

MINUTES**October 15, 1997**

The Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren met in regular session in its offices in the Administration Building, Belvidere, NJ on Wednesday, October 15, 1997 at 7:10 p.m.

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

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

Director Stone 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".

PROCLAMATION 605-97

On motion by Mr. Lance, seconded by Mrs. Dickey, the following proclamation was unanimously adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held October 15, 1997.

PROCLAMATION - NEW JERSEY RECYCLES DAY - NOVEMBER 15, 1997

WHEREAS, the recycling industry is one of New Jersey's significant and rapidly expanding industries, representing almost 14,000 private sector jobs; and

WHEREAS, the recycling industry in New Jersey provides almost \$1.4 billion in value-added annually to the New Jersey economy; and

WHEREAS, the recycling industry, were it afforded its own category within Department of Labor statistics, would rank 15th of the 69 goods producing industries in terms of total employment in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, recycling saves our valuable resources for generations to come, while significantly reducing solid waste disposal costs for New Jersey residents and preserving landfill space; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has successfully achieved a 60% recycling rate for its total solid waste generation through implementation of one of the most aggressive recycling programs in the nation, recycling over 10 million tons of material annually,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that November 15, 1997, is hereby proclaimed as New Jersey Recycles Day and that state and community leaders are encouraged to spread the word about the excellent recycling programs, the growth of markets, the importance of buying recycled products, and the recognition of the businesses that have invested in recycling within our State; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Association of New Jersey Recycles and the New Jersey Recycling Forum so that they may know of our actions.

Ann M. Stone, Director
Board of Chosen Freeholders

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a proclamation 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. Lance: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes Mrs. Stone: yes

Dinah Rush, Recycling Coordinator, accepted the proclamation with thanks and thanked the board for their support. She also urged the citizens of Warren County to keep recycling working. Our biggest source of garbage is the grocery store - packaging is our main concern. We need to complete the recycling cycle and buy back our recycled products. She will be handing out pledge sheets which will give the people who sign the opportunity to win a \$250,000 house made of recycled products, also, other prizes, recycling bins, composers, etc. She expressed her appreciation to the citizens for their support.

Under public comments on recycling, Tony Wyhopen of White Township encouraged the county to continue the recycling program.

Leo Becker, Supervisor, Veterans Interment, spoke to the board about the proposed Warren County War Memorial. The estimated cost is \$75,000. The names will be engraved on the monument to remind us and future generations of the sacrifices made for our country. Jim Constantin of Belvidere volunteered to do the design.

There will be three 5' x 9' green granite pieces with gold lettering and beveled tops. There will be brick pavers, benches, trees, supplemental planting behind the monuments and the monuments will be lit in the evening. There will be two flags flying; the American Flag and the MIA Flag.

Mr. Becker asked the board to adopt a resolution to take over the maintenance of the monuments when they are done. Mrs. Stone said that Dave Hicks will help with the planning, servicing, lighting, etc.

Mr. Lance said he is very much in support of this and asked how many names will be listed. Leo said 56 from WWI, 175 from WWII, 11 from Korea and 25 from Vietnam. (This is fairly accurate) Leo asked if fliers could be placed in the paychecks and Henry said we don't normally do that as it sets a precedent but maybe we can distribute the fliers through the department heads.

MINUTES**October 15, 1997****RESOLUTION 606-97**

On motion by Mr. Lance, seconded by Mrs. Dickey, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held October 15, 1997.

**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING ROUTE 519 IN
WARREN COUNTY AS THE VETERANS HIGHWAY**

WHEREAS, the Boards of Chosen Freeholders in Sussex and Hunterdon Counties were recently proclaimed portions of Route 519 in their counties as the Korean War Veterans Memorial Highway; and

WHEREAS, Warren County also wishes to express its gratitude and appreciation to all veterans of all wars; and

WHEREAS, the American Legion Executive Committee of The American Legion of Warren County, the largest veteran's service organization, has requested that the Board of Chosen Freeholders consider the dedication of Route 519 as The Veterans Highway,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that signs shall be placed appropriately along Route 519 in Warren County reading as follows: **THE VETERANS HIGHWAY**

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. Lance: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes Mrs. Stone: yes

Dave Dech spoke to the board regarding whether they have made a decision on the agency to oversee the open space in the county which now totals 647 acres. The board had not yet made a decision.

Greg Sipple did a slide show of approximately ten minutes that highlighted the properties owned by the county.

Mr. Dech said that there are many options for the management of the county properties. If we use volunteer help, it will only increase the county insurance by about \$250 per year.

The one drawback to naming the Planning Department is that it will totally involve Greg Sipple's time and therefore he is requesting one more fulltime Senior Planner for next year.

He is asking that Planning be the designated agency so that they can move forward. Their charge is to develop a plan for each site.

Mr. Lance said he would like to keep management as low as possible but keep the planning department in charge.

Mr. Dinger suggested that the board read the plan, look at the options and do not commit to the budget yet. Ann has read the plan but she asked the other two members to

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read the plan and comment next week.

Dave Wallace is doing research on the open space money. We should defer a decision until then.

Under public comments, Bob Shandor said that Dave Dech and Greg Sipple have done a tremendous job. The Planning Board is one of the most important departments in the future of this county and they carry a heavy work load.

Mike Grossman, Chairman of the White Township Environmental Commission, mentioned that most of the acquisition has been canal properties. Is the county going to pursue more active types of recreation areas. Mr. Dech said that right now the emphasis is mostly passive ones like hiking, fishing, etc. He was told that our goal is not to develop a park system but more preservation of land.

Bill Haney said we should pursue other funding sources, he encouraged the planning staff to pursue this.

The board was asked how the Hamlen property got purchased. Mrs. Stone said the board had been pursuing this for about three years and Mr. Dinger explained the process and said it was an ideal spot. It contains the Morris Canal and is adjacent to the Jim Lee property. The original Lee property will be ideal for the Morris Canal Museum. The Hamlen property could also be used for a farm museum and for parking.

A gentleman in the audience mentioned that the purchase price was much higher than a few years ago. It is not in ADA compliance and 1/3 of the property is in the flood plane.

Another person mentioned that it should have been handled through the Board of Recreation Commissioners.

Mr. Dinger said that the freeholders have the right to do these things and pointed out that none of the open space money has been used.

Under public comments on agenda items only, Sandy Bieck, White Township Recycling Coordinator, wants the county to continue the recycling center.

Dick Dunlap said that regarding the environmental resolutions, their commission has requested the ability to recommend appointments to the BCF. There has been much discussion on items placed on the agenda that were not recommended. They are asking for freeholder support.

Lois Markle said that she echoes Dick's comments. They, on the commission, would like to do something positive. The BCF needs to appoint people who will be involved. You have to be a contributor. This commission has many opportunities to get grants but the commission is taking too much time on small issues. The problem is attitude, the members not working together. Bob Canace left the commission due to frustration. It is a very difficult

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situation, they feel as if they are spinning their wheels.

RESOLUTION 607-97

On motion by Mrs. Dickey, seconded by Mr. Lance, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held October 15, 1997.

RESOLUTION TO PAY BILLS

BE AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that Master Voucher Certificate for Certification for Payment No. 97-27 dated October 15, 1997 in the amount of \$1,364,702.39 including bills and investments, is approved subject to the review of the vouchers by the Board of Chosen Freeholders.

97-27	\$ 422,259.58
Payroll 10/9	942,442.81
TOTAL	\$1,364,702.39

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. Lance: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes Mrs. Stone: yes

RESOLUTION 608-97

On motion by Mr. Lance, seconded by Mrs. Dickey, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held October 15, 1997.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING DIRECTOR OF THE BOARD
TO EXECUTE THE GENERAL RELEASE IN FAVOR OF
FIRST INDEMNITY OF AMERICA INSURANCE COMPANY (FIA)**

WHEREAS, The First Indemnity of America Insurance Company ("FIA") executed two performance bonds, Bond No. 619042 on October 9, 1986 and Bond No. 620402 on May 1, 1987, binding itself unto the County of Warren in the total amount of \$17,097.00, said Bonds being made to guarantee work performed by the LaDocs Development Company in connection with a subdivision project known as "Greenfield at Greenwich"; and

WHEREAS, said LaDocs Development Company became bankrupt before completion of the aforementioned subdivision; and

WHEREAS, the County of Warren is desirous of securing repayment of the aforementioned Bonds; and

WHEREAS, FIA has decided that it will pay the penal sum of the bonds to satisfy its obligations to the County of Warren in connection with the incomplete work at the aforementioned subdivision (\$17,097.00), in exchange for a General Release in favor of FIA of its obligations under the performance bonds,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the

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County of Warren, as follows:

1. The Freeholder Director is hereby authorized and directed to execute the General Release in favor of FIA; and
2. That said Release and original Performance Bonds will be forwarded by County Counsel to Derek Popeil, Esq. of FIA, in exchange for which FIA will forward a check in the amount of \$17,097.00, made payable to "Warren County Treasurer's Office", to Mr. Nick Paoella of the Warren County Engineering Department; and
3. That 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. Lance: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes Mrs. Stone: yes

RESOLUTION 609-97

On motion by Mr. Lance, 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 October 15, 1997.

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE
WARREN COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren hereby appoints the following member to fill an unexpired term, effective October 16, 1997:

George A. White III Term to expire: 7/26/99
135 Danville Mt. Road
Great Meadows, NJ 07838

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. Lance: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes Mrs. Stone: yes

RESOLUTION 610-97

On motion by Mrs. Dickey, seconded by Mr. Lance, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held October 15, 1997.

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE
WARREN COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

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BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren hereby appoints the following member to fill a four year term, effective October 16, 1997:

Walter J. Brandt Term to expire: 7/26/01
 3 Water Street
 PO Box 425
 Vienna, NJ 07880-0425

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. Lance: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes Mrs. Stone: yes

RESOLUTION 611-97

On motion by Mr. Lance, seconded by Mrs. Stone, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held October 15, 1997:

**RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE
 WARREN COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren hereby reappoints the following member to fill a four year term, effective October 16, 1997:

Samuel Race, Jr. Term to expire: 7/26/01
 388 Hazen-Oxford Road
 Belvidere, NJ 07823

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

Mrs. Dickey has a problem with this appointment. The board was not given the proper background information on this situation. Mrs. Stone said she has talking to others regarding who have a different point of view on this situation. It is time for everyone to get on with it. There are two sides to this story and she is encouraging all the members to work together for the good of the county. Mr. Lance said that Mr. Race should be encouraged to be more cooperative.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Lance: yes Mrs. Dickey: no Mrs. Stone: yes

County Counsel David Wallace had nothing to report.
 County Engineer David Hicks had nothing to report.
 County Planner David Dech had nothing to report.
 County CFO Pete Houck had nothing to report.
 County Administrator Henry Dinger had nothing to report.

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Under freeholder comments, Mr. Lance said he attended the PCFA Task Force meeting and it was very productive. Mrs. Dickey will attend the next meeting.

Mrs. Dickey reminded everyone of the Candidate's Debate to be hosted by the Women's Commission at the Pequest Trout Hatchery on October 19th at 4:00 p.m.

Mrs. Stone said that Dinah Rush had a recycling program planned for today but decided to hold it until after the board tours the facility.

Mrs. Dickey asked Mr. Marvin about courthouse security and was told that he and his crew have no authorized access to the courthouse and he will be speaking to counsel regarding this matter.

Under closing public comments, Reggie Regrut asked county counsel for a copy of a letter, requested the executive session minutes that pertained to the elimination of taping freeholder meetings and again stated that he feels the law has been broken in regard to destruction of public records.

Bob Shandor presented an editorial to the board regarding "Green Grass is Forever". Last year the board discussed farmland preservation and although he knows the county is having a problem with solving the burner problem, once this is solved, he hopes the BCF will look at bonding for farmland.

Dave Dech said that the State Planning Meeting is scheduled for October 23rd at the Pequest Fish Hatchery at 7:00 p.m.

The Election Board sent a nice letter regarding Steve Marvin and his department.

There were no press comments or questions.

No executive session was required.

On motion by Mr. Lance, seconded by Mrs. Dickey, and there being no further official business to come before the board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 9:17 p.m.
ROLL CALL: Mr. Lance: yes Mrs. Dickey: yes Mrs. Stone: yes

ATTESTED TO:

Naomi J. Stout, Deputy Clerk