MINUTES **June 19, 1996**

The Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren met in its offices in the Administration Building, Belvidere, NJ on Wednesday, June 19, 1996 at 7:09 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Director Susan Dickey and upon roll call the following members were present: Freeholder Susan Dickey, Freeholder Ann Stone and Freeholder Kenneth Miller.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Director Dickey.

Director Dickey read the following statement: "ADEQUATE NOTICE OF THIS MEETING WAS GIVEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT BY FORWARDING A SCHEDULE OF REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS TO THE WARREN COUNTY CLERK, THE STAR/GAZETTE, BLAIRSTOWN PRESS, THE NEWS, STAR-LEDGER AND THE EXPRESS-TIMES AND BY POSTING A COPY THEREOF ON THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS. FORMAL ACTION MAY BE TAKEN BY THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS AT THIS MEETING. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IS ENCOURAGED. IN ORDER TO ASSURE FULL PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, THOSE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES WHO WISH TO ATTEND THE MEETING SHOULD SUBMIT ANY REQUESTS FOR SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION ONE WEEK IN ADVANCE".

Members of the WC Shade Tree Commission, Elwood Bray, Kathy Enz, Don Voorhees, Robert Berry and Vincent Iacampo, spoke to the board regarding sign design for the proposed sign for the entranceway to the Administration Building.

The commission submitted drawings to the board for their consideration but no costs are available at this time. Ms. Enz proposed placing the sign perpendicular to the existing stone wall. We also need to decide what wording the board wants on the sign.

Mr. Miller is not in favor of a free-standing sign but Ms. Enz said that it is not possible to attach letters to the stone wall. There is no way to attach the letters to the existing wall.

Mrs. Stone said that it appears that we have no alternative but to put up a separate sign. Mrs. Dickey suggested that perhaps a sign could be placed on top of the stone wall.

Mr. Dinger suggested sponsoring a contest with the schools to get a design for the sign and also perhaps have the sign made by the VoTech students. Mr. Miller was not in favor of that suggestion.

The board picked out two designs and asked the commission to come back to them with a cost.

This discussion ended at 7:26 p.m. but Ms. Enz asked if anything had been done about the situation she asked about a few meetings ago which was the confusion at 911 at the time of the Mt. Scott School fire.

Mr. Dinger said that it was referred to Ed Bruder and he did respond to her concerns and she was copied. However, Ms. Enz said she did not receive the letter. The 911 problem that occurred at that time is a problem that exists with the municipalities and can not be corrected by the county. A copy of the letter from Ed Bruder will be sent to Ms. Enz.

George Warne came before the board at 7:30 p.m. to address the issue of the possible purchase of the Oxtech property in Oxford. Mr. Warne said that in this year's capital budget they do have the funds to take a look at the total plan in Oxford. Part of the plan is the acquisition of the property known as Oxtech. This is a factory complex opposite the Manor. Now is the ideal time to buy this property as it is up for sale by the IRS. The lien is for

$65,000 and the sale is next Tuesday, June 25th. This would not disturb the local economy. The plant is not used except for a portion that is rented by Hunterdon Transformer who has a three year lease through March 1999. They pay approximately $8,000 per month in rent. Peter Druley, President of Hunterdon Transformer, is willing to relocate and is looking to move to Alpha within one year. In the meantime, he would continue to rent from the county.

As far as future plans, Mr. Warne envisions some landscaping, a parking area, a small visitor's center, restoration of the exterior and also restoration of the portion known as the company store. This would be on the first floor that would sell souvenirs and could be operated by the Friends of Shippen. Space could also be rented to crafters, various shops, etc. The second floor could be a general storage area and also an archival storage area. This would be a great asset to the complex. Mr. Warne said that he is very concerned about the development of tourism in the county and wants to change day-trippers to over-nighters.

Mrs. Dickey asked if there is any money out there and George said there is no available money, the grant money is almost gone and the ISTEA funds end in 1997. There is no money available in the Department of Tourism.

George said that this project is being very well received by the county residents. The Heritage Festival is a very good example as more than 16,000 people attended this year.

Mrs. Dickey asked about costs involved in this project and George estimates the project total would be in the neighborhood of $2.9 million.

Mrs. Stone asked if there are any environmental concerns and George said that when the plant was in operation, any pollutants would have gone in the stream but this has been corrected. He is asking the county to actively pursue the acquisition of this property. Mrs. Dickey said we should look into the possibility of seeing if a land trust is interested in this. Perhaps the Historic Trust would purchase the property and hold it for us.

The presentation ended at 8:17 p.m.

Brendan Donahue spoke to the board again about adopting a resolution which would show preference for Warren County residents
on the civil service list.

Mr. Dinger explained that he had told Mr. Donahue that the board was not interested in doing this because of the statute that also requires that we would first have to adopt a resolution requiring employees to be Warren County residents. Our personnel director has discussed this with Al Greczylo and we can get this information in writing from him.

RESOLUTION 368-96

On motion by Mrs. Stone, seconded by Mr. Miller, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held June 19, 1996:

RESOLUTION RE: AUTHORIZATION TO RESCIND THE AWARD OF CONTRACT #WC9406 AND AWARD CONTRACT WC9406-1 FOR ELEVATOR MAINTENANCE FOR THE PERIOD OF JUNE 20, 1996 THROUGH MARCH 31, 1997 TO DOVER ELEVATOR INC., OF SECAUCUS, NEW JERSEY IN THE MONTHLY AMOUNT OF $1,300.00

WHEREAS, Elevator Maintenance Bids for the County of Warren were received on February 28, 1994 at 1:30 p.m.; and

WHEREAS, B & G Elevator Inc., was the low bidder for Elevator Maintenance and was

awarded the contract by resolution, March 9, 1994; and

WHEREAS, the Maintenance staff at Warren Haven and the Buildings & Grounds Department has determined and documented many instances where B & G Elevator Inc., has failed to meet the specifications as outlined in the bid document and that the award should be made to the next lowest bidder, Dover Elevator Inc., of Secaucus, New Jersey who were d/b/a General Elevator Company, Springfield New Jersey, in the amount of $1,300 per month; and

WHEREAS, B & G Elevator Inc., had been warned in writing prior to the extension of this contract that their service had not met the specification in the past, and that their work would be monitored and a failure to meet the requirements of the specification would result in the termination of the contract; and

WHEREAS, adequate funds have been established in accounts A01-01-00381.00.072 - Bldg/Grds-Elevator Maintenance, A01-01-00381.83.072 Bldg/Grds Annex-Elevator Maintenance, A01-06-01501.12.072 - Warren Haven Maintenance - Elevators

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren do hereby rescind the award for Elevator Maintenance from B & G Elevator Inc., and award the contract to Dover Elevator Inc., in the monthly amount of $1,300.00.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren on the date above mentioned.

s/Naomi J. Stout, Deputy Clerk

ROLL CALL: Mr. Miller: yes Mrs. Stone: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes

RESOLUTION 369-96

On motion by Mrs. Stone, seconded by Mr. Miller, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held June 19, 1996.

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING AND APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE WARREN COUNTY SPECIAL SERVICES SCHOOL DISTRICT

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren that the following member is hereby reappointed as a member to the Warren County Special Services School District:

Robyn Stalter Term to expire: 6/30/99
237 Greendell Road
Newton, NJ 07860

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren that the following member is hereby appointed to fill an unexpired term as a member of the Warren County Special Services School District.

Pat Dragotta Term to expire: 6/30/98
462 Ann Street
Phillipsburg, NJ 08865

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren on the date above mentioned.

s/Naomi J. Stout, Deputy Clerk

ROLL CALL: Mr. Miller: yes Mrs. Stone: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes

RESOLUTION 370-96

On motion by Mrs. Stone, seconded by Mr. Miller, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held June 19, 1996.

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE WARREN COUNTY SPECIAL SERVICES SCHOOL DISTRICT

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren that the following member is hereby reappointed as a member to the Warren County Special Services School District:

David Keeney Term to expire: 6/30/99
511 Red School Lane
Phillipsburg, NJ 08865

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren on the date above mentioned.

s/Naomi J. Stout, Deputy Clerk

ROLL CALL: Mr. Miller: yes Mrs. Stone: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes

Mrs. Stone asked Steve Marvin about the magnometers on the second floor of the court house. They don't work and she asked that Steve Marvin remove them. The board agreed.

RESOLUTION 371-96

On motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Stone, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held June 19, 1996.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS TO HOLD AN EXECUTIVE SESSION ON JUNE 19, 1996. THE GENERAL NATURE OF THE SUBJECT TO BE DISCUSSED INCLUDES VARIOUS PERSONNEL MATTERS; CONTRACTS; LITIGATION, LAND ACQUISITION; ATTORNEY/CLIENT PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS AND IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THE ABOVE STATED SUBJECT MATTER WILL BE MADE PUBLIC AT SUCH TIME AS THE PUBLIC INTEREST PERMITS DISCLOSURE AND/OR WHEN A REQUEST IS MADE CONSISTENT WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT AND WITH STATUTORY AND COMMON LAW "RIGHT TO KNOW" PROVISIONS

WHEREAS, Section 7 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231,P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren in the State of New Jersey, pursuant to Section 8 of said act, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter specified subject matter.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is:
    1. Various personnel matters.
    2. Contracts.
    3. Litigation.
    4. Land acquisition.
    5. Attorney/client privileged communications.

3. It is anticipated that the above stated subject matter will be made public at such time as the public interest permits disclosure and/or when a request for disclosure is made consistent with the Open Public Meetings Act and with statutory and common law "right to know" provisions.

4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren on the date above mentioned.

s/Naomi J. Stout, Deputy Clerk

ROLL CALL: Mr. Miller: yes Mrs. Stone: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes

Mrs. Dickey called for a five minute recess at 8:31 p.m.

The board went into executive session at 8:50 p.m.
The board returned to open session at 9:37 p.m.

Regarding a discussion held in executive session regarding negotiations, Mr. Dinger will work up some figures to present to the Correction Officers.

Under the county administrator's report, the two hiring requests were approved.

With reference to the request from the Farmer's Fair Association regarding use of the Sheriff's Officers during the fair was discussed. There are some concerns about this issue regarding method of payment, insurance liability, etc. The board asked Brett Reina, Dave Wallace's associate to research this and in the meantime, we will write to the fair association and tell them we are researching it. Our insurance carrier has determined that the method we have used in the past makes us liable if something were to happen.

With reference to the fire school, there is a meeting tomorrow night to discuss the issues. The fire school is out of contract and we need to make a decision.

We should ask Dave Hicks if he has anything sketched out on the fire school. Mrs. Dickey asked for a copy of the resolution for the next meeting; the one restructuring the fire school, fire marshal, etc.

Regarding the library, Mr. Miller said he would like to meet with the architect. We also need to make a counter-proposal to have more representation on the Phillipsburg Library Board.

Mrs. Stone said we first need to talk about the federation agreement.

Mr. Dinger asked how we should proceed with this. Mr. Miller said we should let Mrs. Stone go to the meeting and see how she makes out.

There were no further freeholder comments.

There were no closing comments from the public and no press comments or questions.

MINUTES **June 19, 1996**

RESOLUTION 372-96

On motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Stone, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held June 19, 1996.

RESOLUTION TO PAY BILLS

BE AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Master Voucher Certificate for Certification for Payment No. 96-17 dated June 19, 1996 in the amount of $1,765,906.19 including bills and investments, is approved subject to the review of the vouchers by the Board of Chosen Freeholders.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren on the date above mentioned.

s/Naomi J. Stout, Deputy Clerk

ROLL CALL: Mr. Miller: yes Mrs. Stone: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes

On motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Stone, and there being no further official business to come before the board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 10:18 p.m.
ROLL CALL: Mr. Miller: yes Mrs. Stone: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes

ATTESTED TO:

Naomi J. Stout, Deputy Clerk