

**MINUTES**

**JANUARY 19, 2000**

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, January 19, 2000 at 7:10 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Deputy Director DeBosh and upon roll call the following members were present: Freeholder James DeBosh and Freeholder Susan Dickey. Freeholder Ann Stone was absent.

Deputy Director DeBosh 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"**.

There were no public comments on agenda items.

**RESOLUTION 64-00**

On motion by Mrs. Dickey, seconded by Mr. DeBosh, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held January 19, 2000.

**RESOLUTION TO PAY BILLS.**

**Be and it is hereby resolved** that Master voucher Certificate **For Certification/Ratification for Payment No. 2000-1,2,3 dated January 19, 2000** In the amount of **\$ 3,740,269.08** including bills and Investments, is approved subject to the review of the vouchers By the Board of Chosen Freeholders.

2000-1	607,424.33
2000-2	355,712.90
2000-3	1,746,941.07
PAYROLL 1/13/00	1,017,984.82
SHERIFF RETRO 1/19/00	12,205.96
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,740,269.08</b>

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.

Naomi J. Stout Deputy Clerk

ROLL CALL: Mrs. Dickey: yes Mr. DeBosh: yes Mrs. Stone: absent

The resolution entitled: **"RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FILING OF A LETTER OF INTENT FOR CHAPTER 12 FUNDING FOR THE WARREN COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE COMMUNITY CENTER, RENOVATION OF EXISTING FACILITY AND SITE DEVELOPMENT**

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**PROJECT AND RESCINDING A RESOLUTION OF JANUARY 12, 2000"** was moved by Mr. DeBosh but died for lack of a second.

Mrs. Dickey stated that we should not be proceeding with this expansion. She again raised the issue that this expansion was defeated by the voters and this is only the start of an ever-escalating expense that will be worked into the county budget. We received the first notice from engineering last week that storm-water detention on the site is only capable of handling the existing buildings and that's only detention. There will be sewerage, roads, utility installation, traffic signals and re-doing the intersection, including permits for all these improvements. She again reinforces her objection on behalf of the taxpayers of proceeding with this expansion. The college-operating budget is up this year without the expansion. It can only increase each and every year because of it.

Mr. DeBosh asked that this resolution be placed on the next meeting agenda.

**RESOLUTION 65-00**

On motion by Mr. DeBosh, seconded by Mrs. Dickey, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held January 19, 2000.

**RESOLUTION ENDORSING ASSISTANCE  
TO MUNICIPALITIES PARTICIPATING  
IN THE FARMLAND PRESERVATION  
PLANNING INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM.**

**WHEREAS**, Assembly Bill A-1869 established a Farmland Preservation Planning Incentive Grant Program which provides for grants to eligible counties and municipalities to purchase development easements for the permanent preservation of farmland; and

**WHEREAS**, the Warren County Agriculture Development Board (CADB) has expressed a willingness to assist municipalities which have applied for program grants to purchase development easements; and

**WHEREAS**, the townships of Greenwich, Pohatcong and Washington have applied for these grants, and

**WHEREAS**, the Warren County Board of Chosen Freeholders endorses the involvement of municipalities in the creation of local farmland preservation programs and the municipal purchase of development easements which will further the goals of preserving and fostering sustainable agriculture in Warren County;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Warren County Board of Chosen Freeholders that:

1. Funding, subject to approval on a case by case basis for each project recommended in the future, may be provided in an amount equal to the county's portion of any application submitted in the first round of the planning incentive grant program, provided that:
  - a. the grant application has been or will be approved by the State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC);

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- b. full funding of the state's share of the grant has been or will be made available by the Garden State Preservation Trust;
  - c. the amount of funding provided by the county will not exceed an amount equal to that being provided by the municipality, exclusive of ancillary costs;
  - d. municipal applicants provide, in writing to the county, budgetary authority for the payment of appraisals, surveys and other ancillary costs in connection with the application for the planning incentive grant(s).
2. County funding authorized herein shall be appropriated from the CADB's portion of the Warren County Open Space and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund at such time as each parcel of land has been identified by tax block and lot and approved for easement purchase by the SADC and the CADB.

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.

Naomi J. Stout Deputy Clerk

Mrs. Dickey said she endorses assistance to these townships in their application for funding for the PIG program, but what is the position of the county open space trust board on PIG grants. The resolution said that the county shall participate in municipal PIG grants but the municipalities may participate in ag development applications. This is inconsistent - either the municipalities and the county agree that they should both participate in all funding applications or it should be discretionary for all funding applications. Do we have the money and do we know how much money is involved.

Mrs. Dickey asked that this resolution be amended in the title, as follows, and in the body of the resolution (see resolution).

On motion by Mr. DeBosh, seconded by Mrs. Dickey, **RESOLUTION ENDORSING ASSISTANCE TO CERTAIN MUNICIPALITIES PARTICIPATING IN THE FIRST ROUND OF FUNDING FOR THE FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLANNING INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM.**

ROLL CALL: Mrs. Dickey: yes Mr. DeBosh yes Mrs. Stone: absent

**RESOLUTION 66-00**

On motion by Mrs. Dickey, seconded by Mr. DeBosh, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held January 19, 2000.

**RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING MEMBER TO THE WARREN COUNTY AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD.**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren hereby re-appoints the following member to the WC Agriculture Development Board effective January 1, 2000:

Jacob Matthenius  
516 Victory Ave.  
Parkside  
Phillipsburg, NJ 08865

Term to expire: 12/31/02

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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.

Naomi J. Stout Deputy Clerk

ROLL CALL: Mrs. Dickey: yes Mr. DeBosh: yes Mrs. Stone: absent

On motion by Mrs. Dickey, seconded by Mr. DeBosh, **RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE POLLUTION CONTROL FINANCING AUTHORITY OF WARREN COUNTY.**

Mrs. Dickey asked if Mr. Rockafellow should resign from SWAC if he is appointed to PCFA and Mr. Wallace said he is not sure if it is a conflict of interest.

ROLL CALL: Mrs. Dickey: no Mr. DeBosh: yes Mrs. Stone: absent

Mr. DeBosh asked that this resolution be put on the next agenda.

County Counsel David Wallace had an item for executive session only.

County CFO Pete Houck said he has met with Duane Copley and Dave Dech and put a wish list of open space and farmland acquisitions together. Also, he spoke with Zane Helsel of Rutgers and it was decided we will do the contract for payment of Rutgers staff salaries effective in July.

County Administrator Steve Marvin submitted one hiring request and it was approved. Susan asked if Rutgers still has the dietician and was told yes. She asked why they can't share the position.

Steve spoke to Judge Guterl about touring the courthouse on February 9th and the board decided to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 a.m., tour the courthouse, and return here at 1:00 and resume the meeting.

Regarding the budget, new copies have been submitted to the board. There is a two-page summary with new positions and promotions and other personnel adjustments. There was no discussion on this as Mr. DeBosh said the full board should be here for this.

Under freeholder comments, Mrs. Dickey commented that she received the fire complaint in Mansfield and talked to 911 immediately about it. The dispatch center acted correctly and dispatched properly. Testing will take place to determine whether it was equipment failure and if so, whose equipment failed. She also pointed out that Mansfield should be working on updating their maps, as they were reminded at the traveling meeting the board held there last fall. As for the Washington Township complaint, the 911 committee discussed the interlocal agreements and it was suggested by the police chief representative how to ensure that emergency service is not affected by seven digit calls. The committee agreed that the center should be concentrating on emergency service and not be distracted by non-emergency calls. She supports the decision of the committee.

There were no closing public comments.

Under press comments and questions, it was asked if the budget will be introduced Wednesday but that is not known yet. Mrs. Stone has called for a special meeting for Saturday but Susan said she has faxed Mrs. Stone to tell her that she cannot attend the Saturday meeting. She went on record saying she would like the meeting held on Monday. Mr. Wallace said the statute

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allows for the calling of a special meeting but you are required to give five days advance notice. Steve will check with Mrs. Stone about holding the meeting Monday, January 24th at 7:00 p.m.

Tom Zanki asked Susan if she suggests that we challenge the Judge's order on Community College expansion project funding and she said yes.

**RESOLUTION 67-00**

On motion by Mrs. Dickey, seconded by Mr. DeBosh, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren at a meeting held January 19, 2000.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS TO HOLD AN EXECUTIVE SESSION ON JANUARY 19, 2000. THE GENERAL NATURE OF THE SUBJECT TO BE DISCUSSED INCLUDES VARIOUS PERSONNEL MATTERS; CONTRACTS; LITIGATION; LAND ACQUISITION; ATTORNEY/CLIENT PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS; PUBLIC SAFETY AND PROPERTY; 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.
6. Public safety and property.

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.

Naomi J. Stout Deputy Clerk

ROLL CALL: Mrs. Dickey: yes Mr. DeBosh: yes Mrs. Stone: absent

Mr. DeBosh called for a five-minute break at 7:55 p.m.

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The board went into executive session at 8:14 p.m.

The board returned to open session at 8:22 p.m.

Nothing discussed in executive session has lost its confidentiality.

On motion by Mr. DeBosh, seconded by Mrs. Dickey, the board approved the settlement as discussed in executive session.

ROLL CALL: Mrs. Dickey: yes Mr. DeBosh: yes Mrs. Stone: absent

On motion by Mrs. Dickey, seconded by Mr. DeBosh, and there being no further official business to come before the board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Mrs. Dickey: yes Mr. DeBosh: yes Mrs. Stone: absent

**ATTESTED TO:**

**NAOMI J. STOUT, DEPUTY CLERK**