

**SALEM COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS
WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 3, 2014
6:15 PM**

The meeting was called to order by Director Acton: Pledge of Allegiance

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

On Roll Call, the following Freeholders were present: Deputy Director Cross, Freeholders Laury, Vanderslice, Bobbitt, Ware, Timberman and Acton.

Presentation:

Scott Donnini, Auburn Road Winery: South Jersey Tourism Corporation

About the Vintage Atlantic Wine Region

The Vintage Atlantic Wine Region collaboration started in August 2013. The mission is to create a Wine Region that links existing wine trails and wineries in various states, ignoring state borders, that have common geography, climate and growing conditions, for the collective benefit of promoting those trails, together with the Region's other historical and tourism assets within and beyond this Region. This Region would include the area around the Delaware Bay and lower Delaware River, up to and including the Philadelphia Metro Area.

**First Wine Region East of the Mississippi: Four States, 40+ Wineries
Uncorking the New Vintage Atlantic Wine Region**

A collaborative group of destination marketing organizations, wineries and wine trails will launch the newly-developed Vintage Atlantic Wine Region, a collection of the first East Coast multi-state wine region (Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey and Pennsylvania) on the following dates and locations.

- Tuesday, September 16, 2014 at Auburn Road Vineyard & Winery @ 1 p.m.
- Wednesday, September 17, 2014 at Paradox Vineyard @ 1 p.m.
- Thursday, September 18, 2014 at Harvest Ridge Winery (representing Delaware and Maryland) @ 1 p.m.
- Time: Please arrive between 12:30 p.m. and 12:45 p.m.

Get the scoop and hear how this new economic development initiative will better market the region; increase jobs and wine sales; and tourism impact by attracting more out-of-state visitation as well as regional and in-state visitation.

Announcements:

Director Acton stated the Newsletter for fall is just about complete. It will be containing information about the County's successful 2014 audit, shared services, county parks, Veterans corner, roads and bridges, 911 center, economic development, and the one-stop.

Director Acton announced that the Veterans Picnic will be held September 13, 2014 from 12pm to 4pm. This is a completely free and sponsored event. All accommodations will be made for individuals with special needs.

Deputy Director Cross announced that the 9/11 ceremony will be held at 6pm at the O.E.M. Always a nice memorial service.

Freeholder Vanderslice announced that the Flu Clinics that were to be held September 16th and 23rd, are now canceled due to the FDA not approving the shot yet. The drive-thru clinic being held at the Salem County Fairgrounds is still on.

Freeholder Vanderslice also announced that there will be a formal dedication ribbon cutting of the new Oldmans Township walking path on September 24, 2014 from 5 – 6:30pm. There will be flu shots, health screening, information booth, pumpkin painting, yoga, exercise classes, seed plantings to grow at home, and a lot more to do.

Freeholder Laury stated that the County has come a long way in one month thanks to Senator Sweeney and the Governor's office, the County has received a 2 month extension pertaining to the Willow Grove Dam project, just finishing up answering minor questions. Kudos to Michael Mulligan, Jim Kelvie, Mike Sapino, Wayne Pennoni, and Diana Ford. Trying to catch up to the level where Cumberland County is at. Pre-construction meeting with South State will take place September 22, 2014.

County Counsel Michael Mulligan stated that a negotiation has been made to the Nature Conservancy to acquire the 1.6 acres of additional right of way needed to complete the project. They have been silent on their end, and offer between \$2,000 and \$3,000 has been made, although they did not charge Cumberland County. If no response is given by the end of next week, the County will file a notice of taking.

Freeholder Timberman asked that if the money is put into escrow during the notice of taking, if the Nature Conservancy declines payment, if it can be taken back out.

County Counsel Michael Mulligan stated yes.

Freeholder Laury stated that the Avis Mill Pond has approved John of ARH to project manage it. Permit expires at the end of October, but due to the extension act, we have until May to complete the job.

County Counsel Michael Mulligan stated that it could be extended via an email that was sent. He also stated that the big expense was to deposit the soils and sediments legally, but thanks to Mayor Eachus, those costs will be cut.

Director Acton asked about maintenance of the pond after the project is completed.

Freeholder Laury stated that there will be a depression built in at the head of the lake that will collect the sediment as it settles; it will be scooped out every year by the Mosquito Commission.

Freeholder Laury stated that in the next month some oil and stone projects will be occurring; Eldridges Hill Road, Haines Neck Road, Telegraph Road, Quinton Hancocks Bridge Road, Acton Station Road.

Deputy Director Cross stated that we share a planner with Elsinboro. Mrs. Ferguson brought up where will the sand be put back in to help fight soil erosion. Wanted to know if the planner can tell us where is the public access to the beach is is?

Freeholder Laury stated that the public access to the beach is an Elsinboro issue, limited parking for a half of dozen cars. Also got some emails concerning the gates which will be looked at and will be repaired.

Freeholder Bobbitt stated Dave Hinchman had a concern of the repaving of the Hancocks Bridge Road. The problem is there are numerous trees hanging over the road real low, and when one side of the road is closed, big trucks will be at risk of hitting these low limbs. Spoke with Jeff about the issue and would like Ben to follow up.

Freeholder Laury stated thank you and will be giving Jeff a call.

Gary Green gave a brief IT update, he stated that all the ordered equipment has arrived. IT has been working to swap the old equipment with the new equipment. There are major issues with the current infrastructure. In 6 to 9 months he hopes to have the new technology project completed. They will have minor purchases to do such as computers. Along with the new servers, there has to be an electrical upgrade in order to support the new servers. Will continue to use the Courthouse as the hub because all the fiber lines lead there, and it makes the most sense. There is only one fiber line that runs to the 5th St. Building

Freeholder Bobbitt stated that in the 5th Street Building, a room was built with extra AC and equipment to be able to bring the IT department over there, and also generators have been installed. That was the original plan after the Courthouse lost AC and all the equipment overheated.

Director Acton stated that nothing was done to the room to help prepared it for IT. There are no generators that were installed.

Freeholder Laury made a motion adjourn, second by Deputy Director Cross carried by hand vote of 7/0 at 7:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Crouch
Clerk of the Board