

**SALEM COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS
OCTOBER 21, 2015 MEETING MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order by Director Acton: Donna Secaur, Veterans' Assistant introduced Jose Aldana (USMC 1995-1999) and his daughter Alyssa who led the assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the prayer led by Freeholder Vanderslice.

The Pennsville Township High School Eagle Singers Vocal Academy under the Direction of Courtney Waddington performed the National Anthem.

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, Painter, Ware, Timberman and Director Acton.

Motion was made by Deputy Director Laury to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the October 7, 2015 Workshop and Regular Meeting Minutes be received, approved and recorded in the Minute Book. As there was no discussion, the motion was seconded by Freeholder Vanderslice and carried by hand vote of 7/0.

Director Acton thanked Mayor Richard Barnhart of Pennsville for letting the Freeholders host their bi-monthly meeting at their facility.

Director Acton also recognized Pennsville Township Deputy Mayor Robert McDade, Pennsville Township Committeemen John Crawford and Richie Raine, Upper Pittsgrove Committeeman David Zeck, Oldmans Committeeman Cordy Taylor, "Mayor of Pigseye" Thomas Githens, Septemberfest Parade Marshal Mary Lou Chollis, and Salem City Councilman Charles Hassler.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Recognizing National Disability Awareness Month - Presentation made by Freeholder Ben Laury and received by Glen Donelson of Mid Atlantic States Career Center

Recognizing National Hispanic Heritage Month - Presentation made by Freeholder Director Julie Acton and received by Ralph Padilla of the PRAC

Recognizing Fire Prevention Week - Presentation made by Freeholder Dale Cross and received by Larry Zimmerman and Chris Hagan of the Pennsville Fire and Rescue

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Tom Narolewski and Greg D'Orazio – AJM Insurance; Health Benefits Renewal - Mr. Narolewski reported that while the county insurance commission's original formation allows for the formation of a health benefits commission, this option has not been exercised. Mr. D'Orazio reported on the benefits of forming a health benefits commission which focus on savings as a result economies of scale while not sacrificing benefits to employees. He further reported that the county will see no increase in health insurance premiums for 2016.

CORRESPONDENCE

GENERAL

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

PAYMENT OF BILLS & CLAIMS

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 Cross and carried by a hand vote of 6/0. Freeholder Painter abstained.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE – Acton, Vanderslice, Cross

R. 2015-374

ADMINISTRATIVE

Resolution Providing For The Insertion Of Any Special Item Of Revenue In The Budget Pursuant To NJSA 40A:4-87 Chapter 159, P.L. 1948

Freeholder Vanderslice moved for the adoption of this (1) one resolution with Freeholder Cross seconding his motion.

Director Acton stated that this resolution was revised today, there was an extra grant added, and wanted to make sure the entire Freeholder Board had the updated copy.

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

EDUCATION/EMPLOYMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE – Painter, Vanderslice, Timberman

R. 2015-375

EDUCATION/EMPLOYMENT

Resolution Appointing Members To The Salem County Community College Board Of Trustees (Amante DeCastro, Scott Kramme, and John Ashcraft)

Freeholder Painter moved for the adoption of this (1) one resolution with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion.

Director Acton stated that these three individuals were all being reappointed.

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

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE – Vanderslice, Timberman, Acton

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE – Timberman, Painter, Laury

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – Cross, Laury, Ware

R. 2015-376

PUBLIC SAFETY

Resolution Of The Board Of Chosen Freeholders Executing And Accepting A Grant From The Office Of Homeland Security And Preparedness For The County Of Salem

R. 2015-377

PUBLIC SAFETY

Resolution Awarding A Contract For Forensic Nurse Examiner Program For The Salem County Prosecutor's Office (Theresa Ann McLaughlin, RN FN-CSA)

Freeholder Cross moved for the adoption of these (2) two resolutions with 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.

TRANSPORTATION, AGRICULTURE & CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE – Ware, Cross, Timberman

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE – Laury, Ware, Acton

R. 2015-378

PUBLIC WORKS

Resolution Prohibiting Normal Traffic East And West Main Street, County Road #675, State Street And Maple Avenue, County Road #634 And South Broad Street, County Road #607 In The Borough Of Penns Grove, Salem County (Puerto Rican Parade)

Deputy Director Laury moved for the adoption of this (1) one resolution, with Freeholder Ware seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 7/0.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Director Acton announced that the Fall 2015 County Newsletters are now available. There is a lot of great information for the public, so please share these newsletters with friends, families, and colleagues. The Government 101 class is still continuing with next Wednesday, October 28, 2015 being the last class and graduation. Thanks to Brenda Banks for all of her hard work and efforts with coordinating the schedules and the class to make it successful. The purpose of this program is to inform taxpayers where their money is being spent, what services are available, and what departments we have. We have been getting great feedback and it has been a great experience for the participants.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Director Acton announced that the Best of Salem County Dinner will be held October 22, 2015 at the Centerton Country Club.

Deputy Director Laury announced that the Walk for Mateo will be held October 24, 2015 at Marlton Park beginning at 9am.

Freeholder Painter announced that the Vocational and Technical School is having a Thanksgiving Pie Sale, he has order forms on hand if anyone is interested. They are also hosting pastry classes starting November 11th through December 15th. It will be \$30 a class or all classes for \$100. The Salem County Vocational and Technical School and Special Services Board Meeting was held on October 20, 2015. Two cadets were honored and recognized on behalf of the entire unit because they completed 5,666 hours of community service, putting them in the top 5% of all the ROTC units in the World in regards to their time spent with community service. Freeholder Painter reported that it was an honor to be there as these two cadets were recognized and to see how the Junior ROTC represents us and the Vocational School district. Job well done on their behalf. Director Acton requested the names of these two cadets so they can be honored by the Freeholders as well for their hard work and services.

Deputy Director Laury announced that the Shared Services Committee met October 20, 2015. The committee is going to be reaching out to the different municipalities to see their interest in a Countywide Code Enforcement Office. Some municipalities use the state code enforcement office. They will be reaching out to different Counties, Mayors, and Committeeman and Committeewomen to see if this can be a possibility. There is a possibility for savings in the municipalities, where the income offsets the cost of the program. Deputy Director Laury offered thanks to Committeeman Cordy Taylor for being a part of the Shared Services Committee.

Freeholder Cross announced that the PSE&G outage is beginning tomorrow night, October 22, 2015, for the next 3-4 weeks. He reiterated that the Best of Salem County Dinner as Director Acton previously announced is on October 22, which is a great time to recognize our local business owners. They are all winners in our eyes. The County and municipalities rely on these small businesses.

Freeholder Vanderslice announced that today, October 21, 2015, was mentoring day at the County. There were 15 Arc clients who visited the County offices and worked with some of the county employees throughout the day. The next Freeholder meeting November 4th, will have clients from the Arc shadowing the Freeholders.

Director Acton thanked Clerk of the Board Kevin Crouch for making all the arrangements.

Freeholder Vanderslice also stated that the next flu clinic will be next Thursday, October 29, 2015, at the Vocational Technical School from 4-7pm. There have been 1500 shots administered so far.

Director Acton stated that NJN had a clip of the drive-thru flu clinic.

Freeholder Ware announced that it is wonderful to be in Pennsville, our largest municipality in the County.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Anyone wishing to speak please speak clearly and state your name and address for the record.

When addressing questions concerning personnel issues with the County of Salem no names will be used at any time.

Margaret Masserini, Elsinboro – Ms. Masserini stated that 6 weeks ago, the Bookmobile applied for and was recently awarded a grant from the American Library Association and the Disney Foundation for \$7,500.00. There are roughly 25,000 libraries in the United States with the intent of awarding 87 libraries with this creativity grant. Gloucester County did not win but Salem County did.

Bill Widger, Pennsville – Mr. Widger stated that Salem County is the smallest populated County in the state and the 2nd poorest County in State, and there has been a lot done in our County to help our County. The Freeholders renovated the 5 star building, and moved County employees over there to help alleviate some space in other places. He questioned why a judge is telling us we need to build a bigger and better courthouse at the taxpayer's expense and telling the Freeholders they have to do something.

Director Acton stated that Judge Curio came before the Freeholders. Director Acton stated that she speaks for all the Freeholders, except for Freeholder Ware who was in favor of this, but a majority of us will not do anything unless we are forced to do so. Director Acton stated that Salem County does not have the money to fund this. She said that our Chief Financial Officer will tell you that our debt has been going down as a result of a stronger bond rating resulting in paying off debt earlier, getting better interest rates, and with the help of Freeholder Vanderslice, we are able to shift our money around to start paying off our debts earlier and quicker. Director Acton explained that the county manages their money wisely and properly and the County cannot afford the proposed \$33M project requested by Judge Curio. Freeholder Painter and Director Acton will be meeting with Judge Curio next Friday, October 30, 2015. Currently, the County is in the process of moving the surrogate's office into the Administrative Building as the Administrative team relocates to the 5th Street Complex. This will help free up extra room in the Courthouse. The Courthouse is currently 33,000 square feet and Judge Curio is requesting a new 131,000 square foot courthouse. Freeholder Acton

stated that if anyone wishes to write a letter to the editor or Judge Curio, she has facts and figures that are open to the public.

Freeholder Vanderslice also stated that there is a petition going around now against the construction of a new courthouse.

Freeholder Ware stated as a disclaimer, that he said in a prior meeting that by state statute that the County Seat is obligated to provide a safe haven and room for our court system. He went on to say that he never stated that he was in favor of a new courthouse.

Director Acton thanked everyone for their comments and announced the next meeting will be held on November 4, 2015, at 7:00 PM at the Olde Salem Courthouse located at 104 Market Street. Salem, New Jersey 08079, with the Workshop Meeting prior at 6:00pm.

Freeholder Vanderslice made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Freeholder Cross, carried by hand vote of 7/0 at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin Crouch, Clerk of the Board