commissioner Lee Ware	X	

A quorum was present.

- **MINUTES:**

Dispense with the reading of the minutes of the March 3, 2021 Regular Meeting. Minutes are to be received, approved, and recorded in the Minute Book.

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Ostrum			X			
Commissioner Ramsay			X			
Commissioner Ware		X	X			
Deputy Director Griscom	X		X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand Vote passed: 5-0

- **SPECIAL RECOGNITION:** Deputy Commissioner, Scott Griscom read a Proclamation recognizing April 11-17, 2021 as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. The Proclamation was accepted by Chief Public Safety Telecommunicator for Salem County, Kristi Hunter. Attending with her were: PST Supervisor, Gerald Baber; Emergency Services Dept. Coordinator, Scott Haines; and Undersheriff, Allan Cummings

Commissioner Mickey Ostrum noted he attended a recent telecommunicator training session and was impressed by the passion and commitment these employees have for their profession.

- **PRESENTATION:** None

- **WAIVER OF THE RULES:** (4)

A2 Resolution Awarding a Lease for the Maintenance and Operation of the Salem County Railroad

A3 Resolution Authorizing the Application for a Rural Business Development Grant to Support Business Opportunity and enterprise Projects in Rural Communities

A4 Resolution Adding Appropriations to the 2021 Temporary budget in Accordance with NJSA 40A:4-19.1

E2 Resolution Awarding a Contract for Repairs to the Administrative Area Roof at the Salem County Correctional Facility

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Ostrum			X			
Commissioner Ramsay			X			
Commissioner Ware		X	X			
Deputy Director Griscom	X		X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand Vote passed: 5-0

- **PUBLIC HEARINGS & ADOPTIONS:** None

- **CORRESPONDENCE** – General and Committee/ Commission Minutes and Reports:

- Thank you note from Dr. Roberts
- Monmouth County Resolution Opposing Eliminating Mandatory Minimum Terms of Imprisonment for Persons Who Commit Crimes Related to Public Corruption
- Emails Opposing a recycling facility in Pittsgrove Township – Barbara Kornbluh, Judy Schneider, Peter Voros, Regina Schuster
- PCFA Meeting Minutes from the February 2021 Reorganization Meeting
- Letter from Joseph Quather, Alloway, regarding drainage easement maintenance
- Letter from State of NJ Dept of Human Services regarding per diem rates for State Developmental Center

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Ostrum			X			
Commissioner Ramsay			X			
Commissioner Ware		X	X			
Deputy Director Griscom	X		X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand Vote passed: 5-0

- PAYMENT OF BILLS AND CLAIMS:**

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Ostrum			X			
Commissioner Ramsay			X			
Commissioner Ware		X	X			
Deputy Director Griscom	X		X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand Vote passed: 5-0

- TREASURER'S REPORT:** None

- RESOLUTIONS:**

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE: - Laury, Griscom

A1 Resolution Appointing a Temporary Purchasing Agent for the County of Salem

A2 Resolution Awarding a Lease for the Maintenance and Operation of the Salem County Railroad

A3 Resolution Authorizing the Application for a Rural Business Development Grant to Support Business Opportunity and enterprise Projects in Rural Communities

A4 Resolution Adding Appropriations to the 2021 Temporary budget in Accordance with NJSA 40A:4-19.1

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Ostrum			X			
Commissioner Ramsay			X			
Commissioner Ware		X	X			
Deputy Director Griscom	X		X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand Vote passed: 5-0

AGRICULTURAL / TOURISM COMMITTEE – Ware, Griscom – NONE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/ PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE – Ramsay, Ostrum - NONE

HEALTH/ HUMAN SERVICES/ EDUCATION COMMITTEE – Ostrum, Ware

D1 Resolution Accepting and Executing the New Jersey Department of Human Services Division of Disability Services for Personal Assistance Services Program Grant (PASP)

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Ostrum	X		X			
Commissioner Ramsay			X			
Commissioner Ware		X	X			
Deputy Director Griscom			X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand Vote passed: 5-0

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – Griscom, Ostrum

E1 Resolution Authorizing the Execution of the State Community Partnership Grant for the Salem County Inter-Agency Council 2021 Youth Services Commission

E2 Resolution Awarding a Contract for Repairs to the Administrative Area Roof at the Salem County Correctional Facility

Commissioner Ramsay asked that E1 above be held for discussion during Executive Session.

The vote below is for E2 only.

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Ostrum		X	X			
Commissioner Ramsay			X			
Commissioner Ware			X			
Deputy Director Griscom	X		X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand Vote passed: 5-0

CHAPTER 159 TO INSERT REVENUE IN THE BUDGET: None

- **COMMISSIONER OLD BUSINESS:** NONE
- **COMMISSIONER NEW BUSINESS:** NONE
- **COMMISSIONER PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Director Laury noted that the next meeting will be on March 31, 2021 and that the April 7, 2021 meeting is cancelled. There will be only one April meeting – on April 21st.

- PUBLIC COMMENT** (Agenda items or other County Business)

Anyone wishing to speak please speak clearly and state your name and address for the record. Each speaker will have FOUR MINUTES to speak. The Clerk of the Board (COB) will keep track of the time for each speaker. When addressing questions concerning personnel issues with the County of Salem no names will be used at any time.

PLEASE SEE THE ATTACHED THREE (3) PAGES FOR COMMENTS

- EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION** (if needed)

F1 Resolution Authorizing Executive Session County of Salem – 6:30 pm.

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Ostrum	X		X			
Commissioner Ramsay			X			
Commissioner Ware		X	X			
Deputy Director Griscom			X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand Vote passed: 5-0

Close Executive Session and return to regular meeting at 7:10 pm.

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Ostrum			X			
Commissioner Ramsay			X			
Commissioner Ware		X	X			
Deputy Director Griscom	X		X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand Vote passed: 5-0

- ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

Motion to table resolution E1.

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Ostrum	X		X			
Commissioner Ramsay			X			
Commissioner Ware			X			
Deputy Director Griscom		X	X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand Vote passed: 5-0

There were no further public comments.

- **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Ostrum		X	X			
Commissioner Ramsay	X		X			
Commissioner Ware			X			
Deputy Director Griscom			X			
Director Laury			X			

Hand Vote passed: 5-0

Next Meeting Date

March 31, 2021

Regular Meeting 6:00 PM Meeting

Salem County Olde Courthouse, 104 Market Street, Salem, New Jersey 08079

IN-PERSON COMMENTS:

Patty Bomba, Carneys Point

- Congratulations to the Telecommunicators – we appreciate you!
- Ms. Bomba mentioned an online fundraiser is being planned for the Votech and would have information at a later date.
- Ms. Bomba wanted to follow up on her question at the last meeting about funding the Special Services School District. Do the CC have any additional information?
 - *Director Laury noted that CFO Kelly Hannigan has searched the records for more info on why funding had been cut. They will continue to investigate. Ms. Hannigan noted the Votech receives \$1.87 million.*

Ms. Bomba noted the funding is vitally important to many people in the county.

- *Director Laury thanked Ms. Bomba for serving on the Board*
- Ms. Bomba congratulated the Salem County Health Dept. for running the COVID-19 vaccination clinic. She had her shot and noted it was run very smoothly.

Responding to all comments about the proposed recycling facility in Pittsgrove, Director Laury noted that the Salem County Improvement Authority will have an in-person meeting on this topic on April 19, 2021 at 6:00 pm. It will be held at the 286 Welchville Road location. The public is welcome.

Director Laury also noted that the School Consolidation Feasibility Study was held up due to the pandemic. After a report is received, a committee will study it. He expects final decisions to come from the residents.

Gerald Baber, Salem County PST

- Mr. Baber made special mention of a recent 4-Alarm brush fire in Carneys Point. It was closed to the Rivers Bend apartment complex. He noted phenomenal job that all responders did to keep that fire from spreading. Only a pool building was lost. Every apartment was checked by first responders, Canteen 6 residents helped out with refreshments as did the apartment residents. He said the people in the field were amazing.

Commissioner Ostrum spoke about the additional availability of COVID-19 vaccines not that the J&J vaccine is available. There are preparations being made to take the vaccine directly to certain disabled persons who can't easily get to vaccination sites.

COMMENTS VIA FACEBOOK

Harriet Reaves: Why hasn't my comment been recognized about the misuse of the term Freeholder?

Salem County Government: *My apologies. I missed it as I was reviewing comments. I pointed the typos out to the Clerk of the Board. It will be corrected moving forward.*

Harriet Reaves: I, too, am opposed to the Giordano project

Chloe Williams: Any update on the school regionalization study?

- *Responding was Director Laury. He noted that the pandemic had held up responses from school districts. Just this week, the final report was received. The information needs to be compiled.*

Judy McClennen Schneider I am opposed to the Giordano project.

Dee DiTeodoro Ear pods definitely work.

BJ Ayars Appreciate being able to watch online. Suggest you add at the beginning of your meetings. If you are listening online use headphones. Much better quality Audio.

Carolyn Re Jacob The comment wasn't audible. The microphone needs to be used, please.

Harriet Reaves On the agenda the term Freeholders is still being utilized.

Robbie-Beanie Coleman: My name is Robina Coleman from DuBois Rd in Mannington Twp. I sent an email to you Friday March 12th with letters and pictures attached regarding the flooding issue on my property due to the railroad repairs done in Mannington Twp. I have heard from Jeffrey Ridgway regarding approval from the NJDOT. Have you heard any more details on when this will be fixed?

- *Response from Administrator, Jeff Ridgway. He is aware of the issue and continues to follow up on it. He is awaiting a response from DOT and hopes to have comments soon.*

Carolyn Re Jacob: Is the commission aware that our mayor no longer supports the Giordano project? He has publicly stated so at least three times.

Dee DiTeodoro Thank you for recognizing the PSTs

BJ Ayars: I missed the beginning. Did they recognize women's history month?

- *Response from Clerk of the Board, Stacy Pennington. She noted that recognitions are usually requested from an outside person or organization. She welcomed anybody to contact her about recognitions.*

Carolyn Re Jacob: Can the members please speak into the microphones? The audio works well only for the woman in the back. She is speaking into the microphone. TY!

Tina Louise: Christina Mesiano Pittsgrove - May I have more details what Resolution A3 refers to and what is the definition of a "Rural Business" or "Enterprise Projects" in this resolution.

BJ Ayars: Trick I learned on all the work zoom calls. Your audio is always better to hear on headphones.

Dee DiTeodoro: Thank you, Patty Bomba

Dee DiTeodoro: Thx BJ ... they're doing PST Proclamation and I couldn't go.

Joanne Nacucchio: Thanks that works better.

BJ Ayars: Helpful trick. Easier to hear with headphones.

Joe Wentzell: Audio is terrible

Carolyn Re Jacob: It's difficult to hear most of you, just an FYI.

Dianne Banks: Hello...I'm Dianne Banks, 1218 Landis Ave., Pittsgrove. Our home is 4 properties West of Gershal Ave. Let it be known that we are absolutely against this INDUSTRIAL FACILITY THAT WD BE OPEN 24/7/365!!! Imagine having such a business IN YOUR BACK YARD!! This business Belongs in an

industrial area, not a rural area of families, schools, farms, in a direct route to Inspira Hospital. PLEASE DENY THIS PROJECT...OUR MAYOR WAS LIED TO BY GIORDANOS!! Thank you!