

REGULAR FREEHOLDER MEETING OF FEBRUARY 13, 2019 AT 5:30PM
FREEHOLDER MEETING ROOM

Item

1. **CALL TO ORDER BY DIRECTOR YARDLEY at 5:30PM**

2. **ROLL CALL** Freeholder Fantasia, Freeholder Graham, Freeholder Hertzberg, Freeholder Petillo, Freeholder Director Yardley

3. **MOMENT OF SILENCE AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

4. **PUBLIC STATEMENT**

"Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 Adequate Notice as defined by Section 3D of Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, has been made by regular mail, such notice being submitted on February 6, 2019 from the Administrative Center of the County of Sussex, located at One Spring Street, Newton, New Jersey to the following:

New Jersey Herald	WSUS Radio
New Jersey Sunday Herald	WNNJ Radio
Star Ledger	

and is also posted on the bulletin board maintained in the Administrative Center for public announcements and has been submitted to the Sussex County Clerk in compliance with said Act."

5. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION to approve the Agenda made by Freeholder Petillo; seconded by Freeholder Hertzberg and passed unanimously.

(Voice Vote)

6. **EXECUTIVE SESSION – (Closed Session)**

**RESOLUTION RE: PROVIDING FOR AN EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION NOT
069-2019 OPEN TO THE PUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
PROVISIONS OF N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 ET SEQ.**

WHEREAS, the subject matter(s) about to be discussed may be excluded from the public portion of the meeting by Resolution of the Board of Chosen Freeholders as an exception to the "Open Public Meetings Act" pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (b); and

WHEREAS, it appears necessary for the Board of Chosen Freeholders to discuss such matter(s) in Executive Session.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Sussex, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b) and N.J.S.A. 10:4-13 that the Board at this time enter into an Executive Session from which the public shall be excluded; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the general nature of the subject(s) to be discussed relate to the following item(s) authorized by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b) as designated below:

- _____ (1) **Matters Required by Law to be Confidential:**
- _____ (2) **Matters Where the Release of Information Would Impair the Right to Receive Funds:**
- _____ (3) **Matters Involving Individual Privacy:**
- _____ (4) **Matters Relating to Collective Bargaining Agreements:**
- _____ (5) **Matters Relating to the Purchase, Lease of Acquisition of Real Property or the Investment of Public Funds:**
- _____ (6) **Matters Relating to Public Safety and Property:**
- X (7) **Matters Relating to Litigation, Negotiations and the Attorney Client Privilege;**

Collective Bargaining Agreement for the following:

- CWA 1032 Non-Supervisory
- CWA 1032 Supervisory
- CWA 1032 Social Services
- Shared Service Agreement – Sheriff's Department
- Pending Litigation
- Mountain Creek Resort, Inc. et.al

_____ (8) **Matters Relating to the Employment Relationship:**

_____ (9) **Matters Relating to the Potential Imposition of a Penalty:**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the deliberations conducted in closed session may be disclosed to the public upon the determination of the Sussex County Board of Chosen Freeholders or provided by law that the public interest will no longer be served by such confidentiality; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon completion of the business, for which the Board has entered into the Executive Session, the Board shall reconvene and resume its meeting open to the public.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board expects (not to) take formal action after returning from Executive Session except to reconvene the regular meeting.

MOTION to adopt the Executive Session Resolution and enter into Executive Session made by Freeholder Hertzberg at 5:35PM; seconded by Freeholder Petillo and passed unanimously.
(Voice vote)

MOTION to adjourn from Executive Session and return to Regular Business at 7:15PM made by Freeholder Petillo; seconded by Freeholder Fantasia and passed unanimously.
(Voice vote)

7. **PROCLAMATIONS/CERTIFICATES/PRESENTATIONS**

A. **Proclamation**

Certificate of Recognition for Vernon Vietnam Veterans Chapter 1002 – 2019 St. Patrick's Day Parade Grand Marshals **070-2019**

B. **Presentation**

County Clerk, Jeff Parrott spoke about the passage of the S647 and how it will impact future elections budgets. Beginning in 2019, County Clerk offices statewide are going to be spending more annually on the Vote by Mail process than in previous years – the increase is a direct result of changes made to Vote by Mail law under the implementation of S647 in August of 2018.

He anticipates the additional costs to be about \$30,000 a year. What happened was Individuals would request their mail-in ballot and we would send it to them. With the new law that was implemented in August of 2018, the law says that anyone that voted in the 2016 election was to be automatically mailed a mail-in ballot and they can opt out or stay in. This law means not only the general election but the primaries. So your costs are doubling, plus the cost in my office because you have to have people preparing these ballots. It is also very confusing because if you forget to opt out and you get to the poll to vote you will have to use a provisional ballot. Currently this voter group stands at 6,105 votes. It is also worthy to note that 1/3 of the "All Future Election" group are unaffiliated votes, which means they will be mailed both a Republican & Democratic mail-in ballot.

In his office, some of the employees that were working 35 hours were switched to 40 hours. There is no benefit hiring part-time benefits us. It takes quite a long time to train someone and then they get a full time job and we have to start all over again. We do get some money back because the Town's pay for the Primary and the County pays for the General.

Freeholder Hertzberg asked if the towns are paying attention to this. Are they aware of these increases?

Jeff said they won't pay attention until they get to the Primaries. I prepare my budget in October and we had no idea this was coming down. Regardless of the circumstances, the cost just doesn't make sense. There are 21 County Clerks in the State and not one feels this is a major benefit to the tax payer or the voter.

Mr Parrott distributed a handout his Office created entitled Vote Early. It has all the steps to vote early. It is easy, convenient, saves time and gas. No waiting or long lines.

Freeholder Petillo inquired if the other County Clerks responded to the problems this has created?

Mr Parrott responded there have been some protests from other Boards but this is what Trenton wanted and gave us. District 24 Legislatures were against this because of the costs and they knew we had early voting and this duplicates things. Mr. Parrott said it was chaos in his office this past election.

8. **PUBLIC HEARINGS** - None for this evening.

9. **PUBLIC SESSION FROM THE FLOOR**

Comments are limited to 5 minutes or less and must only address issues regarding agenda items. Please state your name, and print your name and municipality on the sign in sheet.

MOTION to open the floor for public comment made at 7:30 PM by Freeholder Fantasia; seconded by Freeholder Petillo and passed unanimously.
(Voice vote)

No public comment.

MOTION to close the floor for public comment and return to regular business made by Freeholder Petillo; seconded by Freeholder Graham and passed unanimously.
(Voice vote)

10. FREEHOLDERS' COMMENTS

Freeholder Hertzberg congratulated new officers for SCMUA. John Drake is the Chairman, Karl Myer is Vice-Chairman, and Andrea Cocula (Bunny) is Secretary. He congratulated them on a successful reorganization.

Freeholder Fantasia had a meeting on February 2nd, with John Sommer, Marty Theyes and Doreen Edwards from the Tick Squad. They were specific with some of their tasks for this Board. They are seeking to partner with some students at the college in order to establish a task force and to conduct a Tick Drag which has been done in Pennsylvania. They want to create a committee that will meet monthly. Freeholder Fantasia has a meeting with Dr. Connolly to get more specifics on this. She does know that they have been in contact with the Ag department. This group has set forth their goals which are prevention. They would also like to work in conjunction with the County Superintendent of Schools to set up some tours to the elementary schools and to the secondary schools in the County. This group does have some great ideas. She believes it will start with meeting with Dr. Connolly and trying to work out some type of partnership if that is something the College will be interesting in doing.

On February 8th and some other members of the Board attended the Chamber of Commerce's 2019 Gala. The Chairwoman is Tee Love and it was a lovely evening.

On February 9th she and Freeholder Hertzberg had a tour with Sheriff Strada of the Keogh Dwyer Correctional Facility as well as the Office of Emergency Management. Safety and facility issues were discussed. Sheriff Strada will be sharing with us a list of issues that are not new to this Board or Administration but things that need to be addressed and intend to share this information at the Board's next meeting.

On February 11th, she attended the Sussex County Educational Services Commission at Northern Hills Academy's strategic planning session that was guided by the New Jersey School Boards Association to help them work together to develop their goals and objectives for the next five years on where they see the Educational Services Commission headed. She said there was a nice turn out. It was the first meeting of three meetings. Northern Hills Academy is a school for disabled children ages 3 to 21 and beyond. The facility is outstanding and she was glad to see what the offerings are for differently abled children. The next meeting will be in March and then in April.

February 23rd, she and Freeholder Hertzberg look forward to meeting with Mr. Poff and all departments for their Freeholder Orientation.

Freeholder Petillo attended the "No More Whispers" program at the Romano Center at Newton Medical. "No More Whispers" is a program that was started with spiritual leaders through the community. Similar to the campaign that Sussex County introduced last year "Change Direction for Mental Wellness", this program is for pastors to learn how to handle congregants that might have mental health issues. This month's class focused on suicide. It dealt with how to identify the issues associated with it, how to deal with the stress's from daily life. The "No More Whispers" brings all the vendors together that deal with these issues that any pastor or priest would have in a counseling session. It teaches them on how to identify the issues and then teaches them on how to treat the person and get them into a wellness program that meets their needs.

Freeholder Petillo attended the Chamber Gallo on February 8th. It was a beautiful and well-attended affair. The Chamber is growing as businesses begin to understand the networking support and the marketing ability that comes with that Membership. Freeholder Petillo congratulated Tammie Horsfield and her staff for organizing a terrific event.

Also attended the first meeting for the Hopatcong Committee Wellness Center. One of the business owners in Hopatcong donated a store for this wellness center in town and renovated the store for the whole town. One group that called to help out this center was Picatinny Arsenal. They try to do a lot of things outside the community and have a service group. If the residents in your town need something, they come and help that happen. There are lots of different groups that want to help out the Center. It is great to see.

Flu clinics are still available at the Health Department. The Division of Social Services is having a supplemental nutrition assistant's program SNAP formally known as the food stamps. During the government shut down, social services staff worked hard to process the supplemental nutrition assistant program benefits during the federal shutdown. They did it with great success. They worked on just over 500 SNAP cases between January 10th and January 31st. Freeholder Petillo thanked them for being extremely diligent in making sure the clients get the benefits they need.

Another event happening is the Caregivers Support Group is meeting at the Hopatcong Civic Center from 2 to 3PM on Wednesday, February 20th. This group is very important. They help to reduce the negative effects of stress and increase the physical and physiological wellness of the caregiver. If we don't keep the caregiver healthy, they cannot help the person that needs the care.

The Communicable Disease Investigation- From January 1, 2019 through January 31, 2019, there were 116 reportable communicable diseases reported in Sussex County. Lyme disease remains the most investigative disease and H1N1 Flu and influenza type A were the most frequently reported communicable diseases reported during this time. Vernon Township, Hopatcong and Newton were the three municipalities with the highest reported diseases at this time. From January 1, 2019 through January 31, 2019 there were 28 domestic or wild bite exposure reports from animals that required follow up investigations.

Freeholder Graham thanked Bill Koppenaar and his crew along with DPW for maintaining the roads during the last storm. He also thanked John Bazelewich and his crew for the fine job they do in keeping our trucks prepared. He thanked them for having the experience year after year.

Freeholder Director Herb Yardley reported on Sussex County Technical School. 320 applications were submitted to the Sussex County Technical School this year, but the school can only accept 220 students. February is Technical Education Career Education Month. Students in the Cooperative Education Month spend part of their day working in their field. Brian Allegrino, Science Director was named Sussex County Technical School Teacher of the Year. Jan Jurdell, Athletic Trainer, chosen by Sussex County Technical School, the Governor's Education Service Professional. The bowling team won North A and two sectional champions will compete for the state championship.

Also attended the senior's meeting in Sparta. Speaker was a State Trooper from the New Jersey State Police regarding robberies occurring because residents are leaving their house doors unlocked.

Freeholder Yardley has asked Administrator Poff to look into third-party bonding and voter approval on bonding.

Mr. Poff replied that Freeholder Yardley had asked that the Finance Department review what Warren County has in place. The CFO has prepared her first draft analysis and has been in communication with our Auditor for his review. A response is anticipated shortly.

Freeholder Yardley reported he received a document opposing New Jersey be designated as a Sanctuary State and having this topic be a Public Question for the November Ballot. He will request the Freeholders could give this some consideration at the next Board meeting.

Another request was for Freeholder Volunteers to work on the Administrative Code. Freeholders Fantasia and Hertzberg volunteered and Freeholder Graham will be available for input.

Freeholder Yardley asked County Counsel what as to the process is to set up a liaison between the Community College and the Technical School. Mr. Kelly will put a call to one of his colleagues to confirm the process.

Regarding the Board and Committee appointments, most are reappointed at the end of December, or early January. Freeholder Yardley has requested the Clerk to the Board to communicate two months in advance of appointment/expiration of terms.

Next, Administrator Poff was instructed to send a letter to Governor Murphy with copies to our state representatives supporting Vernon Township and outlining all the things that were done and express our dismay and concern that the State is impendent in this action in the matter of the dirt fill dumping on Silver Spruce Drive. This is unacceptable and cannot continue. Also requested another letter is sent to the State requesting name change for Sussex County Soil Conservation District. This implies it is part of the County organization. Plus, any agency that can issue a stop work order but cannot enforce it is incredible and it shows there disinterest in enforcing it in New Jersey.

11. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. RESOLUTION RE: 071-2019**
AUTHORIZATION FOR THE PRINTING CENTER TO PROVIDE FOR THE SERVICES OF PRINTING ELECTION BALLOTS AND OTHER ELECTION RELATED MATERIALS FOR THE SUSSEX COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2019 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$64,000.00
- B. RESOLUTION RE: 072-2019**
AUTHORIZATION TO PROVIDE FOR GIS SERVICES FOR THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX FROM CIVIL SOLUTIONS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2019 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$126,000.00
- C. RESOLUTION RE: 073-2019**
AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF ANNUAL SYSTEM MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT SERVICES FOR THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX'S ONBASE ENTERPRISE DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FROM CONTINUUM VOICE AND DATA SYSTEMS FROM APRIL 1, 2019 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2020 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$59,177.62
- D. RESOLUTION RE: 074-2019**
AUTHORIZATION FOR THE FREEHOLDER DIRECTOR AND CLERK TO EXECUTE THE FISCAL YEAR 2019 SUBREGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING WORK PROGRAM SUBCONTRACT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX AND THE NORTH JERSEY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AUTHORITY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$74,434.00 FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2018 TO JUNE 30, 2019

The Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Sussex has reviewed the Consent Agenda consisting of various proposed Resolutions and determined that adoption of the said Resolutions is in and will further the public interest. If any Freeholder would like to remove an item to be considered separately, please do so now.

MOTION to approve the Consent Agenda made by Freeholder Petillo; seconded by Freeholder Fantasia
(Roll Call Vote)
All voted in favor

12. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION to approve the minutes

Regular Meeting- January 23, 2019 made by Freeholder Petillo; seconded by Freeholder Graham (Voice Vote)

All in favor –
Freeholder Hertzberg abstained

Executive Session – January 23, 2019 made by Freeholder Petillo; seconded by Freeholder Fantasia
(Voice Vote)
All in favor-
Freeholder Hertzberg abstained

13. APPOINTMENTS AND/OR RESIGNATIONS

- A. RESOLUTION RE: 075-2019**
ACKNOWLEDGING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S APPOINTMENTS TO THE SUSSEX COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE SEARCH COMMITTEE
- B. RESOLUTION RE: 076-2019**
AMENDING THE APPOINTMENT OF FREEHOLDER DIRECTOR HERB YARDLEY TO FREEHOLDER JOSHUA HERTZBERG AS THE FREEHOLDER TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE NORTH JERSEY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AUTHORITY, INC. FOR THE YEAR 2019

MOTION made by Freeholder Petillo to adopt the Appointments; seconded by Freeholder Graham
(Voice Vote)
All in favor

Freeholder Graham asked the names for the Sussex County Community College Search Committee.

Mr. Poff stated John Wesley and Nancy Heslin-Redding.

14. RESOLUTIONS

- RESOLUTION RE: 077-2019**
SUPPORTING NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES FOR FILING A COMPLAINT WITH THE NEW JERSEY COUNCIL ON LOCAL MANDATES THAT P.L. 2018, CHAPTER 72 CONSTITUTES AN UNFUNDED STATE MANDATE IN VIOLATION OF ARTICLE VIII, SECTION II, PARAGRAPH 5 OF THE NEW JERSEY CONSTITUTION

MOTION made by Freeholder Petillo to adopt the Resolution; seconded by Freeholder Graham
(Voice Vote)
All in Favor

15. AWARDS OF CONTRACT/CHANGE ORDERS/BID

- A. RESOLUTION RE: 078-2019**
AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH CHIESA SHAHINIAN & GIANTOMASI PC TO PROVIDE LEGAL REPRESENTATION AND TO SERVE AS A LEGAL CONSULTANT TO THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX IN THE MOUNTAIN CREEK RESORT, INC. BANKRUPTCY MATTER AS ASSIGNED BY THE OFFICE OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY COUNSEL PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a)(i) FOR A ONE YEAR PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2019 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$125,000.00

MOTION to adopt the Contract made by Freeholder Yardley; seconded by Freeholder Fantasia

Discussion:

Freeholder Hertzberg sought clarification on the Resolution.

Mr. Poff stated that it is in the 2019 legal budget.

(Roll Call Vote)

Freeholder Fantasia	Yes
Freeholder Graham	Yes
Freeholder Hertzberg	Yes
Freeholder Petillo	Yes
Freeholder Director Yardley	Yes

- B. RESOLUTION RE: 079-2019**
AWARDING A CONTRACT THROUGH THE COMPETITIVE CONTRACTING PROCESS TO ARCHER & GREINER, P.C. FOR PROFESSIONAL LEGAL SERVICES IN THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS, NOTES AND RELATED MATTERS FROM JANUARY 1, 2019 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2019

MOTION to adopt the Contract made by Freeholder Graham; seconded by Freeholder Petillo

(Roll Call Vote)

Freeholder Fantasia	Yes
Freeholder Graham	Yes
Freeholder Hertzberg	Yes
Freeholder Petillo	Yes
Freeholder Director Yardley	Yes

C. RESOLUTION RE: 080-2019

AWARD OF CONTRACT EXTENSION THROUGH THE COMPETITIVE CONTRACTING PROCESS FOR PROFESSIONAL TEST SERVICES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING AND PLANNING FOR THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX FROM APRIL 1, 2019 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2020

MOTION made by Freeholder Graham to adopt the Contract; seconded by Freeholder Petillo

(Roll Call Vote)

Freeholder Fantasia	Yes
Freeholder Graham	Yes
Freeholder Hertzberg	Yes
Freeholder Petillo	Yes
Freeholder Director Yardley	Yes

D. RESOLUTION RE: 081-2019

AWARDING A CONTRACT EXTENSION TO DANZIGER & MARKHOFF, LLP THROUGH THE COMPETITIVE CONTRACTING PROCESS FOR ACTUARIAL SERVICES FOR THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX FROM FEBRUARY 23, 2019 UNTIL FEBRUARY 22, 2020 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,600.00

MOTION made by Freeholder Hertzberg to adopt the Contract; seconded by Freeholder Fantasia

(Roll Call Vote)

Freeholder Fantasia	Yes
Freeholder Graham	Yes
Freeholder Hertzberg	Yes
Freeholder Petillo	Yes
Freeholder Director Yardley	Yes

16. FINANCIAL

A. RESOLUTION RE: 082-2019

PAYMENT OF BILLS List A – **S. Petillo needs to abstain**
February 13, 2018

MOTION to approve Bill List A made by Freeholder Fantasia; seconded by Freeholder Graham

(Roll Call Vote)

Freeholder Fantasia	Yes
Freeholder Graham	Yes
Freeholder Hertzberg	Yes
Freeholder Petillo	Abstain
Freeholder Director Yardley	Yes

B. RESOLUTION RE: 083-2019

PAYMENT OF BILLS List B
February 13, 2018

(MOTION) to approve Bill List B made Freeholder Petillo; seconded by Freeholder Hertzberg

(Roll Call Vote)

Freeholder Fantasia	Yes
Freeholder Graham	Yes
Freeholder Hertzberg	Yes
Freeholder Petillo	Yes
Freeholder Director Yardley	Yes

17. PERSONNEL

RESOLUTION RE: 084-2019

AUTHORIZING PERSONNEL AGENDA OF February 13, 2019

MOTION to approve Personnel Agenda made by Freeholder Graham; seconded by Freeholder Petillo **(Roll Call Vote)**

Discussion:

Freeholder Fantasia sought clarification on when the appropriate time to ask about the Personnel Agenda. She wanted to know if Mr. Poff would speak to it in his Administrative Report.

Mr. Poff said now would be at this time.

Freeholder Fantasia	Yes
Freeholder Graham	Yes
Freeholder Hertzberg	Yes
Freeholder Petillo	Yes
Freeholder Director Yardley	Yes

18. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Mr. Poff reported that he will be asking the Budget Sub-Committee of the capital projects committee for time they can review the budget next week. Also, there was a meeting today with some of our financial professionals as we work through updating the accounting pursuant to the Cochran House Condominium Association which the County is now the majority shareholder of. We will be looking forward to scheduling an Association Board meeting within the coming month to be able to tend to business of the Cochran House Condominium Association.

19. COUNTY COUNSEL REPORT

No report tonight.

20. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

21. NEW BUSINESS

Discussion

1. County Historian
2. Municipal Liaisons

Discussion of County Historian

Clerk to Board sent each Freeholder a memorandum regarding Mr. Wayne McCabe. Mr. McCabe recently tendered his resignation as the County Historian. On July 13, 2005, Mr. Wayne McCabe was appointed Sussex County's first Historian. Per the law of governing body of any municipality by ordinance or resolution establishes and appoints a county historian. The local historian shall serve without compensation for a term of 3 years. She provided them with a summary of the Act and its General Guidelines for Local historians. She asked them since this is your first time replacing your County Historian, would you like to solicit resumes on your website for a volunteer historian. They have already received one application but she would some direction with this.

Freeholder Yardley said to put it on the website for a couple of weeks. We will follow up in one month.

Discussion on Municipal Liaisons

Freeholder Hertzberg said we have discussed this in the past and thought it would be a good idea to have particular townships assigned with particular Freeholders to create a relationship so information could be passed back and forth from us to them and vice versa. Feels it would be a tremendous benefit. It is our job to serve all the people in Sussex County and to understand what their needs are. He feels is it a huge part of what we are missing and this would be a great way to bridge that gap.

Freeholder Graham stated we are an at-large party. He has advocated for Vernon, Andover Borough and who ever needed to be advocated for. He has made phone calls all around. He feels this almost creates an intrusion by going into someone's territory and now we are no longer an at-large body. He would like to tread carefully in this particular area and he feels it goes against what our Charter and Administrative Code.

Freeholder Hertzberg doesn't feel it precludes him from advocating for anyone. He feels it gives you responsibility because there are Township that have not heard from the Freeholders in a long time and he thinks this gives you a smaller responsibility to have those relationships and work back and forth with them.

Freeholder Fantasia does not see it as being a conflict with an at-large system. She feels it is putting a face on it. She said this memo we were given is very comprehensive and very anti-septic. It says exactly what we do and how we do it. It is not supposed to be warm and fuzzy; it is to build facts. Our intention is to build closer relationships with the actual Council Members of the municipalities, the Mayors. When she went into Northern Hills Academy they said they never had a Freeholder visit them. The County is large, there are 5 Freeholders, and everybody can't be everywhere all the time. This puts a face on it and it allows you to establish that type of relationship.

Freeholder Yardley said he see this as opening the door to better communication. He said it forces the Freeholders to pick up the phone and talk to the Mayors and ask them if they need something or if you are working on a project let them know. We have to be mindful if someone does come to you with a problem, we have to first direct them to the County Administrator. He would like to move forward as a Pilot Program and requested County Counsel to advise on how to move forward.

Mr. Kelly asked for some time to look this over and he will have information before the next meeting.

Freeholder Yardley mentioned he would like to get the Sussex County League of Municipalities on board with this as well.

22. PUBLIC SESSION FROM THE FLOOR

Everyone is asked to keep their comments to 5 minutes. Please state your name and print name and municipality on sign in sheet.

MOTION to open the floor for public comment at 8:10 by Freeholder Graham; seconded by Freeholder Petillo
(Voice vote)
All in favor

Jon Connolly, Newton, Sussex County Community College's President, he said they are very grateful for the two appointments to the Sussex County Board of Trustees. This will be good for us moving forward. It is an important advancement for us. Secondly, he is agreement with having an ongoing need for communication between the college and the technical school. He thinks there needs to be the perfect dynamics to make this work. You don't want too many people in the room or too few. He thinks a conversation about that after County Counsel talks with Glenn Kienz would be really good. He said he lends towards less formality because it give you more flexibility. He said the timing of this is really good. They have been meeting about every four weeks with Sussex Tech School. We have had about five meetings since September. Those meetings have included himself, Gus Modla, Rosalie

LaMonte and other members who are in the trenches. It is important for members to know what we are talking about and what is going on. We discuss curriculum, mapping of curriculum, etc. It will be important to structure that group for maximum effectiveness. In conclusion, he said the College's doors are always open. If you hear any grumbling, feel free to channel that grumbling in my direction. I will be happy to field that for you.

Freeholder Yardley said maybe it makes more sense for a Freeholder to attend those meetings instead of doing what we were planning on doing.

Mr. Connolly said that would be a good idea. It would maintain the current structure of the group.

Freeholder Yardley asked in the meantime could they can get the minutes to keep them informed.

Freeholder Hertzberg said he can appreciate the spirit of cooperation with keeping the students in mind. Jean Murphy, Vernon, Council member, thanked the Board for the letter they will be sending. She said it is a great idea to have Sussex County removed from Soil Conservation. It is misleading. She made a recommendation on the Municipal Liaisons; to send a notice to the Municipal Clerks to inform Mayors and Governing Bodies who is their Liaison.

Peter Knipe, Frankford expressed his thought as a resident of Sussex County he feels having municipal liaisons is a great idea. He does not see it as a territorial issue. He would welcome the idea.

MOTION to close the floor for public comment and return to regular business by Freeholder Petillo; seconded by Freeholder Hertzberg
(Voice vote)
All in favor

23. REMINDERS

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Location</u>
Feb. 14 1:00PM	UCC	FMR
Feb. 27 7:00PM	Regular Freeholder Meeting	FMR

24. EXECUTIVE SESSION (If Needed)

25. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 8:20PM made by Freeholder Petillo; seconded by Freeholder Graham
(Voice vote)
All in favor

Dated: February 13, 2019

Respectively submitted:

Teri Lyons
Clerk of the Board