

**MINUTES****May 20, 1998**

The Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren met in regular session in its offices in the Administration Building, Belvidere, New Jersey on Wednesday, May 20, 1998 at 7:18 p.m.

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

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".

Sharon Cooper, Account Mgr. and Herb Wilson, Risk Mgr., of BS&W, gave the board a brief overview of the county's Property and Casualty Insurance Program.

The marching orders from the county to BS&W were cost reduction, coverage improvements, loss prevention and loss management.

The management part was handled by Sharon through leadership and direction, the long term view, administration and attendance at PAIC meetings.

Herb Wilson assisted in risk management through a safety coalition, creation of safety manuals, appraisals, inspections, investigations and education and research.

On the loss side, we have developed a worksite audit, an accident review, a Road Department Safety Manual and other important initiatives; evacuation policy, education and ergonomics - standardization of equipment.

As a result, in the claims area, accidents annually and annual work hours lost due to injuries have dropped appreciably and due to the decrease in the annual work hours lost due to injuries, the estimated cost savings is \$626,589. The number of accidents annually have dropped from 145 in 1993 to 97 in 1997; at Warren Haven, 62 in 1993 to 44 in 1997. The annual work hours lost due to injuries dropped from 14,816 in 1994 at an estimated cost of \$379,978 to 9,048 in 1997 at an estimated cost of \$156,620; a savings of \$223,358 and

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a total savings over three years of \$626,589.

In the premium area, the total premium in 1992 was \$1,462,118 and in 1998 it is \$1,489,036. Overall, things are very healthy and getting better all the time!

There were no public comments at this time.

**RESOLUTION 361-98**

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 May 20, 1998.

**RESOLUTION TO PAY BILLS.**

**BE AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** that Master Voucher Certificate for Certification for Payment No. 98-14 dated May 20, 1998 in the amount of \$247,984.01 including bills and investments, is approved subject to the review of the vouchers by the Board of Chosen Freeholders.

98-14

247,984.01

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

**RESOLUTION 362-98**

On motion by Mrs. Stone, seconded by Mr. Lance, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held May 20, 1998.  
**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS AND THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE COUNTY OF WARREN TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT FOR ELECTRONIC DATA PROCESSING SERVICES WITH THE WARREN COUNTY WELFARE BOARD FOR THE PERIOD FROM JANUARY 1, 1998 TO DECEMBER 31, 1999.**

**WHEREAS**, the Warren County Welfare Board is desirous of obtaining electronic data processing services from the County of Warren; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Warren is desirous of making electronic data processing services available for the work requirements of the Warren County Welfare board; and

**WHEREAS**, the parties have reviewed and reach agreement on the terms and conditions of the contract for electronic data processing;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren does hereby authorize the Freeholder Director and the County Administrator to execute the contract for electronic data processing services with the Warren County Welfare Board for the period January 1, 1998 to December 31, 1999.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of

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Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren on the date above mentioned.  
s/Naomi J. Stout, Deputy Clerk

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

**RESOLUTION 363-98**

On motion by Mr. Lance, seconded by Mrs. Dickey, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held May 20, 1998.

**RESOLUTION RE: AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES OF A HEALTH INSURANCE FACILITATOR TO ASSIST THE COUNTY TO ACCOMPLISH HEALTH CARE COST CONTROL AND HEALTH PLAN IMPROVEMENT TO HEALTH RESEARCH INSTITUTE AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$20,000.00.**

**WHEREAS**, there exists a need for the professional services of a health insurance facilitator to assist the county in its health insurance management; and

**WHEREAS**, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq) requires that the resolution authorizing the award of contracts for "professional services" without competitive bidding must be publicly advertised; and

**WHEREAS**, the Director of Purchasing has certified that this contract meets the statute and regulations governing the award of such contracts; Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5.(1)m; and

**WHEREAS**, adequate funds are available in account A01-01-00397.00.343 - Group Insurance for Employees

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren in the State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The agreement between the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren and Health Research Institute of Concord, California for professional services for the above project an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 per agreement currently on file in the Office of the Director of Purchasing, be made part of this resolution by reference and approved and entered into by the Board on behalf of the County of Warren.
2. The Director is hereby authorized to execute said letter of Agreement by signing same.
3. This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a "professional service" under the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law because the services are for insurance and insurance consulting services.
4. Notice of this action shall be published in The Star Gazette, as required by law, within 10 days of its adoption.

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

Susan had some questions about this resolution. She asked if it is correct that the purpose of this facilitator is to keep both sides on target, someone to keep the employees and management on track and Jerry Coyle said yes this is true.

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Steve Lance said he wishes the choices were more local. Jerry said this man works in Orange County, NY at this time. Steve asked about the cost and Jerry said we will get more specific about the cost when we do the award. Using Scott Welch could have created a conflict of interest. We were looking for a neutral third party.

Susan said that we have to move forward with a health task force, we can't delay any longer. We have to maintain the same level of service to our employees.

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

County Counsel David Wallace had no report.

The County Engineer, County Planner and County CFO were not present.

County Administrator Henry Dinger had no report.

Under freeholder comments, Mrs. Stone asked that Michele Hlib and Christine Amicucci be recognized by the county with a Certificate of Merit for being honored with the Girl Scout Gold Award.

Steve Lance complimented Susan for her task force meeting on property taxes held on Sunday, May 17th. There was a nice turn-out of concerned citizens.

Susan thanked the board for their comments and thanked them and Henry for attending. Approximately 130 citizens attended. Henry pointed out that the meeting in Bergen County had 200 attending and the one in Atlantic City had about 70 attending.

Susan received a letter stating that the Motor Vehicle Agency will remain where it is for the time being.

There were no closing comments and no press comments or questions.

**RESOLUTION 364-98**

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 May 20, 1998.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS TO HOLD AN EXECUTIVE SESSION ON MAY 20, 1998. 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:**

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

Mrs. Dickey called for a five minute recess at 8:25 p.m.

The board went into executive session at 8:45 p.m.

The board returned to open session at 9:27 p.m.

Nothing discussed in executive session has lost its confidentiality.

On motion by Mr. Lance, seconded by Mrs. Stone, and there being no further official business to come before the board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

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

**ATTESTED TO:**

**Naomi J. Stout, Deputy Clerk**