The meeting was called to order by Director Acton: Pledge of Allegiance followed prayer by Deputy Director Laury.

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 April 18, 2012 Workshop and Regular meetings. Minutes to be received, approved and recorded in the Minute Book, seconded by Freeholder Cross, and carried 7/0

Motion was made by Deputy Director Laury that the Rules of the Board be temporarily waived for resolution number 7 on tonight’s agenda. Deputy Director Vanderslice seconded his motion, which carried a hand vote of 7/0.

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING MAY AS OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

The foregoing proclamation was read by Freeholder Timberman and presented to Sherri Hinchman of the Office on Aging

PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION

Ordinance 2012-002
Administrative

Bond Ordinance Providing for Various Improvements to Roadways, Bridges, Railroads and Other Public Property Damaged by Hurricane Irene and Previously Approved by Special Emergency Appropriations in 2011, by and in the County of Salem, State of New Jersey; Appropriating $3,400,000 Therefore and Authorizing $3,400,000 Bonds or Notes of the County to Finance Part of the Costs Thereof

Deputy Director Laury motioned to open the public hearing, seconded by Freeholder Vanderslice and carried by roll call vote Deputy Director Laury – for, Freeholders Cross - for, Vanderslice - for, Ware – for, Bobbitt – for, Timberman - for and Director Acton – for.

Deputy Director Laury “I would like to have Doug explain this a little further, our CFO.”

CFO Doug Wright “well as everyone knows this bond ordinance is to fund the storm related damages that we received last year and so I’m going to ask that you table this when it comes time to actually adopt it and the reason we need for your to table it is because if you remember there is a waiver of the down payment that will be going to the Local Finance Board next Wednesday May 9th to request that waiver and you cannot adopt this you really can’t adopt this ordinance until you have an answer from them but by having the public hearing tonight and you tabling it, it will then allow you to proceed after that meeting whether you have a special meeting or you do it your next regularly scheduled meeting but that’s why it needs to be table it tonight.”

As there were no further comments Deputy Director Laury motioned to close the public hearing, seconded by Freeholder Vanderslice and carried by roll call vote: Deputy Director Laury – for, Freeholders Cross - for, Vanderslice - for, Ware – for, Bobbitt – for, Timberman - for and Director Acton – for.

Deputy Director Laury motioned to table Ordinance 2012-002 seconded by Freeholder Vanderslice

Director Acton stated this will be tabled until the next Freeholder Meeting and that is May 16, 2012.
As there were no further comments, the motion to table Ordinance 2012-002 carried by roll call vote:
Deputy Director Laury – for, Freeholders Cross - for, Vanderslice - for, Ware – for, Bobbitt – for, Timberman - for and Director Acton – for.

**PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION**

Ordinance 2012-003
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, May 2, 2012 at 7:30 P.M. and Publication Thereof

Deputy Director Laury motioned to open the public hearing, seconded by Freeholder Vanderslice and carried by roll call vote Deputy Director Laury – for, Freeholders Cross - for, Vanderslice - for, Ware – for, Bobbitt – for, Timberman - for and Director Acton – for.

Warren Wieting Alloway, "I want to reiterate what I effectively said the last meeting that the importance of fixing that roof and the students that attends the college. I’ve spoken to a number of people and they said how it was disruptive to the class. Community college is tough enough especially night school with the leaking roof, the climate control issue. We’ve got to take care of it. We’re talking about our future. Please fix the roof not play partisan politics this is too darn important to play games with thank you".

As there were no further comments Deputy Director Laury motioned to close the public hearing, seconded by Freeholder Vanderslice and carried by roll call vote Deputy Director Laury – for, Freeholders Cross - for, Vanderslice - for, Ware – for, Bobbitt – for, Timberman - for and Director Acton – for.

Deputy Director Laury motioned to close the public hearing, seconded by Freeholder Vanderslice and carried by roll call vote: Deputy Director Laury – for, Freeholders Cross - for, Vanderslice - for, Ware – for, Bobbitt – for, Timberman - for and Director Acton – for.

Deputy Director Laury motioned to adopt Ordinance 2012-003, seconded by Freeholder Vanderslice

Freeholder Timberman “why does this not need to go to Local Finance Board if the first bond has too”.

CFO Wright “the first bond there was a waiver request of the down payment on the 3.4 million so that’s why we have to wait there is no waiver request on this”

Freeholder Timberman “what is our down payment or what the cost to bond is.”

Director Acton “for this it’s incorporated into the bond.”

CFO Wright “there is no down payment required”

Freeholder Cross “for clarification purposes 50 percent is paid by the county 50 percent by the state correct”

Director Acton “correct this is called Chapter 12 funding”

As there were no further comments motion to adopt Ordinance 2012-003 carried by roll call vote; Deputy Director Laury – for, Freeholders Cross - for, Vanderslice - for, Ware – for, Bobbitt – for, Timberman - for and Director Acton – for.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**GENERAL**
Salem County Historical Society, Open House in Fenwick’s Colony May 5, 2012 10am to 4:00 pm

Rev. Awood A. Jones, Pastor, Mt. Zion Baptist Church, 1st Annual Public Servants Recognition Day Sunday June 24, 2012 11:00 am

Dante Rieti, Cumberland County Department of Employment & Training, Workforce Investment Act notice of obligation of additional allocation of funds for PY2011-12

Abraham Antun, County Administrator, County of Hudson, request for audit of state psychiatric facilities

Sherri Hinchman, Office on Aging, letter seeking support for S 3019 sponsored by Senator Whelan and Senator Lesniak, and a 2578 sponsored by Assemblyman Burzichelli to establish on line gaming

Atlantic City Electric, public hearings originally scheduled to take place at 3:30 P.M. and 5:30 P.M. on Thursday May 3, 2012 at Atlantic City Electric Company’s Mays Landing Regional Office have been postponed.

Monmouth County, resolution supporting the Centers for Disease Control report which declares youth violence as a public health crisis

Morris County, a resolution supporting Assembly Bill No. 2679 which establishes a roadside memorial program for fallen police officers, EMS workers and firefighters

Union County, resolution No. 2012-374 support NJ Senate Bill No. 1565 and Assembly Bill No. 2578 which authorizes Internet wagering at Atlantic City casinos, which significantly increase the Casino Revenue Fund which funds programs for New Jersey's senior citizens and disabled residents.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

COMMITTEE/COMMISSION MINUTES

Motion was made by Deputy Laury to accept and file the correspondence, departmental reports, and the committee and commission reports and be made a part of the Minutes. The motion was seconded by Freeholder Timberman.

Freeholder Cross “if I could on the correspondence from the County of Hudson I just think to point out I think it’s a good move from the governor’s office and the State to conduct these in depth audits of some of these organizations that have been out there for many, many years that have not had audits conducted and at the county level we have been doing them on an annual basis which is a great thing but now the state is going to start doing that as well. I thought that was a positive step.”

As there was no further discussion, the 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 Freeholders Vanderslice. The motion was carried by a hand vote of 7/0.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE – Acton, Vanderslice, Ware

R. 2012-241
ADMINISTRATIVE

AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION 2012-1 TO ESTABLISH JOB CLASSIFICATION TITLES AND SALARY RANGES

R. 2012-242
ADMINISTRATIVE
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PURCHASES FROM STATE CONTRACT VENDORS

R. 2012-243
ADMINISTRATIVE
RESOLUTION RENEWING A CONTRACT FOR MAINTAINING A CLERK IMAGING AND TRANSACTION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

5/17/2012 9:39 AM
R. 2012-244
ADMINISTRATIVE
RESOLUTION AMENDING SALEM COUNTY POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

R. 2012-245
ADMINISTRATIVE
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FREEHOLDER DIRECTOR AND CLERK OF THE BOARD
OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM TO EXECUTE AND ACCEPT
A SMALL CITIES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FROM THE DEPARTMENT
OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS FOR HOUSING REHABILITATION AS A RESULT OF STORM
DAMAGE CAUSED BY HURRICANE IRENE AND THE STORM THAT PROCEEDED

R. 2012-246
ADMINISTRATIVE
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FREEHOLDER DIRECTOR AND CLERK OF THE BOARD
OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM TO EXECUTE AND ACCEPT
A SMALL CITIES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FROM THE DEPARTMENT
OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS TO REPAIR DAMAGE TO BALLINGER’S MILL DAM RESULTING
FROM AN AUGUST 2011 STORM

R. 2012-247
ADMINISTRATIVE
RESOLUTION OF THE SALEM COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS INCREASING
NON-UNION EMPLOYEES CONTRIBUTIONS TO MEDICAL BENEFITS AN ADDITIONAL 3.5%
(WAIVER REQUIRED)

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for the adoption of these seven resolutions, with Freeholder Ware seconding his motion.

Freeholder Timberman “on the waived resolution number 7 how many employees are going to be affected by this additional cost and what will the savings are to the county.”

CFO Wright “34 employees are covered under that.”

Freeholder Timberman “what’s the savings.”

CFO Wright “savings $78,000 and change I’m sorry $79,000 and change I apologize.

Freeholder Vanderslice “Doug that’s for partial year correct”.

CFO Wright “yes it is”.

Director Acton “we will separate them out.

As there was no further discussion, motion for adoption of Resolutions 2012-241 – R. 2012-246 carried a hand vote of 7/0.

Resolution 2012-247 carried a hand vote of 6/1 with Freeholder Timberman against.

HEALTH COMMITTEE – Bobbitt, Cross, Acton
R. 2012-248
HEALTH
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FREEHOLDER DIRECTOR AND CLERK OF THE BOARD
TO SIGN APPLICATION FOR HEALTH SERVICES GRANT FOR THE
SPECIAL CHILD HEALTH SERVICES/CASE MANAGEMENT UNIT

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for the adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Timberman seconding her motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 7/0.
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE – Timberman, Bobbitt, Laury
R. 2012-249
SOCIAL SERVICES
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF
THE GRANT ADMINISTRATION OF THE ALLIANCE TO PREVENT ALCOHOLISM
AND DRUG ABUSE FOR THE YEAR 2012

R. 2012-250
SOCIAL SERVICES
RESOLUTION FOR A LEASE AGREEMENT FOR A TRANSPORTATION VEHICLE OBTAINED BY
THE FTA 5311 PROGRAM BETWEEN NEW JERSEY TRANSIT AND THE COUNTY OF SALEM

R. 2012-251
SOCIAL SERVICES
RESOLUTION FOR A LEASE AGREEMENT FOR A TRANSPORTATION VEHICLE OBTAINED BY
THE FTA 5311 PROGRAM BETWEEN NEW JERSEY TRANSIT AND THE COUNTY OF SALEM

R. 2012-252
SOCIAL SERVICES
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SUB-LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SALEM COUNTY
BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS AND THE TOWNSHIP OF LOWER ALLOWAYS CREEK

R. 2012-253
SOCIAL SERVICES
RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING TO PROVIDE
A MEETING SPACE FOR THE VET CENTER, VETERANS READJUSTMENT COUNSELING,
DELAWARE OFFICES

Freeholder Timberman moved for the adoption of these five resolutions, with Deputy Director Laury
seconding her motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolutions
carried a hand vote of 7/0.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – Cross, Vanderslice, Timberman
R. 2012-254
PUBLIC SAFETY
RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS SUPPORTING AND
APPROVING A GRANT APPLICATION WITH THE NEW JERSEY DIVISION OF
CRIMINAL JUSTICE FOR THE PROSECUTOR’S OFFICE

R. 2012-255
PUBLIC SAFETY
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE CITY OF SALEM AND THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Cross moved for the adoption of these two resolutions, with Freeholder Vanderslice
seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolutions
carried a hand vote of 7/0.

TRANSPORTATION, TOURISM, & AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE – Ware, Timberman, Laury
R. 2012-256
TRANSPORTATION, TOURISM & AGRICULTURE
RESOLUTION APPROVING THE EXECUTION OF CHANGE ORDERS #1 SALEM BRANCH
EXTENSION – RAILROAD MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS – PHASE IV
(THE RAILROAD ASSOCIATES CORPORATION)

R. 2012-257
TRANSPORTATION, TOURISM & AGRICULTURE
RESOLUTION APPOINTING PHOENIX ADVISORS, LLC. AS FINANCIAL ADVISOR
FOR INSTALLMENT PURCHASE AGREEMENT (IPA) ISSUES FOR FARMLAND PRESERVATION EASEMENT PURCHASE TRANSACTIONS ($7,800)

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

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE – Laury, Ware, Cross
R. 2012-258
PUBLIC WORKS
RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AND EXECUTING A GRANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN COUNTY OF SALEM, NJ AND THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY BY AND FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION GRANT IDENTIFIER RP09-015/10-011

R. 2012-259
PUBLIC WORKS
RESOLUTION APPROVING THE EXECUTION OF CHANGE ORDER #7 REPLACEMENT OF WEBSTERS MILL BRIDGE, COUNTY BRIDGE #1700-455 AND THE REHABILITATION OF SPILLWAY STRUCTURE #30-10 ON EAST LAKE ROAD, IN PILESGROVE TOWNSHIP FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM (SAMBOL CONSTRUCTION CORP)

R. 2012-260
PUBLIC WORKS
RESOLUTION APPROVING THE EXECUTION OF CHANGE ORDER #2-FINAL REPLACEMENT OF HANNAH BRIDGE, COUNTY BRIDGE #1701-233 ON OLIVET ROAD, COUNTY ROAD #690 OVER INDIAN RUN IN PITTSGROVE TOWNSHIP FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM (FRED M. SCHIAVONE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC.)

Deputy Director Laury moved for the adoption of these three resolutions, with Freeholder Ware seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolutions carried a hand vote of 7/0.

OLD BUSINESS
Freeholder Bobbitt “in regard to our fleet reduction efforts we’re making some strides we just had auction on the internet the Dotgovs auction we sold 11 vehicles amounting to $17,000 we’re going to have another auction coming up suppose to be September but we’re going to try to move it up to maybe June. We have maybe 20, 25 more cars we’re going to auction off and as far as take home cars we’ve eliminated two from the Road Department three from EMS, two from the bus garage and two from Buildings and Grounds and there’s others we are working on to get them to stay here in the county. What we’ve done is we've got into our policy and dusted off our fleet management policy we had it in our policy but we’ve just gotten away from it. Not to pick on the Health Department or anything like that but what happens is the Health Department does something at night they take the care home well there’s no sense in taking it back out to the Road Department I'll just go to work with it and then next thing you know it just evolved into the vehicles not going back to the county pool. We are going to re-energize that fleet management policy and cars will be taken out to the county garage. Jeff Ridgway and Bill Davis will be running that as far as the maintenance and pooled cars. They will be getting a better handle on the cars all our cars in the county so we are moving forward with the vehicle reduction.”

Director Acton “thank you for your due diligence on this project and yes we will be reinforcing our already vehicle policy that we have in place and get a better grip on our vehicles. They get maintained in one facility, they gas up in one facility and people are accountable for them”.

NEW BUSINESS
Freeholder Timberman “I am just going to say that there was an action taken today that resulted in a big reduction in one of the county departments and as one of the chairs I was not made aware of this. It does not promote transparency and I know that we really can’t discuss it but I really do want it to be part of the minutes that we need to be more transparent in what we are doing so that none of us are caught off guard with a phone call.”
CFO Wright “I need to readdress the question from Freeholder Vanderslice regarding the savings. The savings are based Freeholder on an annual salary so it will be up to I don’t know how the resolution reads but that savings would be realized over the rest of the year but it is an annualized salary savings.”

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS
Deputy Director Laury for those living in the Pilesgrove area Woodstown area be glad to know that tomorrow at 3 o’clock the East Lake Road will be opened and the bridge. There will be a ceremony there opening the bridge dam. Since the storm we have in the county we have one left to open and that's the Burlington Bridge and hopefully we’ll start construction before the end of the year but we’ll have a 3 o’clock ceremony and all are welcome to attend and you can drive your car across it right at that time. Thank you.”

Freeholder Bobbitt “I would like to commend Freeholder Laury for his efforts on East Lake there were some complications with the height of the spillway and the lake was going to be reduced. Through all his efforts with the Road Department and Sambol Construction they got the thing raised 13 inches the lakes restored right back where it’s suppose to be and if you want to see something real nice go out and look at that it’s just a fabulous job out there and we appreciate Ben’s effort on that.

PUBLIC COMMENT
Director Acton

“We are now going to go into the public comment portion of our meeting.

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 (COB) will keep track of the time for each speaker. When there are 30 seconds remaining, the COB will say, “30 seconds. When your two minutes are up, the COB 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.

Before we start I just thank you all for coming out I hope you keep on attending these meetings it shows interest in your county government. I will just ask that you all just be respectful to each other and treat each other with courtesy”

Margaret Masserini, Elsinboro I feel like I kind of was a little remise in our former presentation and our commission chair person asked me to come and explain something to you all I don’t think I did a good enough job of it. That’s a copy of our 2011 statistics if you’ll look on pages 2 and 4 you’ll see a pink line running a cross it says stats YTD stats year to date and that is the number of patrons the number the number of your constituents who come into the bookmobile and the library you get over to page 4 to see where I had written 9,914 people came into the bookmobile and the library in 2011. That’s a lot of your constituents using this service and it’s a proven fact that the more literate people are the more likely they are to vote so we don’t have all voters we have a lot of little guys that come in and they’re very important to us. I know this is a horrible year financial and the last two years we had suffered an over 40 percent cut in our finances and a 40 percent cut in our staff and I want you to remember that when you’re considering that there are a lot of people who are counting on this service. This is a collection of petitions and letters from some of our patrons and they also sent you a picture.

Director Acton “we’ll hang that up in our office. Maggie thanks you for coming thank you for sharing your passion with Salem County.”

Maggie Maxwell Mood, Quinton, “nice to see everyone. Couple clarifications first how many more phases are left on the railroad project”

Director Acton “well it depends how much we get out of each grant or what we can afford so we have 6.7 miles left to go after if we get this pending grant from the Tiger III

Mrs. Mood “venturing to hope that Mr. LoBiondo is encouraging and supporting the grant approval
Director Acton “he is.”

Mrs. Mood “the next one is the change in classification and job titles and salary ranges that is in conjunction with the civil service rules and handed down by the state, any changes that was amendment one to resolution establish job classification titles and salary changes.”

Director Acton “I believe it was approved by the state. We will get you an answer.”

Mrs. Mood “it was approved by the state. Thank you.”

Administrator Ford “I don’t know about approved it was talked about the civil services rules and regs it is in compliance with that”.

Director Acton “on these we don’t have to have them approved by the state correct. Because you just have to be in state compliance. So sorry you took me back when you said about the approval of the state.”

Mrs. Mood “they aren’t new classifications or titles”

Director Acton “no” and they just have to be in compliance of the state rules and regulations

Mrs. Mood “for civil service yes they do. Policy manual changes and procedures manual will that be online soon if it isn’t already, are you going to add a summary of where things are changed or just the process of reading through everything to accomplish that insight”

Director Acton “that’s a good question, good idea and we could do maybe a little recap”

Ron Magill, Elsinboro, coming before the freeholder board tonight because I am extremely disappointed, disappointed in you as a freeholder board when it has come to light today that our Director of Public Information and Tourism is going to have his position cut in half and lose his benefits. I am appalled that a gentleman such as Dr. Turk who has brought so much to this county such a level of expertise and more knowledge than we have ever had from anyone in such a position is going to be reduced. I think that the board of chosen freeholders is making a large mistake in this. He is a gentleman who is bringing money into this county when so many other things are going by the way side. Thank you.”

Jack Smith, Secretary Salem County Paternal Order of Police, “I’d like to address the idea of privatization of the Salem County Correctional Facility we of the Salem County Paternal Order of Police staunchly oppose this measure. It is these dedicated young men and women who stand and serve our law enforcement community. They do the job that many people cannot do. They look after the people that are undesirable that have broken the law we rely on them as an officer on the street, we rely on them. They provide a valuable asset to the community, they provide a valuable asset to the county and they are all county residents. To eliminate 130 jobs would be a travesty in this county especially in light the fact that we’re already losing 22 county employees. I ask that the board seriously consider this and again we at the Salem County Paternal Order of Police staunchly oppose this. Thank you.”

Director Acton “Mr. Smith thank you for your comments. Everything has been put on the table as you can hear the Bookmobile, the Cultural and Heritage so we just have to explore all options. You guys depend on us to do that. You wouldn’t want us to be sitting up here not looking into things, researching. We have to for your behalf for your sake research everything so it was an idea and we are looking into it but I thank you all for coming. I hope we see you again.

Stuart Alterman, representing the Salem County Corrections Officers, Marlton, good evening and I and here and I have the privilege of representing these men and women and I have the privilege of representing law enforcement officers throughout the State. As a former corrections officer and as a former police officer I understand the meaning of being sworn and upholding the law. As a lawyer I am here to advocate on their behalf and to attempt to educate you and help you in your research. As a politician I understand as an elected official you want to do what’s right by the public but what’s right by the public is not to go to privatization is not to go to privatize the jail here or anywhere else.
Privatization of jails is nothing but the human housing of individuals for profit. That was essentially outlawed by the 13th Amendment many years ago. When we have privatization in other areas of the country statistically I can tell you and I can provide you written proof that inmate on inmate assault are up 60 percent, lawsuits are up 70 percent and private prisons fail. They have failed in New Mexico, they have failed in Kentucky, they have failed in Florida, they have failed in California, they have failed in South Dakota, and they have failed in Montana. You don’t want a private prison to fail here in Salem County. Losing 150 jobs of corrections officers which are in fact law enforcement officers subject to 2c rights and privileges and PTC training they are police officers, corrections officers, law enforcement officers and assist and are out there to protect the public at all times would create more economic deterioration. I understand that there have been articles in the newspaper that discuss overtime and overtime policies in the jail. Please understand that the overtime clauses in the Salem County Corrections contract have been negotiated clauses and existed over 20 years. They are part of the entire compensation package as any body’s compensation package as anybody’s compensation packages that works in this town, in this county or in this State. We here in Salem County in the corrections employment area come to the jail every day and we do our jobs. We protect the public safety of this county and you as an elected official your highest and best duty is to protect the public. You must support those who protect you and your constituents. Thank you. I will leave you with this if I may.

Director Acton “and please don’t rush this, this is such an important issue feel free to have all the time you want.”

Mr. Alterman “well thank you, thank you very much. Privation in and of itself is a nasty subject obviously we are here to assist you and help educate you on the meaning of privatization and the actual cost because what you have here are professional corrections officers that maintain the public safety within your correctional facility. Now I can tell that anybody is unfortunate to have a relative a son, a father, a mother, brother, sister that’s incarcerated in a private institution you wouldn’t want your relative to be there. While any jail is not necessarily the nicest place to be it is a mandatory item it is a necessary item that we as members of the public have to have in order to maintain our safety, our safety are able to walk around to separate those who don’t belong in public for whatever reason. Now if you have a private facility that facility is manned by a $10 an hour essentially counselor or security guard. You don’t want your relative in such an institution. What you do want and you must maintain are the professionally trained, well educated corrections officers that run your jail today and again these men and women come to work every day sacrificing themselves working with infectious disease working with people who are obviously incarcerated for various reasons but maintain the order in the jail. Even those who are incarcerated maintain rights, they maintain rights and benefits and privileges and to run those individual through a private correctional facility maintained by $10 an hour security guards would create liability like you never seen before. The cost, the cost of running a private correctional facility may look good in the first ten minutes but I can tell you on all the out years will cost you much more in the long run and create havoc law suits and liability. We are willing to meet with you, we are willing to give you statistics, case law and stories that will make your head spin around and believe me at the end of the day, at the end of our meeting, I think, I would hope, trust that you would turn away from privatization and you would turn back to and you would give your full 100 percent attention to sitting down and realizing what is going on and how to resolve these issues. The county government is in charge of a great deal of finances. The county government raises by taxes and other revenue millions and millions of dollars. You county government must sit and you must look at your finances and you must look at the revenue that you raise through all sources, you must look at your cap, your cap bank and your historical ability to raise revenue through all your sources and you must raise through the cap because any good manager whether it’s private business or whether it’s in the public must look to the future. You must meet all of your obligations. Unfortunately looking back through your historical budgets you have created a structural deficit and I don’t mean to point the finger at you Madam Freeholder Director I realize that people come and go that sit on this particular board however creating structural deficits is never something that is a good thing it creates the problems that we see today, but working together and looking to the future we can resolve these differences and we can resolve the problems and solve the problems today in order to achieve a better future. Thank you.”

Judy MacNeal, RN, Pennsville I think one answer to resolving our debt is mandatory not voluntary furlough days. Employees can take these days one a month in whole or half days. This way an employee can take a half day on any pay period which would help decrease their financial burden. If you make 24/7 personnel exempt this should eliminate some of the excess overtime. I can’t, I am essential is what some employees will say but beware, don’t let them fool you any department that can
take holidays off can take a furlough day. A lot of employees have told me that they are very willing to go along with helping out but voluntary days would make some people give and give and others not do their part. In the interest of fairness mandatory furlough days should be shared by everyone except 24/7 personnel. Thank you.”

Freeholder Timberman “thank you last meeting CWA brought up something that I was unaware of and I want to share it with everyone. There is a Bill in the Assembly I believe Assemblyman Moriarty who is trying to get furlough days to be funded with unemployment pay with up to 60 percent so I saw Assemblyman Burzichelli and Assemblywoman Riley on Saturday night and I asked them to please look into it to see if they can support that and move that legislation along because I feel that would be much more palatable to any government worker who’s made to take furlough if they could collect unemployment at least up to 60 percent of that so if any of you are interested you need to call Assemblywoman Riley who’s right across the street and really ask her to support that.”

Carolyn Shoemaker, Vice President CWA “I’ve been hearing rumors like everybody else has about people being changed or people are going to be moved here or there within CWA, within our unit. People have been asking me as Vice President how come your not telling us about it why aren’t you informing us of this and I have to come back and tell them we don’t know anything, which we don’t. Nobody has told us anything, nobody’s informed us of anything, nobody has calling us and telling us hey Carolyn or hey Rich this is what we have in mind or this is what we are going to do we’re going to be calling these people in to let them know why or we are making these changes. You know you’re really putting us in a bad spot and makes it look like that the union just doesn’t care we do care we can’t help the people if we don’t know the facts and we don’t know the information so I would greatly appreciate it if you would please try to sit down with us try to communicate with us and try to get us some information so that we can get out there and let our people know what’s going on. Thank you.”

Director Acton “Carolyn thank you for coming and thank you for commenting.”

Phil Correll, Salem, “want to speak back to a previous issue about the plans, decisions to affect the public office of Travel and Tourism. I spent the last 18 years working for the National Park Service here in Salem County and also in New Jersey on the New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail and it’s an accepted economic principal that money spent by tourist returns, multiplies several times as it moves through a local community. Under Jim Turk’s leadership Salem County showed the largest percentage increase in tourism income of the 21 counties in New Jersey and he is acknowledged and respected state wide for his leadership in New Jersey history and tourism. Again, its short sided to cut back on positions that bring money back into Salem County and I like to ask the freeholder board to reconsider the plan to cut back on staff in the Public Information and Tourism office. Thank you”

Director Acton “thank you for your comments and as all you know out there as your hearing I think it’s an eye opener it has been an very challenging budget and it’s still in progress. I think there’s suffrage across the board. As President Bailey can attest Salem Community College here thinking that she was going to get a 3 percent increase in education, education our future and for her to find out not only did we not flat line her we decreased her budget. I know the bookmobile they’re seeing a decrease so I sincerely apologize we are doing our best that’s why everything’s out on the table we have to look at everything. This budget has to get balanced to move this county forward so I thank you for coming.”

Aimee Cooper, Salem, “I just wanted to raise some concern to the freeholder board. I’m one of the 34 members of the non-union employees who will see an additional 3 ½ percent of my salary going toward the contribution of health benefits and although I understand the difficult budget year we’re going though I would ask that you consider therefore not affecting us with some of the other cost cutting options that you’re looking at because, you know, 3 ½ percent decrease is quite significant. It’s really hard for an employee to understand how they are going to make due giving up that much when our freeholder board has only taken a 2 percent decrease in your pay since it’s a supplementary income for you and this is our livelihood so you know, I understand that it’s a tough budget year we’re all feeling the cuts, we’re all stepping up to the plate and I just ask you to please, please, please consider every viable option before you continue to cut salary and wage for your employees because we are already feeling that crunch.”

Deb Kulpa, Pennsville, “I’ve never gotten up her and I will say I am nervous but one thing I will say is this you have a lot of dedicated employees that work for the county a lot myself included. and I don’t mind sharing and I don’t mind giving up something for somebody to keep their job and I think there’s a
lot of CWA members that feel the same way and I don't mean this against anybody in any other unions. I have a lot of friends in the other unions. My problem is everybody has to share in it. Not just the CWA not just all of us every single person in every union needs to share in this in order to help the problem. Thank you.”

Joe Hiles, “I just want to echo Debb’s comments I know there is a great deal of membership from the FOP and I certainly support their efforts to prevent privatization but you made the comment earlier today that we all had to share in this and like Debbie said it should be even. You had Aimee Cooper who is feeling the pinch of a 3.5 percent raise she made comment that the freeholders took a 2 percent raise the last proposal that was sent to the CWA was either that they would have to risk 22 layoffs of just CWA employees. No other employees in Salem all CWA employees and they would have to take a 6.5 percent increase in their health care benefits. Now I wasn’t really good in math there Coach I apologize in high school but I can subtract 6.5 from 3.5 and it doesn’t even out so I just ask you to be fair to all employees of Salem County. Thank you.”

Director Acton “I think our union talks were very beneficial unfortunately the outcome wasn’t quite what I wanted or anticipated but at least we communicated. We threw out a lot of options that they were able to tag onto. We’re going to try it again and better luck next time.”

Deputy Director Laury moved to adjourn the second by Freeholder Timberman and carried by hand vote of 7/0 at 8:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Earl R. Gage
Clerk of the Board