

Regular Meeting
Mount Holly, New Jersey

1 A Regular Meeting of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Burlington was held in the Board Room, Burlington County Office Building, Mount Holly, New Jersey, on Wednesday, January 6, 2010, at 7:00 P.M. The meeting was opened with the flag salute and prayer by the Deputy Clerk.

The Public Announcement was read in compliance with the Sunshine Law.

2 ROLL CALL.

On roll call those answering to their names were: Freeholders Christopher J. Brown, Joseph B. Donnelly, Mary Ann O'Brien, Mary Anne Reinhart and Freeholder Director Bruce D. Garganio.

3 OFFICIALS.

Officials in attendance were: County Clerk Tyler, County Solicitor Nelson, Chief Financial Officer Brock, Treasurer Hannigan, Supervisor of Roads Somes, Public Health Coordinator Gogats, Capital Projects Coordinator Smith, Supervising Administrative Analyst Stewart, and Public Information Officer Shrom and Assistant Public Information Officer O'Donnell.

4 NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF AN INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR.

Director Garganio called for names for the nomination and election of an Interim County Administrator.

Freeholder Brown made motion, seconded by Freeholder Reinhart, to take from the table a previous motion made at the January 1, 2010 annual organization meeting, regarding the Responsible Contractor Language Policy. Freeholder Brown stated at the last meeting he read into record the changes that he is requesting and expressed his concern for going into a new year with projects and would like to move forward.

County Solicitor Nelson stated that he needed to look at the document and synthesize the changes proposed by Freeholder Brown and changes that were requested as the result of the last Contractor Task Force meeting.

Freeholder Brown read into record the following proposed change in the policy "However, should an enrollee withdraw from the apprenticeship program for reasons of military service, relocation of residence, death, sickness or hardship, in the case of hardship, the instructor of the apprenticeship program will determine hardship as an acceptable withdrawal from the program. These individuals who withdraw from the program for these reasons stated here will not be counted as enrollees for the purpose of calculating graduation rates as described herein" and "The firm has not been cited and determined guilty for a willful violation of Federal or State safety laws in the past three years".

Director Garganio requested that the County delay any bids for one week until the document is revised to include all changes. Freeholder Brown suggested approving the language tonight and amending the language at the next public meeting. Director Garganio stated he would rather get this done in a week. Freeholder O'Brien stated that she was reading this document for the first time. Freeholder Reinhart stated that changes were requested at the last Task Force meeting and she has not seen any of those changes as of yet. Freeholder Donnelly stated that the Task Force should get the final document. Freeholder Reinhart suggested that the document be disseminated electronically to speed up the process. Freeholder Donnelly expressed he would rather vote on this next week.

Freeholder Brown withdrew his motion to put back on the table the Responsible Contractor Language Policy. Director Garganio stated he would have the document ready by Friday.

*** Director Garganio called for names in nomination for the Interim County Administrator. Freeholder Reinhart placed in nomination the name of Daniel Hornickel. Freeholder Donnelly placed in nomination the name of Kendall Collins.

Director Garganio hearing no other names, closed the nominations and asked for any comments.

Freeholder Reinhart stated that Daniel Hornickel oversees Human Resources, he is familiar with Departments and functions within the County, and he has been employed with the County for a number of years, and she thinks he is a true fit.

Freeholder Brown stated that Daniel Hornickel is an attorney, handles the collective bargaining and handles the Human Resources Department very efficiently, and he would be a suitable Interim County Administrator, and as yet the Board has not voted on an interview process and the scoring of individuals.

Freeholder Donnelly stated that both candidates are exceptionally qualified.

Director Garganio stated he met with both candidates, and they are both impressive individuals.

Freeholder O'Brien agreed with Director Garganio, both are very confident and would do a great job.

Director Garganio called for a roll call vote by name: On roll call: Freeholder Brown – Daniel Hornickel, Freeholder Donnelly – Kendall Collins, Freeholder O'Brien – Kendall Collins, Freeholder Reinhart – Daniel Hornickel, and Director Garganio – Kendall Collins.

The Oath of Office for Kendall Collins was administered by County Solicitor Nelson.

5 NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF A BRIDGE COMMISSONER FOR A THREE YEAR TERM.

Director Garganio called for names in nomination for a Bridge Commissioner. Freeholder Brown placed in nomination the name of James K. Wujcik. Freeholder Donnelly placed in nomination the name of John Comegno.

Director Garganio hearing no other names, closed the nominations and asked for any comments.

Freeholder Brown stated that Mr. Wujcik would be excellent on the Bridge Commission, the relationship with the Bridge Commission requires that connection with the Freeholder Board and to have a prior sitting Freeholder for 12 years would be a huge service for the residents of Burlington County.

Freeholder Reinhart stated that she also believes that Mr. Wujcik would be excellent on the Bridge Commission, and people need to remember that John Comegno, Chairman of the Bridge Commission was nominated by Mr. Wujcik. Freeholder Reinhart further stated that with 12 years of experience as Freeholder he is very familiar with the Bridge Commission and in recent years Mr. Wujcik believed that the Bridge Commission should be monitored and handled in a different way, making them more efficient and more effective and reporting to the Freeholders on a regular basis. Mr. Wujcik's financial background would benefit the County.

Director Garganio called for a roll call vote by name. On roll call: Freeholder Brown – James Wujcik, Freeholder Donnelly – John Comegno, Freeholder O'Brien – John Comegno, Freeholder Reinhart – James Wujcik, Director Garganio – John Comegno.

6 PUBLIC COMMENTS.

1) Richard Dow, Mount Holly Township, addressed the Board regarding the following:

- a) farmland preservation environmental studies,
- b) bus stop in front of CVS on 541 in Mount Holly
- c) the Olde Courthouse and damage to the ceiling
- d) a cross walk on High and Grant Streets in Mount Holly and Bartrum and High Streets and the possibility of a stop light
- e) Camden County moving to a centralized tax base
- f) status of the Farm Fair using a contractor or use of County Parks staff

7 QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS.

1) Carole Comegno, Courier Post, questioned the salary for the Interim County Administrator and a time frame for a permanent appointment; and questioned the vote for Mr. Comegno over Mr. Wujcik.

8 COMMENTS BY FREEHOLDERS

1) Freeholder Brown commented on the fees to be cut from NJAC and the PERS system. Freeholder Brown further commented that he was glad to see the Responsible Contractor Language move forward and that it was a long time coming and moving ahead to create jobs.

2) Freeholder O'Brien commented that she was happy to be here tonight, that it was a wonderful re-organization meeting and she looks forward to working with all of the Freeholders.

3) Freeholder Reinhart welcomed Freeholder O'Brien and Freeholder Garganio. Freeholder Reinhart also stated, referring back to the membership of NJAC, that she believes we need to take advantage of the LEED program through NJAC and encouraged the Board to look into the Joint Insurance Fund and the County's participation in this program and re-evaluate the membership. Freeholder Reinhart also stated that with the change in the meeting time to 7:00 p.m. that the time would be convenient for the Board but not for the elderly, and she also recommended holding meetings at satellite locations and that all meetings be televised.

4) Freeholder Donnelly wished everyone a happy new year and stated that he agrees with Freeholder Brown regarding the Responsible Contractor Language. Freeholder Donnelly further stated in regard to pension abuses to join together to lobby Trenton to have pension abuse eliminated.

5) Director Garganio thanked everyone for coming out tonight.

9 ADJOURNMENT.

It was moved by Mrs. Reinhart, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien, that the meeting be adjourned. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Gina Wheatley
Deputy Board Clerk