

**SALEM COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS  
MEETING MINUTES  
PENNSVILLE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, PENNSVILLE  
MARCH 21, 2012**

The meeting was called to order by Director Acton

The Vo-Tech Air Force ROTC Presented the Colors followed by prayer by Rev. Doctor Holland H. Fields.

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: Deputy Director Laury, Freeholders Cross, Vanderslice, Ware, Bobbitt, Timberman and Acton.

Motion was made by Deputy Director Laury to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the March 7, 2012 Workshop and Regular Meeting and March 12, 2012 Special meeting. Minutes to be received, approved and recorded in the Minute Book, seconded by Freeholder Timberman, and carried 7/0.

Motion was made by Deputy Director Laury that the Rules of the Board be temporarily waived for resolution number 5, 18 and 19 on tonight's agenda. Freeholder Cross seconded his motion, which carried a hand vote of 7/0.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

Nancy Amberge Mid-Atlantic Career and Education Center discussed the mentoring program they are running in Salem County. Purpose in being here is to primarily make sure the community and the freeholders are aware of the program that they are operating. It is county mentoring program for youths in grade 3-12 that reside in Salem County the second reason is to appeal for assistance in terms of recruiting mentors in Salem County. We have a real need here budget keeps going down and needs keep going up. There are a lot of kids in Salem County that can benefit from a relationship with a caring and involved adult. Housed in Pennsville the Executive Director is Glen Donelson and have been here since 1995 working under a corporate motto of we grow people since that time starting with the School to Careers Program. Goals are to help increase school attendance, help improve grades and help with improving behavior. Volunteer program none of the mentors are paid ask for one hour per week for twelve months at a minimum. Mentors are trained on safety, communication skills with children, expectations and roles. There are two trainings that are required two hours each offered in the evenings. A background check, finger printing and driver history check is done on all mentors.

**SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS**

**PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING SCVTS JR. ROTC PROGRAM**

The foregoing proclamation was presented by Freeholder Vanderslice.

**PROCLAMATION DECLARING MARCH AS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH**

The foregoing proclamation was presented by Deputy Director Laury to Peggy Kavanaugh.

Peggy Kavanaugh stated the Women of Achievement luncheon next week where we are honoring women in the County and there are tickets available. March 31<sup>st</sup> at the Washington Club tickets are \$25.

Freeholder Cross presented Larry Fisher from the 911 Center presented Larry Fisher with certificates recognizing PST's, an entire shift of 911 Dispatchers. Because of the nature of the incidents names were not read.

Pennsville Police Chief Bruce Maahs stated I am going to echo what Freeholder Cross had said. Just important that we honor this when these type things happen so many times there's a lot of behind the scenes work people don't see even in small towns and it's important to let people know that they are doing their job when they do a good job. I have letters of commendation I am going to go out Friday and personally give each one their own letter. I just want to let everyone know that when they do a good job it needs to be recognized.

### **INTRODUCTION CHAPTER 12 ORDINANCE**

O. 2012-001

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE**

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE UNDERTAKING OF 2012 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AT AND FOR CERTAIN FACILITIES OF SALEM COMMUNITY COLLEGE, LOCATED WITHIN THE COUNTY OF SALEM, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$2,100,000 THEREFORE AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,100,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE COUNTY OF SALEM, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, FOR FINANCING SUCH APPROPRIATION, THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF WHICH WILL BE ENTITLED TO STATE AID, PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 12 OF THE LAWS OF NEW JERSEY OF 1971, AND AUTHORIZING THE PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 2012 AT 7:30 P.M. AND PUBLICATION THEREOF

Deputy Director Laury made a motion for the Introduction on first reading with Freeholder Cross seconding his motion.

Freeholder Ware stated as a long time educator of 38 years no one has appreciated or supported the college more than I have. I remember the day when the doors were ready to be closed but with the uncertainty of our budgetary situation I move to table with Freeholder Bobbitt seconding his motion.

As there was no discussion the motion to table failed by hand vote 3/4 with Freeholder's Acton, Laury, Cross and Vanderslice against.

Deputy Director Laury stated this ordinance is something that we promised the college last year I believe last April. The college came in front of us wanted some much needed repairs. We promised as a freeholder board we promised them that we would do these repairs and it's a promise we need to keep. We pushed it off to this year for fiscal reasons and we are looking to move on to that so that Salem County Community College can make those repairs.

Director Acton stated and I'd like to echo. There was a resolution to approve the use of the Chapter 12 and it was signed by Freeholder Lee Ware, Freeholder David Lindenmuth, and myself for this and at the Board of School Estimate on April 6<sup>th</sup> it was also voted on at that meeting so I think that we should introduce this ordinance.

Freeholder Vanderslice stated I'd just like to add to that this was a commitment that was made back on April 6, 2011 and so I believe it's a promise that we made to the college and I believe it's a promise that we should keep.

Freeholder Bobbitt stated we've made promises in the past to several folks but in this budgetary crises here we have to maybe renegotiate or talk about it we just can't we're short on money we just can't continue to spend we have to stop somewhere here.

Director Acton stated on March 7, 2011 Freeholder Bobbitt you wrote a letter to the Administrator at that time Earl Gage saying that you were very disappointed in the Minority members were not going out to bond and failure to compromise which wasn't true but none the less you did write a letter.

Freeholder Bobbitt stated absolutely I agree with that I did write the letter but we weren't in this strain we're in this year.

Roll Call Vote Deputy Director Laury-for, Freeholder Cross-for, Freeholder Vanderslice-for, Freeholder Ware-abstain, Freeholder Bobbitt-abstain, Freeholder Timberman-abstain, Director Acton-for.

Public Hearing (and adoption) scheduled for Wednesday, April 4, 2012

**INTRODUCTION COLA RESOLUTION**

R. 2012-192

ADMINISTRATIVE

CALENDAR YEAR 2012 RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET  
APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

Deputy Director Laury made a motion for the Introduction on first reading with Freeholder Cross seconding his motion.

Roll Call Vote Deputy Director Laury-for, Freeholder Cross-for, Freeholder Vanderslice-for, Freeholder Ware-for, Freeholder Bobbitt-for, Freeholder Timberman-for, Director Acton-for.

Public Hearing (and adoption) scheduled for Wednesday, April 4, 2012

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**GENERAL**

Cape May County, Resolution regarding the evaluation of continued participation by the County of Cape May in the South Jersey Economic Development District

Patrick F. McAndrew, Attorney for the applicant, notice that on April 12, 2012 at 7:00 PM Mannington Township Planning Board will hold a hearing on the application of Mary E. Taylor and Sam Taylor & Sons, Inc. at the Mannington Township Building for preliminary and final site plan approval

Application to FEMA for Salem County roadway repairs Jericho Road Culvert, \$45,000

Application to FEMA for debris tree removal county roadway (Palantine Lake area) Salem County roadway repairs Jericho Road Culvert, \$3,500

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**COMMITTEE/COMMISSION MINUTES**

**PAYMENT OF BILLS & CLAIMS**

Motion was made by Deputy Director Laury to accept and file the correspondence, and the committee and commission reports and that they be made a part of the Minutes. The motion was seconded by Freeholder Cross. Motion was carried by a hand vote of 7/0.

Motion was made by Deputy Director Laury that all Bills and Claims, when properly signed and audited, be paid and charged to their respective accounts. The motion was seconded by Freeholder Vanderslice. The motion was carried by a hand vote of 7/0.

If no freeholder objected the resolutions would be read in bulk.

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE – Acton, Vanderslice, Ware**

R. 2012-193

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION AMENDING SALEM COUNTY POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

R. 2012-194

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPOINTING AN ASSISTANT COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT  
OF BRIDGES FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

R. 2012-195

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION REGARDING THE EVALUATION OF CONTINUED PARTICIPATION BY THE COUNTY OF SALEM IN THE SOUTH JERSEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

R. 2012-196

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPOINTING SPECIAL COUNSEL – LITIGATION AND AWARDING CONTRACT FOR SAID PROFESSIONAL SERVICES (\$150/HOUR NOT TO EXCEED \$25,000 - MICHAEL M. MULLIGAN)

R. 2012-197

ADMINISTRATIVE

EMERGENCY TEMPORARY RESOLUTION PRIOR TO ADOPTION OF BUDGET COUNTY OF SALEM (WAIVER REQUIRED)

R. 2012-198

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION REQUESTING EXTENSION OF TIME FOR THE 2012 BUDGET

Freeholder Vanderslice moved for the adoption of these six resolutions, with Deputy Director Laury seconding his motion.

Freeholder Timberman stated could we separate the resolutions out particularly number 4.

Freeholder Bobbitt state number 2 the Superintendent of Roads and Bridges assistant to the Engineer. Is he already collecting a county pension?

Director Acton stated he will not be collecting.

Freeholder Bobbitt is he collecting a county pension?

Director Acton stated he is forgoing that.

Freeholder Bobbitt stated he has been collecting it?

Director Acton stated yes and he will be forgoing that. He has experience in this field. The current position salary is \$76,706 plus benefits this new employee Mr. Miller will be taking \$59,500 with no benefits so it will be a cost savings.

Freeholder Timberman stated my understanding Director is it's part-time and does that mean he will be there every day less hours or three days a week full time.

Director Acton stated no it will be up to the max that he can without us having to give him benefits. He does not want to collect benefits from the County of Salem so he will work the least amount of hours so he doesn't have to collect those benefits.

Freeholder Bobbitt stated I will be voting no on that resolution for the simple reason Mr. Miller's had an opportunity at the county I think he's worked there maybe 10 or 15 years he's retired and I think there's a lot of young people out there that need jobs and I think someone else should be given an opportunity too.

Deputy Director Laury stated on resolution number 19 extending the deadline for the introduction county budget, this is going to May if and when we can get this settled sooner we will be moving that date up with the proper public notice. A lot of it depends on when we can get this together but we're going to try to do it as early as we can.

Resolution number 2 appointing an Assistant of County Superintendent of Brides carries by a hand vote of 4/3 with Freeholders Ware, Bobbitt and Timberman against.

Resolution number 4 Appointing Special Counsel – Litigation carries by a hand vote of 4/3 with Freeholders Ware, Bobbitt and Timberman against.

Resolution number 1, 3, 5 and 19 carried by hand vote of 7/0.

**HEALTH COMMITTEE – Bobbitt, Cross, Acton**

R. 2012-199

HEALTH

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE TO AMEND CONTRACT RESOLUTION #2012-88 FOR THE 2011/2012 SALEM HOSPITAL CORP DBA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL SALEM COUNTY

R. 2012-200

HEALTH

RESOLUTION APPROVING CHANGE ORDER NUMBER 01 FOR THE 2011/2012 SALEM HOSPITAL CORP DBA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL SALEM COUNTY (\$1,000)

R. 2012-201

HEALTH

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE TO AMEND CONTRACT RESOLUTION #2012-88 FOR THE 2011/2012 SALEM MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS

R. 2012-202

HEALTH

RESOLUTION APPROVING CHANGE ORDER NUMBER 01 FOR THE 2011/2012 SALEM MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for the adoption of these four resolutions, with Freeholder Cross seconding his motion.

Freeholder Vanderslice stated I'll have to abstain on items 6 thru 9 because I am still a member of the Board of Trustees of the Memorial Hospital Salem County so I'll be abstaining on those four.

As there was no further discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolutions carried a hand vote of 6/0/1 with Freeholder Vanderslice abstaining.

**SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE – Timberman, Bobbitt, Laury**

R. 2012-203

SOCIAL SERVICES

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF 2012 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS FOR THE YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION

Freeholder Timberman moved for the adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Bobbitt seconding her motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 7/0.

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – Cross, Vanderslice, Timberman**

R. 2012-204

PUBLIC SAFETY

RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEDICAL SERVICES PROVIDER FOR THE SALEM COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY AND AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT (\$375,000 – SALEM HOSPITAL CORPORATION)

R. 2012-205

PUBLIC SAFETY

RESOLUTION TO RENEW A CONTRACT FOR THE PROVISION OF SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE OF AN ON-LINE TRAINING MODULE FOR THE SALEM COUNTY PROSECUTOR (\$22,848 – THE RODGERS GROUP, LLC)

R. 2012-206  
PUBLIC SAFETY

RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR PROVIDING A PLAN FOR A  
HOMELAND SECURITY EXERCISE AND EVALUATION PROGRAM FOR THE  
SALEM COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM  
(\$28,490 – THE MANGERI GROUP, LLC)

Freeholder Cross moved for the adoption of these three resolutions, with Deputy Director Laury seconding his motion.

Freeholder Vanderslice stated I'll have to abstain from item number 11 for the previous reason.

As there was no further discussion, the motion for adoption of resolution 2012-204 carried a hand vote of 6/0/1 with Freeholder Vanderslice abstaining and resolutions 2012-205 and 2012-206 carried by a hand vote of 7/0.

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE – Laury, Ware, Cross**

R. 2012-207  
PUBLIC WORKS

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE APPLICATION FOR MOTORIST SOLICITATION  
PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION NO. 98-115  
(WILLOW GROVE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT)

WITHDRAWN  
PUBLIC WORKS

RESOLUTION RENEWING A CONTRACT FOR PROVIDING LAWN MAINTENANCE  
SERVICES FOR VARIOUS PROPERTY OWNED BY THE COUNTY OF SALEM  
(\$25,600 – GRASS BUSTERS LANDSCAPING COMPANY, INC.)

R. 2012-208  
PUBLIC WORKS

RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE TERM OF RESOLUTION 2010-289 SHARED SERVICES  
AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER FOR A MENTAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATOR

R. 2012-209  
PUBLIC WORKS

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE APPLICATION FOR MOTORIST SOLICITATION  
PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION NO. 98-115  
(PARVIN STATE PARK APPRECIATION COMMITTEE, INC.)

R. 2012-210  
PUBLIC WORKS

RESOLUTION DECLARING AN EMERGENCY SITUATION AS TO THE  
PUBLIC HEALTH IN CONNECTION WITH THE ABILITY TO PROVIDE THE  
SALEM COUNTY COURTHOUSE WITH ADEQUATE AIR CONDITIONING  
(\$64,050 - ENERGY TRANSFER SOLUTIONS) (WAIVER REQUIRED)

Deputy Director Laury made a motion to withdraw resolution number 15 because it's not appropriate at this time with Freeholder Cross seconding his motion. As there was no further discussion, the motion to withdraw carried a hand vote of 7/0.

Deputy Director Laury moved for the adoption of these four resolutions, with Freeholder Ware seconding his motion.

I would like to make a comment one of the wins on Salem County is resolution number 16 our shared services agreement with the County of Gloucester for our Mental Health Administrator who's been doing a great job and we get a great shared service where it doesn't cost us to have our own full time Health Administrator which is required by law sharing that services saves us from that and savings to the county so it's a great win for the county.

As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolutions carried a hand vote of 7/0.

Director Acton stated I just want to again thank Pennsville for allowing us to be here. Mayor Barnhart is here and Deputy Director McDade's here I don't know if Ms. Cummings here, Mr. Chastain and Mr. Raine our Township Committeeman thank you very much for letting us bring the County of Salem's Government to Pennsville. I think that it's important for communication for people that aren't able to get out to different communities to be able to see and experience county government. It's nice to see so many people here tonight taking time out of your schedules to come see county government in action. It would be nice to have a full room like this every meeting. There's times where we've had Freeholder's meetings a while back where there was one or two people so thank you please keep on coming out. We can agree to disagree but all I ask is if everybody is respectful to each other and is mannerly.

Director Acton stated for the benefit that some people do not get the local newspaper I want to talk about a current issue that has happened. It resulted in an omission of the line item of utilities in our budget which was an omission of 2.4 million dollars so this stems back from December 7, 2011 at our first workshop, budget workshop meeting. It was not in that budget worksheet so it just continued not being in there to date. Our CFO brought it to my attention that he did not transfer that line item over so I just wanted to communicate to people that are here that don't get the news. Involving the person that did the error that is a personnel matter that I will not be discussing. As we transitioned into the majority we honored contractual appointments and allowed individuals to prove their worth rather than immediately replacing which has been past practice and which has not been past practice and a waste of taxpayer dollars. What I am trying to say is we held over a lot of different positions because people have done an outstanding and excellent job so there's other positions like a couple appointees that we just appointed and we are looking forward to working with them. This budget process will change with this error occurring. We find that a new budget process needs to be put in place so I assure you we are going to be making changes to the budget process. I just want to reinforce that we truly welcome your comments but I do ask that you all be respectful to each other. At this time we will entertain old business.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Freeholder Timberman stated first of all Director Acton I want to correct what you just stated I was there when the last administration took control and then the next year I was there and there was at least three positions I can think of that were held over the purchasing agent was a qualified certified Purchasing Agent and he was held over the Clerk of the Board was continued and the CFO who remained until she was ready to retire so I just want to correct that statement that this is not anything new past administrations have held over qualified people which is the right thing to do. I do have something I had to write down because it was important to get all the details but if I could ask the Clerk of the Board to read it I would appreciate it as I am a little emotional right now.

Clerk of the Board Gage read the following:

Honorable Julie Acton Director I write this with concern in the manner in which you as Director handled the unfortunate financial mistake that we now find our self in. First you violated Mr. Wright's privacy rights by stating on New Jersey.com on March 19, 2012 that Mr. Wright had in fact been subject to disciplinary action. Clearly this is a personnel issue that should never have been acknowledged by you as an employer. This is a clear violation and I feel that your actions have put this board in jeopardy. Further you discussed this action at a meeting without proper notice given to Mr. Wright which is a violation of the Sunshine Laws. Secondly, I do not believe Mr. Wright should be assigned all blame for this error in fact he is the one that brought the error to your attention. Section:1-4.1 of the rules of the

board adopted January 4, 2012 clearly states that the County Administrator shall work closely with the County Treasurer in the preparation and submission to the board for its consideration and adoption an annual operating budget establish schedules and procedures and supervise and administer all phases of the budgetary process. Clearly a mistake was made in the draft budget but to single out Mr. Wright as the escape goat with full responsibility in my opinion wrong. Obviously poor judgment and by speaking about the incident publicly you have most likely violated State Privacy Laws. Obviously by the rules of the board the supervision and administration of all phases of the budget fall clearly on the Administrator. It is time to begin equitable treatment of all individuals responsible for this mistake.

Director Acton stated Freeholder Timberman thank you very much for your comment. I would like to address the County Solicitor because I had never used his name and that's what you had stated to not use his name and also as I said tonight it is a personnel matter. Thank you so much.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Freeholder Timberman stated just released today from the state office I think it was actually the Governors Council Salem County is number 1 in 2011 for growth in tourism industry sales. last year we were number 2 the year before we were number 21 so I think a lot of effort is going into improving the tourism in Salem County which in this 40 page study shows that the income to the hotels, gas stations the restaurants all have gone up so that is something we want to be proud of.

Director Acton stated now is the time for public comment. Anyone wishing to speak please speak clearly and state your name and address for the record.

Each speaker will have TWO MINUTES to speak. The Clerk of the Board Mr. Gage will keep track of the time for each speaker. When there are 30 seconds remaining, the Clerk of the Board will say, "30 seconds. When your two minutes are up, the Mr. Gage will say, "TIME FOR SPEAKER". When you hear, "TIME FOR SPEAKER", please conclude your remarks. Your adherence to this procedure will be greatly appreciated.

The Public Comment section will be limited to no more than 45 minutes. Our County Administrator will keep track of the time for Public Comment

Fran Grenier, Woodstown I would like to speak briefly about the deficit that we are facing in this county. Over \$3 million if you take into account the half million shortfall that we were going to lay off 27 something workers for in addition to the 3.4 million that we now discovered I find it shocking that it took that long to be found and brought to our attention no one wants to lose their job as you guys expressed at the last meeting but I think looking at some of the numbers that have been published on the internet that the amount of overtime in certain departments to me is obscene and I can't attest to the facts but it seems like certain unions are losing a substantial number of employees and other unions are wallowing in overtime. Dale I know you're familiar with union down at the Island I work with you. Nobody down there works a 12 hour shift and has built in overtime until they get to 40 hours. You got 400 and something employees in the county and I don't know how many people here are county employees I'm sure a lot of them are but there's 60 something other thousand people in this county that expect the right thing to be done. Tough decisions have to be made and budgets have to be cut we need to reopen those contracts there's usually a clause, I talked to Dale about this previously but there's usually a clause that says during emergent times, during hard times hardships of the company or employer that contracts can be reopened or you go back to what they used to work. If they got to go back to 8 hour shifts, that's what they've got to do to get rid of this overtime. Whatever it takes we can't afford to let that many people go when there's other people that are abusing the system. Abusing it and that's got to stop.

Richard Dan, President CWA Local 1085 let me give the Freeholders a quick quiz. How many of you can quickly tell me the name of the street to my left outside the door.

Freeholder Cross stated Union.

Mr. Dann stated bingo. I hope you all remember union and I hope you all remember CWA specifically. You will notice there are a few of us in the audience tonight wearing red that happens to be CWA's

mobilization color and you might be seeing a lot more red in the weeks ahead but hopefully that won't be necessary. I know that this is a very difficult time and I know that administration is working very hard to find out exactly how big the budget shortfall really is and come up with some ways of filling that gap. On behalf of CWA I want to say to you we are willing to work with you. We are willing to work with you in good faith to help close that gap and keep services in tact for the citizens of Salem County but it that's going to mean layoffs and it looks like you really do have a 2.4 million dollar shortfall you may be coming to us with a lot more layoffs than you did already have. If that's the case I want to ask a couple things: first of all that it be even handed that CWA not be the only union effected because if you have to get 2.4 million dollars out of our hide, out of our bargaining units, you're going to be closing down county services. I want to ask you to work with us in good faith and that means sharing information with us so that if we ask for a list of all county employees names salaries, departments and so forth I hope we can get it readily so that I don't actually go to previous OPRA request filed by the watchdog and I hope that when there's a layoff list and our members are on you'll actually give me their names.

Carolyn Shoemaker, Vice President of CWA I think the first thing I want to do is educate you with this group. This group is not the small people this group here in my opinion is the backbone and the heart and soul what runs this county and this union because they're the ones that do all the small things big things they're the ones when the department head is out of the office they go to meetings they're out for a day they're out for a week or they are out for months these people are there in the office they're the ones that keep the office running they're the ones that keep things running smoothly and if you go and take these people out just like you Bob have a bank you go in and say all right all the tellers all the employees that have to go out because there's no more money left then that banks going to go down okay. These people work hard and we have people here have put in years and have dedicated their time to do the work for the people and for this community because they care that's why they do it and I know because I work for this county for a good many of years and I started at \$2.25. I stayed and a lot of other people have too because they care about this community and they want to do right by people and the blame for all this I blame the Democrats and the Republicans and I blame them both and I blame the President in the past we should never ever be put in this position and we should look to the present and the future not just at this time.

Judy MacNeal, RN Salem County Health Department and what I would like to say I hope that on the layoffs that all of you guys all of the freeholders protect us because we so many houses empty we have buildings each shopping center has at least three business out now and we have people that are employed in Salem County that do not live in Salem County and I think that they should looked on when it comes to layoffs. It's not fair to do anymore damage to our people.

Director Acton, we are looking to that there is a policy in t he employees manual and we will be looking into it.

Jeffrey Hogan, Pennsville in my letter to the Editor this morning 2004 referendum bond ordinance approved 6/0; 2005 general obligation bond approved 7/0; 2006 7/0 college bond; 2007 general obligation bond 6/0; 2008 government loan revenue 7/0; social service bond 2008 7/0; 2009 government loan revenue bond 7/0; 2011 general obligation bond 6/0; 2011 bond ordinance 7.79 million 7/0. Freeholder Acton you voted for all these bonds along with Republican freeholders Bestwick, Simmermon, Sparks, Cross and Laury because you all knew it was the right thing to do. Most local governments because there is a not enough money from operating revenue will fund some portion of their capital facilities by borrowing using municipal bonds this is a way of life in government in fact it's a way of life for all of us so why now that you're in control that it becomes the Democrats fault that the county is in debt. That's pointing fingers and a double standard when you all wanted and voted for the bonds and now it's the Democrats fault that doesn't make sense to me. In 2008 Julie you voted against the budget in 2009 Dale and Julie both voted for the budget in 2010 Ben, Julie and Dale voted for the budget in 20011 Julie, Dale and Ben voted against it. That's the way it should be if you don't agree with the budget that's fine vote against it but you found the budget to be okay twice with the Democrats in control and you voted for it. Now you're blaming the Democrats for the debt and have this board it's always divided. When I was on the freeholder board with you Julie for two years and Dale one we respected each other and we got along and we did what was right for the county I don't know what happened something's wrong. Job layoffs just a quick observation on Paul Reeds job you created a job for Paul Reed while he's working now I think you're paying double now until Herb Stiles retires I heard

you told us at the last meeting. My question would be if you're going to lay off people I certainly would take one of those however many people you are going to layoff and give them that job. Paul Reed had a job at \_\_\_\_\_ for 20 years and he still had a job and you pulled him out of that to give him a job and then we're getting ready to lay off people that doesn't make sense to me either. Let's stop finger pointing government transparency and unite back people.

Director Acton, just for a little clarification Mr. Reed is taking over Mr. Stiles position but actually that position is not going to be filled Mr. Reed's going to be taking over Mr. Stiles position at a lower salary because it will be a lower classification.

Freeholder Cross, just to clarify a couple of the statements that were made by Mr. Hogan. The ordinance 2010-07 was a 9 million dollar bond if you remember correctly that was the bond that was presented to us actually the CFO had to go run copies during the meeting and it was presented to us at the end of the meeting because they had to push it to the bottom so they had time to literally walk down in front of the table hand us the ordinance we had about two minutes to read it and about a minute later there was a motion to approve it by freeholder Lindenmuth we did not vote for it was four to three by party lines at that particular time I believe for clarification purposes they realized that they needed a super majority for that and only at that time were we invited to the table and be part of the discussion because of that we got the 9 million dollar bond down we eliminated some wants kept it to needs and lowered it to 6.2 then we voted for it so just wanted to clarify that. In addition to the budgets at the previous meetings Freeholder Timberman stated that we had voted for all the budgets in the past and we did not approve the 2011 and you clarified that and I thank you for that in addition two years prior to that the budget that was proposed by the Freeholder Board went to the State the State lowered by an additional 4 cents who in their right mind given the taxpayers the needed break that they needed would vote against it. We are not obstructionist we vote for what we think is positive and for the people of Salem County sometimes we do it with reservation and when we disagree with what's going forward then we vote no. Just want to clarify those for the record.

Freeholder Vanderslice, If I could just make one statement if I could you know I'm new at this and I actually read your letter this morning and thought it was rather interesting and I immediate thought why don't we just blame George Bush for the situation. In all seriousness as Dale said Republicans are not obstructionist nor are we revisionist we are simply looking out for the best interest of the taxpayers of Salem County now that said let me say this part of the transparency issue is making the people aware that we have gross debt of 74 million dollars we've not blamed anyone for it we just made the public aware that they are 74 million dollars in debt.

Mr. Hogan, can I respond to that.

Director Acton, no.

Maggie Maxwell-Mood, Quinton, what I would like to say is that you have a tough job ahead of you there's no doubt about it we have discovered that yes there is a deficit in the budget that we have to cover somehow we need to find ways to cover the ongoing debt your carrying bonds for construction for the good of the people of Salem County the good will of Salem County it was all done in good faith we need to move forward together as a freeholder board please stop, stop bickering stop pointing that out to the public start collaborating with one other start working together and let's get this behind us and move forward. There's many, many, many very serious issues going on in our county homeless, jobless, welfare we have so many health issues in our county that this is getting us nowhere folks. Stop it get it together.

Freeholder Bobbitt, yeah we've had many for Margaret we've had many budget meetings and we are all working together on this absolutely.

Mrs. Mood, I know you are working on the budget I've been to the meetings.

Freeholder Bobbitt, I don't know what you're trying to get at.

Mrs. Mood, what I'm saying is there's a public perception and I watch four right hands go up three left hands.

Freeholder Bobbitt, that doesn't mean we're obstructionist it means we have different opinions.

Mrs. Mood, what I'm saying is that you have to start collaborating together and moving forward for Salem County.

Tom Deckard, Pennsville, this is the first time I've attended one of these meetings and I can't agree with this lady more to be very frank with you I'm very disappointed in the meeting itself and the reason I'm disappointed was number one the party lines to me is very obvious my first impression is you folks are not working together and that needs to change number two is we sat here and discussed the past. The past is behind us if we're going to move ahead and correct the problems we've got to look to the future. We need to get past that past and third is that fact that we need to know how we're going to get there we don't need the finds that this which one did it Democrats Republicans were here because of the problems the mistakes that the folks made you need to get past that and move ahead and hopefully these meetings may become more productive in my eyes.

Joe Hiles, Woodstown, proud member of the CWA well represented here today here this evening also a proud county employee at the Department of Emergency Services in these tough times you're right Freeholder we're going to have to make tough decisions I just ask that the whole entire board not just hook this solely on the workers. The workers here we live here we work here we live here we pay taxes we vote we use banks local banks we use local businesses we eat at local restaurants our kids live here and we want to stay here we're in Salem County for a reason and I hate to tell you it's not solely for the job. A lot of us was raised here this is our home and we want to continue to make it a better place. We choose to work here because we love Salem County. Unfortunately I get paid overtime you look at my paycheck I have built in overtime. Like I said I work at emergency services. We have some that were honored here today and I'm sure Chief Maah's would attest to unfortunately this is a 24 hour operation we can't close it down that means that I have to work on Sunday's I have to work during the holiday's I have to work 12 hours shifts I work the swing shift which means sometimes I work day work and sometimes I work night work so while many of the people in this room are home in their bed at 3:00 o'clock in the morning me and my crew we're on duty. You can't put this solely on the workers and I ask you, you stated that you had to keep promises in a previous ordinance and you had to vote for that because of those promises that you keep you also promised the CWA workers that when we gave back part of our raises last year that you would not come and ask the same of us in 2012 I ask you to remember those promises that you've kept to your working people and your taxpayers.

Sherman Wood, LAC, I hear you all defending your decisions the decisions you made and that's great. Just remember the county employees the union people in the county are going to defend their positions too because that's what they do. You folks of course you won't lose your jobs because of it but they may so you need to take consideration in that and look at that and make sure that they get treated fairly. You know their overtime is what it is it's the contract that you agreed too you can't blame them know because you agreed to it you didn't like then change it if you don't like it now change it ask them. You know our union voted to take a no raise in 2010 by two thirds vote they took no raises it helped the company and also saved jobs. Union people do the right things they always will you just have to work with them. Don't put them on the defensive and don't make a mockery of them I just would ask that you consider their feelings and the fact that it's their lively hood and they're going to fight you and they should you should be proud of that.

Freeholder Bobbitt, you all can rest assured that I will be doing all I can to advert any layoffs at all these are our Salem County residents they have families, children, they need the benefits you lay somebody off they go home with no benefits in these tough times I think we got to get down to this budget and we'll do everything that we possibly can to advert any layoffs in my opinion.

Wesley Burden, not mentioning no names I do business it's nothing personal what I have to say to anyone but in reference to the CFO's position if he is let go then I think it's time for the new county administrator to be let go because the new county administrator it is the manual that they oversee the

CFO and that's their job to oversee the CFO so somebody dropped the ball and this individual is getting a large amount of money what has he been doing.

Connie Stockton, Pitman I'd like to ask that you re-appropriate the 5 million dollar bond for the 5<sup>th</sup> Street Project in Salem put that money back into the budget use the surplus from that money which would be \$800,000 and put solar on some of our county buildings so that we can start earning money for utilities instead of paying for them.

Autumn Angeles biologist Mosquito Control, I'd just like to say to the freeholder board that I really would hope that you would all come out and visit some of the departments that you are thinking about laying off from because I can personally say from experience that Mr. Laury being under the umbrella of Public Works I personally seen you one time in our office and I really appreciate if you would come in a little more often and you can visit us and get to know who you are about to layoff.

Pat Craven, Pennsville, nice to have you here in Pennsville the fact that you are traveling throughout the county it gives you a chance the people a chance to see the board in action it gives you a chance to listen all over the county strait from the people themselves and all the different concerns and thank you for coming out and thank you for putting a time limit on this public section.

Director Acton, thank you for saying that because she has been a strong supporter of county government coming since January we've had lengthy meetings which is okay because a lot of discussion goes on so thank you for attending and speaking about listening you guys are our boss. We have an organizational chart for the County of Salem and I realize that it needs to be revised because nowhere on here it says citizens. Citizens are our boss so that's why we are here listening to you not to do what we thinks right but do what you think you want done in your county government so thank you all for coming.

I want to thank these ladies upfront who helped out with the TRIAD lunch today it's a senior program with the office on disabled or Office on Aging and the Sheriff's Department they inform the seniors about different programs available about awareness about identity fraud so thank you very much.

R. 2012-211  
Administrative  
Resolution Authorizing Compensation Settlement (Cobb v. Salem County)

R. 2012-212  
Administrative  
Resolution Authorizing Workman's Compensation Settlement (Brown v. Salem County)

Motion was made by Deputy Director Laury for the adoption of these two resolutions with Freeholder Cross seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolutions carried a hand vote of 7/0.

Deputy Directory Laury moved to adjourn, with Freeholder Cross seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion to adjourn carried a hand vote of 7/0 at 8:43 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Earl R. Gage  
Clerk of the Board

