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December 16, 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, December 16, 1998 at 7:10 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"**.

A progress report was given by Dick Decker representing HSAC, Caroline Willner representing Mental Health, Father Smith representing LACA/DA and Sue Pappas representing Youth Services

Mr. Decker said they represent 15 agencies with 41 different services and they are monitored by the Human Service Department. These agencies deal with children and adult day care and if not assisted they may have to stay at home. Through this we would lose valuable tax dollars and these people would become welfare cases. These agencies are helping dysfunctional families become self-supporting and to obtain justice through the legal services office.

In 1998, these 41 programs were assisted by 1238 volunteers and we are looking at similar programs for 1999. Volunteers save us over \$200,000. We also have 165 volunteers who serve on boards and commissions. 2-1/2% of the tax dollars are used to support Human Services. Helping people help themselves makes good business sense. The HSAC takes its job very seriously. On November 10th, the allocation for 1999 was the same funds as 1998 for 17 out of 18 programs. HSAC recommends that one agency be defunded and two agencies be reduced. Fifteen agencies would be funded at the same level as 1998.

Sue Pappas, who is representing the school-based Youth Services Program in

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Phillipsburg and is also a member of CIAK, said that they have not received any county funding. She cited an example of a young woman, thirteen years old, who stopped attending school, had a drug problem, came from a dysfunctional family and was arrested. She was court-ordered to attend Catholic Charities for treatment. In treatment, she was helped to focus on her goals. She applied to Vo-Tech for nurse's training but had no funding. However, she was able to attain the needed funds through PIC for books, uniforms and transportation. Through this program, she received her GED, her driver's license and was able to get a car. During this process, she relied on food stamps and medicaid. She had some legal problems but in August she graduated and passed the nursing boards. She is working now and making \$14.00 per hour and has been drug and alcohol free for 3-1/2 years. These are the types of cases that show how important the programs are.

Father William Smith of Blairstown spoke about his involvement with LACA/DA. He has a personal interest in this area. He cited several examples of youths with drug and alcohol problems that have been helped through this program. These are not just children but some adults in their 30's who have had drug and alcohol addictions but have been clean and sober for anywhere from six months to two years. Their relationships have become solid and the signs are very positive.

Caroline Willner spoke about her work with the mentally ill since 1937. Many of these problems are intertwined, interconnected. With help, these people can be returned to society. We need to keep up our levels of service.

Mr. Decker said that in 1998, the funding was \$539,419.90 and they are requesting \$522,746 for 1999, which is 3% lower. Helping these people is in the best interest of the county residents.

Mrs. Stone said that she is very familiar with all these programs.

Mrs. Dickey thanked the representatives for coming and said they will take all their recommendations to heart during the budget process.

There were no public comments on agenda items.

RESOLUTION 773-98

On motion by Mrs. Stone, 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 December 16, 1998.

RESOLUTION TO PAY BILLS.

BE AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that Master Voucher Certificate for Certification/Ratification for Payment No. 98-39 dated December 16, 1998 in the amount of \$299,097.21 including bills and investments, is approved subject to the review of the vouchers by the Board of Chosen Freeholders.

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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 774-98

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 December 16, 1998.

**INSERTION INTO THE 1998 BUDGET OF THE
COUNTY OF WARREN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,000.00
FROM THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY, DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS,
SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE GRANT, WAR MEMORIAL CONSTRUCTION.**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been available by Law and the amount thereof was not determined at the adoption of the Budget; and

WHEREAS, said Director may also approve the insertion of any item of appropriation for equal amount.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County of Warren request the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the year 1998 in the sum of \$25,000.00, which item is now available from the State of New Jersey, Dept. of Community Affairs, Special Legislative Grant, War Memorial Construction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a like sum of \$25,000.00 be and the same is hereby appropriated under caption:

**"UNDER STATE AND FEDERAL PROGRAMS OFF-SET BY REVENUES"
State of New Jersey, Department of Community Affairs, Special
Legislative Grant, War Memorial Construction**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above is the result of the approval by the State of N.J., Dept. of Department of Community Affairs and that two (2) certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Division of Local Government Services.

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 775-98

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 December 16, 1998.

**RESOLUTION CANCELLING TO CURRENT SURPLUS THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF
\$583,327.86 FROM CURRENT APPROPRIATIONS.**

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BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren that in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-60 the following unexpended balances in the following accounts in the 1998 Current Appropriations be cancelled and transferred to Current Surplus:

A01-05-01100.00.000 Corr. Ctr., S & W	\$150,000.00
A10-06-01500.26.000 Warren Haven, S & W	30,000.00
A01-06-01500.20.000 Warren Haven, S & W	32,000.00
A01-04-01020.00.000 Roads, S & W	105,000.00
A01-09-01835.00.200 Prov. for Sal. Adj.	150,000.00
A01-10-02500.04.830 Equip. & Furn., Comm. Ctr. Telecomm	8.60
A01-10-02500.04.831 Equip. & Furn., Comm. Ctr. Fax	49.00
A01-10-02500.04.832 Equip. & Furn., Comm. Ctr. Time Clock	982.34
A01-10-02500.04.835 Equip. & Furn., Comm. Ctr. Batteries	164.00
A01-10-02500.04.837 Equip. & Furn., Comm. Ctr. Radio	65.50
A01-10-02500.04.839 Equip. & Furn., Corr. Ctr. Server	20,000.00
A01-10-02500.04.840 Equip. & Furn., Corr. Ctr. Dryer	605.00
A01-10-02500.04.842 Equip. & Furn., Emer. Man. Pagers	2,154.46
A01-10-02500.04.843 Equip. & Furn., Emer. Man. Radio Eq.	1,300.59
A01-10-02500.04.844 Equip. & Furn., Emer. Man. Laptops	88.00
A01-10-02500.04.846 Equip. & Furn., Env. Hlth. Computer	3,500.00
A01-10-02500.04.851 Equip. & Furn., Pub. Safe. Copy Mach.	8,400.00
A01-10-02500.04.852 Equip. & Furn., Roads Comp. Upgrade	26,000.00
A01-10-02500.07.861 Spec. Veh. & Eq., Brid. Generator	277.27
A01-10-02500.07.863 Spec. Veh. & Eq., Brid. Dump Truck	7,466.10
A01-10-02500.07.864 Spec. Veh. & Eq., Roads Truck	218.00
A01-10-02500.07.865 Spec. Veh. & Eq., Roads Loader	38,256.00
A01-10-02500.07.867 Spec. Veh. & Eq., Roads Chipper	6,544.00
A01-10-02500.07.868 Spec. Veh. & Eq., Roads Pickup Truck	249.00
TOTAL	\$583,327.86

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 776-98

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 December 16, 1998.

**RESOLUTION CANCELLING OUTSTANDING
CHECKS OVER SIX MONTHS - TOTAL \$248.59
FOR CANCELLATION TO CURRENT SURPLUS.**

WHEREAS, I, Charles L. Houck, Chief Financial Officer for the County of Warren, recommend to the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren that all outstanding checks over six months old be cancelled, and

WHEREAS, the following checks have been outstanding for over a period of six

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months:

		CURRENT FUND	ACCT. #02 023 019 7
NUMBER	PAYEE	DATE ISSUE	AMOUNT
10443	N.J. Assoc. of Co.Human Services	1/22/97	\$248.59
12156	Eastern Paralyzed Vets Assoc.	4/16/97	20.00
14335	H. Sue Barnes	7/9/97	8.50
16451	Garden State Bus. Machines	10/15/97	95.09
17579	Nancy J. Placko	11/25/97	100.00
TOTAL			\$248.59

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the foregoing checks be cancelled in the amount totaling Two Hundred Forty-Eight Dollars and Fifty-Nine Cents (\$248.59) from the above noted checking account and be credited to Current Surplus.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the United National Bank, Belvidere, New Jersey to order and verify stoppage of payment on the above listed checks.

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 777-98

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 December 16, 1998.

INSERTION INTO THE 1998 BUDGET OF THE COUNTY OF WARREN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,700.00 FROM THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY, COUNCIL ON THE ARTS, PROJECTS SERVING ARTISTS GA#925A0139.

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been available by Law and the amount thereof was not determined at the adoption of the Budget; and

WHEREAS, said Director may also approve the insertion of any item of appropriation for equal amount.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County of Warren request the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the year 1998 in the sum of \$5,700.00, which item is now available from the State of New Jersey, Council on the Arts, Projects Serving Artists GA#925A0139.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a like sum of \$5,700.00 be and the same is hereby appropriated under caption:

**"UNDER STATE AND FEDERAL PROGRAMS OFF-SET BY REVENUES"
State of New Jersey, Council on the Arts, Projects Serving**

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Artists GA#925A0139

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above is the result of the approval by the State of N.J., Council on the Arts and that two (2) certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Division of Local Government Services.

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 778-98

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 December 16, 1998.

RESOLUTION URGING GOVERNOR CHRISTINE TODD WHITMAN TO VETO S-936/A-2123 SO THAT MUNICIPALITIES WILL HAVE MORE THAN FIVE DAYS TO ISSUE A ZONING DECISION ON A DEVELOPER'S APPLICATION.

WHEREAS, the above mentioned bill is pending before the senate and assembly; and **WHEREAS**, many municipalities in New Jersey, in particular Warren County, have part-time zoning officers to control property taxes; and

WHEREAS, plan reviews in many cases are complex and may require an attorney's opinion and being compelled to make a zoning decision in five (5) days could result in inappropriate decisions which would cost the developer time and increased costs and also entail legal costs to the township; and

WHEREAS, a five (5) day decision requirement will eliminate the countys' ability to comment and ultimately will have a negative impact on the conditions of a county facility;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren agrees with the Warren County Board and the League of Municipalities' suggestion of vetoing S-936/A-2123 and changing the time limit to twenty (20) working days; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Christine Todd Whitman, Senator William Schluter, Assemblyman Leonard Lance, Assemblywoman Connie Myers and all Warren County municipalities.

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 779-98

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 December 16, 1998.

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SERVICES OF THE DIRECTOR OF WELFARE, HENRY D. DINGER, WARREN COUNTY WELFARE BOARD, AS COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, WARREN COUNTY, FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 1999 THROUGH APRIL 30, 1999.

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WHEREAS, the Warren County Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren is in need of the services of a county administrator; and

WHEREAS, Henry D. Dinger, Director of Welfare, Warren County Welfare Board, is qualified to perform said services in view of his previous service as full-time county administrator; and

WHEREAS, the parties have developed an agreement outlining terms and conditions governing the provision of services,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren, that the Director of the Board is hereby authorized to execute the agreement between the parties, subject to the review and approval of such agreement by county counsel.

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 780-98

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 December 16, 1998.

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PASSAGE OF ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 2684.

WHEREAS, Assembly bill No. 2684 provides that the State of New Jersey will assume the costs of administration for the Food Stamp Program; and

WHEREAS, A-2684 would appropriate \$6.5 million in General Funds to offset the federal administrative reductions in the Food Stamp Program; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to the fiscal operations of the counties that this legislation be enacted in a timely fashion so as not to create a serious negative impact on the county welfare agencies and the county budgets;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Warren County Board of Chosen Freeholders does hereby strongly urge support for the passage of A-2684 or any comparable legislation designed to accomplish the same goals at the earliest time; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that additional legislation be enacted that will provide for the State assumption of the federal reductions for the entire four year period as delineated in P.I. 105-185, so as not to create a financial crisis for the counties as a result of that federal law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Governor, Senate and Assembly representatives of Warren County, all Boards of Chosen Freeholders in the State of New Jersey and all County Welfare Agencies in New Jersey.

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 781-98

On motion by Mrs. Stone, seconded by Mr. Lance, the following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a

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RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING MEMBER TO THE WARREN COUNTY CULTURAL & HERITAGE COMMISSION.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren hereby reappoints the following member to the Warren County Cultural and Heritage Commission for a five year term:

Grace Cratch
Kent Street
Box #60
Oxford, NJ 07863

Term to expire: 10/18/03

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

On motion by Mrs. Stone, seconded by Mr. Lance, a resolution is to be prepared for the next freeholder meeting for the appointment of Alan Lowcher as a member to the Cultural and Heritage Commission.

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

County Counsel David Wallace had executive session items only.

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

County Administrator Henry Dinger submitted two hiring requests and the correction officer position was approved but the social worker position was tabled until a later date.

Under freeholder comments, Mrs. Stone said she attended the Eco Dev meeting last night and the advisory council asked about the revolving loan fund and who is handling this. It was decided to officially have Pete Houck handle this.

On motion by Mrs. Stone, seconded by Mr. Lance, Charles Houck, CFO, is designated to handle the revolving loan funds.

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

Also, the chairman of the council is looking for secretarial assistance and asked if we have staff that could do this. Ann said it was a very good meeting, very positive.

Mrs. Stone also asked if the board had decided whether or not to appoint Frank VanHorn to the Vo-Tech Board.

On motion by Mrs. Stone, seconded by Mr. Lance, authorization was given to prepare a resolution to appoint Frank VanHorn as a member to the Technical School Board of Education.

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

Mrs. Dickey said that the final negotiations with the State Planning Commission were held last night. Progress is being made.

Under closing public comments, Ed Church spoke to the board regarding the status of the county roads. He feels they are not wide enough and said that he has reviewed the report from 1925.

Under press comments and questions, Art Charlton of the Star Ledger asked what the plan is for the county administrator position. He was told that Mr. Dinger's agreement has been extended for four more months.

Mrs. Dickey said we will be posting and advertising for the position.

RESOLUTION 782-98

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 December 16, 1998.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS TO HOLD AN EXECUTIVE SESSION ON DECEMBER 16, 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: 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.

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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

Director Dickey called for a recess at 8:20 p.m.

The board went into executive session at 8:35 p.m.

The board returned to open session at 9:46 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 9:50 p.m.

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

ATTESTED TO:

NAOMI J. STOUT, DEPUTY CLERK